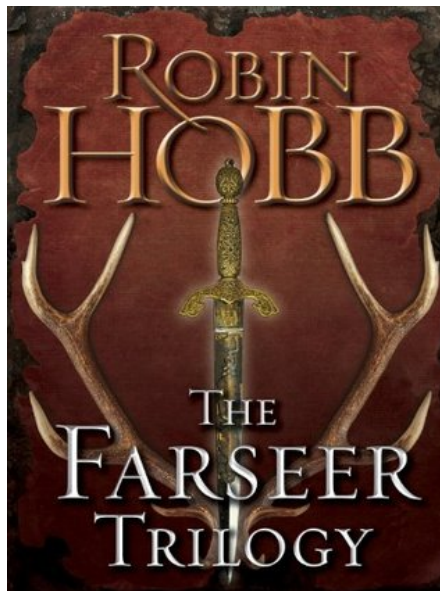




The Farseer Trilogy 3-Book Bundle: Assassin's Apprentice, Royal Assassin, Assassin's Quest

Robin Hobb

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Since Robin Hobb's debut novel took the fantasy world by storm, the adventures of her beloved assassin FitzChivalry Farseer have spawned a sweeping epic that spans more than a dozen books—and counting. Discover the phenomenon from the beginning with this eBook bundle of the original trilogy:

ASSASSIN'S APPRENTICE
ROYAL ASSASSIN
ASSASSIN'S QUEST

Young Fitz is the bastard son of the noble Prince Chivalry, raised in the shadow of the royal court by his father's gruff stableman. He is treated as an outcast by all the royalty except the devious King Shrewd, who has him secretly tutored in the arts of the assassin. For in Fitz's blood runs the magic Skill—and the darker knowledge of a child raised with the stable hounds and rejected by his family.

As barbarous raiders ravage the coasts, Fitz is growing to manhood. Soon he will face his first dangerous, soul-shattering mission. And though some regard him as a threat to the throne, he may just be the key to the survival of the kingdom.

Praise for Robin Hobb and the Farseer Trilogy

"Fantasy as it ought to be written . . . Robin Hobb's books are diamonds in a sea of zircons."—**George R. R. Martin**

"A gleaming debut in the crowded field of epic fantasies . . . a delightful take on the powers and politics behind the throne."—**Publishers Weekly**, on *Assassin's Apprentice*

"This is the kind of book you fall into, and start reading slower as you get to the end, because you don't want it to be over."—**Steven Brust**, on *Assassin's Apprentice*

"[Robin] Hobb continues to revitalize a genre that often seems all too generic, making it new in ways that range from the subtle to the shocking."—**Locus**, on *Royal Assassin*

"[*Royal Assassin*] reaches astonishing new heights. . . . The Farseer saga is destined for greatness—a must-read for every devotee of epic fantasy."—**Sense of Wonder**

"An enthralling conclusion to this superb trilogy, displaying an exceptional combination of originality, magic, adventure, character, and drama."—**Kirkus Reviews (starred review)**, on *Assassin's Quest*

"Superbly written, wholly satisfying, unforgettable: better than any fantasy trilogy in print—including mine!"—**Melanie Rawn**, on *Assassin's Quest*

The Farseer Trilogy 3-Book Bundle: Assassin's Apprentice, Royal Assassin, Assassin's Quest Details

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From Reader Review The Farseer Trilogy 3-Book Bundle: Assassin's Apprentice, Royal Assassin, Assassin's Quest for online ebook

Mario Santoso says

I never read a book so depressing, lack of engaging action, hard to like characters, stupid and dumb protagonist, tedious/slow story line, and predictable plot. When I read this trilogy, it felt like dragging myself thru mud. I skipped many parts of the story because they are very repetitive and unnecessary. I felt very sluggish, tired and very sick after reading this book that I avoided reading for months.

The first book was interesting. The second book, I started to have doubts and regret. By the third book, I was like should I abandon or continue? It felt like waste of time not to continue, but it was also like wasting my time reading it.... OMG please never never again...

If you experience similar reaction like me, just drop it and start another book, don't force yourself to finish it, not worth it.

My Awful Reviews says

The Farseer Trilogy wasn't what I expected, and that's absolutely wonderful, because I expected something cliché.

The Farseer Trilogy stars Fitzchivalry, who at first seems to be a cardboard cutout of so many of the "poor farmer boys" from epic fantasy. But the drama, action and pain that he experiences through these three books is anything but typical. The Farseer Trilogy is the story of the red ship raiders that ravage Buck's coastline, using dark magic to turn those that survive their pillaging into little more than animals, little more than zombies.

It's also the story of Fitz's journey as a bastard child of the former King-in-Waiting, Chivalry, and the young boy's training as an assassin for the current monarch, King Shrewd.

It's also a love story with an ending that is satisfying but depressing.

It's also got dragons.

These books were full of action, drama, and lots of painful scenes. Robin Hobb really knows how to give her characters hell, and it shows. Fitz is often very close to losing his life at any given moment, and has the kind of frequent brushes with death that reminded me of Harry Dresden in Changes. A lot of very bad stuff happens to Fitz, and you're there for every agonizing moment.

This series is much closer to George R.R. Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire than I thought before reading it. What I mean by that is that bad things happen to good people, good people die, and sometimes the bad guy wins. That's not to say that they're horribly depressing, or so emotional that you won't be able to read them. Quite the opposite. You'll find yourself turning pages like a madman, because you're rooting for that idiot Fitz to figure out the plot and save the day, or himself.

That reminds me that I need to mention my least favorite part of these books. Fitz is sometimes (okay, a lot of the time) a moron. Maybe I'm not a teenager, and for a good part of the series Fitz is, but some of the mistakes he made seemed pretty obvious to me, right up to the end of the novel. The information that people often tried to give him seemed easy for me to understand as well, but he just didn't get it.

Despite Fitz sometimes being dumb as a box of rocks, the story is excellent, the descriptions beautiful, and the pacing of the plot wonderful. There were parts of the first book that slowed down a little too much for me, but once the tension ramped up starting at the end of book 1, even the slow scenes had that unmistakable sense of looming dread that keeps you reading and turning pages.

I loved

Bad things happening to good people. This was real life, and sometimes life sucks even for the best of us.

The magic systems. They weren't very well defined, but in this case I think it helped, rather than hurt.

The ending of the series. It's sad, it's happy, it's perfect. I almost don't want to read her other books in this world, just so I can hold on to that feeling of perfect completion. Authors, take note. Hobb stuck the landing, and you would do well to study it.

I hated

Fitz being such a moron. Come on, some of that stuff was pretty obvious, and he really should have been a little smarter about his decisions. I'll grant that he was a teenager, so that plays a part, but he still had me yelling at the book. I guess I didn't like it, but it was obviously good characterization to get me so riled up.

The Farseer Trilogy gets a 9/10. Even with the glut of great fantasy, old and new, this deserves to be a series that everyone that wants to be familiar with the best the genre offers should read.

Libby says

Fitz, the royal bastard, feels sorry for himself for three interminable volumes.

Jeff says

Had been reading lots of science fiction and thought this would be a good break as it is a top rated fantasy trilogy. But it was a big let down. The pace was slogging and while the narrative was engaging, ultimately the character development and plot didn't deliver. Characters were actually named after their personality characteristics (Prince Verity, Prince Regal) which is as transparent as you can get and the antagonists was a sniveling prince that you thought would be dispatched by the first book but lingers on to the detriment of the whole storyline.

Lady*M says

Assassin's Apprentice - 3 stars

The book is a good introduction to Hobb's world and her main character Fitz. But, the pacing was problematic for me - from the veeery slow beginning to the rushed end. When the story remains squarely on Fitz's personal struggles, it's good. But, the magic system - Skill especially - was poorly explained and Fitz, even young as he is, accepts his fate almost without a doubt, which made me cranky. It was easy to tell who the bad guys were, so much so that I wondered how stupid the King and his followers had to be to miss it. Sooo, black & white. The ending - with one bad guy disposed off easily, and the other somewhat cowed, but largely ignored - was a disappointment. The narration, in a form of Fitz's memoirs, robbed the book of some of its immediacy and therefore some of my involvement in the events.

Hopefully, the rest of the trilogy would bring Fitz some growth. I liked the characters of Burrich, Verity and Chade. The Fool is puzzle.

Royal Assassin - 3.5 stars

This rating is temporary, because, in truth, I don't know how to rate this book. I enjoyed it more than the first one. But, my enjoyment was diminished by characters' stupidity. No, not Fitz's. He is but a teenager often left to deal with the situations that require experience in the political intrigue, spying, military tactics. It is a wonder he does as well as he did.

No, it is every other character - Verity, Shrewd, Chade, even Fool at times. People: If it looks like a duck, swims like a duck, and quacks like a duck, then it probably is a duck. How many times Regal has to betray for them to act? He is not brilliant. Yet, he succeeds at *everything*, simply because no one *acts*. It drove me crazy. The most intelligent person - for he is a person - is the wolf. The great 'romance' was tepid at best, Molly annoyed me for no other reason than existing. My bad. But, the time spend on romance could have been used for more natural introduction of Elderlings angle to the story. It's like Hobb twists and turn her characters any way it suits her - without giving them the proper motivation for their actions.

I still enjoyed this more than the first novel. I want to know what happens to Fitz.

Assassin's Quest - 4 stars

This is the book I liked the best and this is what the trilogy should have been from the beginning. I may wish for Fitz's destiny to be better, but for once - it was logical.

I enjoyed both his travels with Nighteyes alone and with the rest of the group. We can see how he gradually matures. His bond with Nighteyes was great (and often funny) as the wolf assumed some of human traits. And, there is Fool. Lovely, lovely Fool. I enjoyed how his character was developed here. In fact, I enjoyed all the characters, even the annoying ones, lol. It seemed to me that the characters and events were developed naturally for the first time in the trilogy. The book has finally sold me the whole thing.

The dragons were fantastic, duh.

Overall rating - 3.5 stars

Final thoughts - while there were many things that I disliked, I am invested now in these characters so I'll read the Tawny Man Trilogy for sure... after a break.

Cha Pammit says

At first, I didn't know if I was going to love or hate this trilogy. The premise was definitely intriguing but I was initially annoyed at how the story wasn't going where I was expecting it to go. Fitz was supposed to be a gifted orphan boy who becomes a deadly assassin, dammit! How come he keeps failing at every turn! That's not the way fantasy stories are supposed to be written! The main character's supposed to be a hero with a few flaws like hubris or impulsiveness. He's not supposed to be completely helpless in situations and make erroneous decisions!! That's just stupid. And too... well, human.

But then, by the end of Book 2, when Fitz starts recounting everything that has happened to him, confessing to all his "failures", lo and behold, a tear begins to fall down my cheek. And then two. And before I knew it, I was bawling my eyes out at 2am in the morning, cursing the unfairness of it all, and preparing to tear down anyone who dares to judge him for his mistakes.

Little did I know it but the characters in this world have dug its way into my heart, firmly entrenched with no intention of leaving anytime soon. How the heck did that happen? Very sneaky, Robin Hobb. Very, very sneaky. I'm on the lookout for you. You won't take me by surprise again next time.

A P says

The story of dramatic teen angst!

The chaotically paced storyline hops all around but there is one thing that remains constant; no matter what happens and where things go - Fitz will end up neck deep in teen dramatic angst.
Mollyyyyyyy!

And it is not only Fitz who is prone to bouts of silly drama; pretty much everyone keeps taking their turns being a drama queen and sometimes (often) it crosses the border into the realm of unbelievable ridiculousness.

So many problems in this series.

- Protagonist who does very little to actually deserve that title. Most of the time Fitz is sulking whiner and randomly does some blahblah heroic act. Other cast seems to consider him to be a hero, until they flip their opinion seemingly random or based on some stupid drama.

- Public opinion(s) that swings like a leaf in a tornado.

- World that makes no sense, most notably the nobility and economics.

- Antagonist whose sole role is to do antagonistic thing 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; his antagonism and evilness is rubbed into our faces with every line that is written about him, yet, the world itself seems to be ignorant.

- Supervillain/antagonist who is supposed to be scary and dangerous, but seems like a random add on that is more ridiculous than everything... damn... his name is W*** (spoiler protection although prolly not needed)

- So many plot-duds! Seems like Hobb adds random sprouts that never actually mature. It's not that bad I guess, but so many and so random is bit... meh. Also, it kind of makes the first person narrator bit ... inconsistent?

- Most of the characters are unlikable, and more importantly, dull. Burrich and Shrew however do manage to break some molds every now and then.

- Contrivances (as always)

Am not sure why I gave the second star or why I kept reading. Whatever it is, is worth that second star.

EDIT: Going to remove the second star and give this one the one it deserves (imho). But just to mention if

anyone ever even reads this one, Hobb also writes amazing books. (I feel bit bad dissing a book with such fanbase)

Olethros says

¿Quiere saber más de esta trilogía, sin spoilers? Visite:

<http://librosdeolethros.blogspot.com/...>

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Laura Ardill says

I stuck with this trilogy until halfway through the third book in the hopes that the protagonist would find some backbone and cease being an intolerable drip (he unfortunately, did not). The books are well written but paced extremely slowly. I'm a huge fan of The Liveship Traders trilogy also by Hobb and would highly recommend anyone who's interested in reading her work to give this initial trilogy a miss and start with the second instead, it's well worth a read.

Kat says

Out of dozens of series, this is my favorite fantasy series of all time. Unbelievable. I was literally IN LOVE with Fitz. The story is unexpected, totally original and engrossing. Fantasy should bring to the reader ideas and characters that surprise and delight - this series really makes you think "My God, what an imagination - never would have thought..." I was depressed when I finished the series. When I found the Tawny Man series I was ecstatic!

I have not reread the series because I got so attached to the characters I am afraid I will miss them so much that I will sink into a Fitz deprived depression.

Nerine Dorman says

Robin Hobb's The Farseer Trilogy numbers among the epic fantasy reads that I always intended to read again. Having read Assassin's Apprentice again, it's clear why her books are considered classics that you will find at almost every good bookstore.

What starts with the almost standard trope of the boy hero with royal parentage, is quickly subverted. Boy or

Fitz as he is later known begins life as the unwanted, unexpected son of king-in-waiting Chivalry, and grows up in the stables then is later apprenticed to the assassin Chade.

He was born with the Wit, the ability to touch the minds of other living things, but if anyone were to discover this ability, he would certainly be put to death.

The Six Duchies face an external threat from the Viking-like Red Ship Raiders, who devastate coastal settlements and leave survivors "forged" (magically violated and devoid of all empathy). Yet from the inside, there is strife. King Shrewd's son from his second marriage, Regal, has pretensions to the throne, and bears Fitz little love.

Hobb has populated this saga with a rich cast of fascinating, diverse characters. Though the story is slow paced it is richly textured and it is all too easy to lose on self in the world she has created. I suspect this novel would have been released under the YA banner had it been written now, but Fitz comes to readers with a surprisingly mature voice.

He really has a difficult time and his personality is such that readers can see that he has so much to offer others if only he had the opportunity to share his love. Due to circumstances he is a lonely child, however, and makes do with the scraps he is offered. He experiences much loss and cruelty yet he remains steadfast to his king. This is the redeeming aspect of a character some might find cause to despise because of his vocation.

Hobb has it all in her writing: solid world building, ancient mystery, unforgettable characters, high adventure and enough courtly intrigue to give old GRRM a run for his money. I am looking forward to reading the rest in this series again. At least this time half the books won't be missing courtesy of our sorry library system.

John Chu says

The best thing that can be said about this series is that Robin Hobb is a gifted writer, who has thoroughly researched and considered this world that she has created. The dialogue is clever, and the characters introduced are interesting with great backstories and are well developed. I also found the strong feminine characters, sprinkled in all unlikely roles to be amusing and interesting.

That being all said... the main character FitzChivalry is just about the whiniest, helpless, and most emotional character this side of the planet. For an assassin trained to kill people, he spends more time bemoaning his place in life and fate, than actually killing anyone of import. What he does kill, tends to be emotionless and feckless brainwashed character zombies. His emotions gets the better of him most of the time, and he can't seem to sit down to master any of the talents or skills, he's gifted with. He is a man (woman?) with premenstrual cramps 29 days out a month. His female compatriots on the other hand, are all strong champions of justice who seem to drag him along for the ride, while he wiles away his life drinking blackberry wine or elfbark tea and getting hangovers or nightmares. He can't assassinate or protect his king, he can't be a good father, he sucks at his magic, he's the quintessential fantasy deadbeat dad with a depressive/narcissistic complex who's place in this book seems only to be to bolster strong feminist zealotry and self-esteem for female readers.

This series is 1 book of great narrative, and 2 books of whining, self loathing/depressive contemplation. I had read great reviews about this series and expected some high adventure, but I found this be mostly a character study, slog with repetitive themes of helplessness, self loathing, and lackadaisical effort. Is it unique? Sure. Would I ever read it again? no.

Ryan Ailts says

All finished and what a ride. I didn't expect to love these books so much.

I expected more typical fantasy and I got very little of that until the ending of the third book, which I swear was written in the 70s (in a good way) and sent forward in time. Other than a few types of "magic" that come into play every chapter or so, plus a dragon and some mindless not-undead people, it's very low fantasy. Think GRRM.

The characters are all unique and feel real, with the exception of the main villain, who is a stereotype of the evil aristocrat, ambitious-no-matter-what. But even he has a few quirks, a bit of character history, to set him apart. His fate was not what I expected, but felt fair.

Every person is treated fairly, even when they're not. How do I mean? They are written as human beings - every one has faults, quirks, moments they regret, the hero himself, Fitz, most of all. While he occasionally feels a bit Mary Suish at first, with how easily he becomes this beloved but still outcast character who is able to fix any situation and stumble into the solutions to all problems, as he grows up and becomes a teenager you see where his lucky breaks end and the hero, the human, has to come out. He whines, he overlooks things that hurt people he loves though we're screaming at the page to look, look, look. But he acts his age and pays for it. He ends fairly.

I loved the books, mostly because of the emotional ride we went through with Fitz, the Fool, Molly, Burrich, Verity, Kettricken, Starling, Kettle, etc. I ended up dreaming about these people, unable to sleep until I finished the last pages.

Great books.

Julia says

I was vacationing in Europe, and I got a horrific sunburn. Long story short, I was basically a hermit for about a week while I waiting for my skin to heal so that I could wear clothes again. And all I can say is, thank the LORD for Robin Hobb and these books!

I was completely hooked from the beginning. Fitz is a likeable character, despite being just as human as any real. Sometimes he is incredibly honourable and noble, and sometimes he makes terrible mistakes. Hobb's other characters are similarly gifted and flawed. I felt a real emotional resonance with all of the characters.

I realized how much I really loved these books when I noticed that I was worrying about the characters when I was doing dishes, or walking around campus. To me, they really lived and breathed.

The world is similar enough to our own to be relatable, but full of interesting tidbits. The magic system is particularly fun to read about, as well as the conflict between those with the Wit and those with the Skill, and within the people who possess both.

I heartily recommend the entire trilogy, as well as the following three books in series.

Paul Groos says

This is one of the few books of which I can't say why I didn't stop reading. It was utterly, mind-bogglingly boring. None (that is: not a single one) of the characters was interesting or even likable, except maybe the Fool. Everything (that's every single thing) the protagonist does goes wrong. Every time he might accomplish something he fails and fails again. The few times when he seemed to achieve something, it's revealed later that it went awry after all. The main, interesting mystery, the Red Ships and the "zombies" is never revealed.

Everything that everyone says is meant to be very profound. There is not a normal conversation in the book, no banter, no everyday language. Everyone speaks in deeply philosophical speech.

If there would be some action now and again it would help the story engage me, but each of the three books gets moving only at the very ending of the book. The rest is court-intrigue within the walls of the castle. If done right, that might be interesting, except, it isn't. Waste of time and shelf-space.
