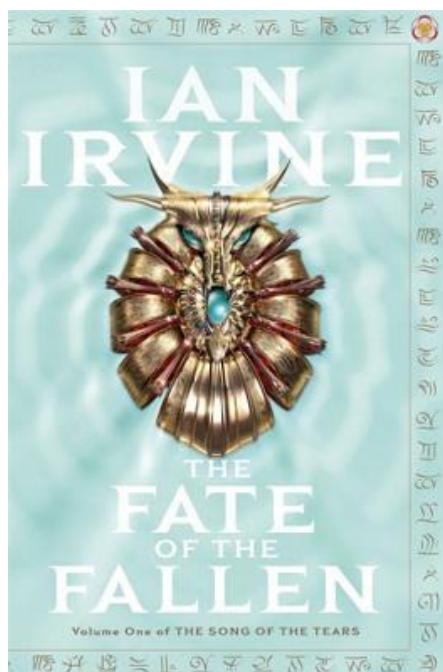




The Fate of the Fallen

Ian Irvine

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‘This precise and beautifully crafted novel blooms from its ascetic opening to a resonant and rewarding climax. Makes what’s currently available on fantasy shelves seem hackneyed and formulaic. Utterly absorbing.’ Stephen Davenport, Independent Weekly.

After ten years of servitude, Nish is about to be released from the blackest prison of the maimed God-Emperor, Jal-Nish Hlar, his corrupt father. Jal-Nish holds the two sorcerous quicksilver tears, Gatherer and Reaper, and with them controls all of the Secret Art. All opposition having been crushed, he has begun to remake the world in his depraved image.

The only hope of overthrowing him lies in Nish, whom the oppressed peoples of the world see as a messianic figure, the Deliverer for, as Nish was dragged off to prison a decade ago, he wildly promised to return and cast down his father.

Unfortunately Nish is powerless and without allies. But worse, his father wants Nish to become his lieutenant and become as corrupt as he is. Jal-Nish offers Nish everything he has ever desired and, faced with the unbearable alternative of another ten years in prison, he isn't sure he can resist the temptation.

<http://www.ian-irvine.com/tormentstra...>

REVIEWS

"Another blockbuster fantasy series.' Colin Steele, Canberra Times.

'Whether you like interesting characters, good description or a well thought out world, this book is bound to impress you. Don't let its somewhat hefty size put you off – it only means that you get to keep reading longer.' Nicole Juliette, Dreamhosters.com

The Fate of the Fallen Details

Date : Published by Orbit (first published 2006)

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Author : Ian Irvine

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From Reader Review The Fate of the Fallen for online ebook

Peter says

After 120 pages in the company of complete idiots I gave up. Shame really: the plot had promise but the characterisation and storytelling was so naive.

Sorry :(

Maggie says

So I've been reading fantasy novels since I was in second grade starting with Tolkien's famous "The Hobbit" and more recently reading my way through George R.R. Martin's "A Song of Ice and Fire". I admit to not having read Irvine's previous series so I don't have the background knowledge. However, I've read follow up series before with no problems and loved them. This book, sadly, does not fall in that category. Halfway through it, I'm about to throw in the towel because I don't believe in torturing myself. The plot is wonderful but the story progression completely ruins the reading experience. The characters' thoughts and actions make no sense. I mean, at some point you have to stop coming to the same realization over and over that this person is manipulating you or that falling asleep in the middle of a dangerous area near people who want to kill you is a bad idea. Characters also have this annoying god-modding habit where they are horribly injured on page A and almost fully recovered on page B. It feels more often than not like there are holes in the story where Irvine just wrote ideas and forgot to link them together in a way that makes sense. I don't know how many times I've had to stop and wonder if I missed something only to reread several chapters and discover that there really isn't anything leading up to what just occurred. To end on a positive note, I will give Irvine some points for not making this story horribly dependent on past novels.

Zaryna says

This one was the least challenging of Irvine's works I've read since *The View from the Mirror*. Possibly because I already knew the main character Nish and a few others along the way. In this one Irvine didn't dawdle. It wasn't just these scenes of extremely full on action where the characters suddenly either succeed or fail. The story was a journey, it took me along the whole way, and because of that I really enjoyed it.

Loren Harway says

I was eagerly looking forward to this after the excruciating ending of the last series. This latest installment was very Irvine-deeply depressing, making you want to curl up and cry on the floor at the hopelessness of their situation.

Still it is a masterpiece perhaps not as enthralling as the previous but these are early days, the next book promises to expand the cast (and bring back old and very old characters).

Gory and sexy as always the writing makes you want to stab yourself again and again and again... and then hunt down the bastard that wrote it and continue with him.

I don't think many people know of this series, many abandoned Irvine after his horrifying end to the quartet and wouldn't bother checking for another.

His other trilogies seem to expand into quartets (Chamaera looked to be hoping for a fifth book), perhaps we

can expect a quartet despite his promises.

Melissa says

Utterly riviting! I feel like I waited for this book to come out forever. Recommended for any fan of fantasy, Ian Irvine is a fantastic writer.

Taygus says

Listened to the Audiobook.

soooo much tension. You're constantly left wondering if they'll make it. It feels like you're on the run right beside them.

I liked the characters, even the nasty cruel ones are very well described.

I do struggle with the creations, namely what flappeters actually look like, and how that word might be spelt.

It's surprising Ian is not more popular among fantasy fans, he has a very detailed world.

Suvi Tartia says

I have not read any of Irvine's previous novels, but the world he presented in The Fate of the Fallen felt- for the most part - convincing. Sadly, the same cannot be said of the characters and the plot. I generally dislike giving up on a book, so I struggled on and read the entire novel, but I am not sure if it was worth it.

Christian says

For those of you who didn't read the first series before reading this, you do not have to for the first 70% of the book. However, (keeping this spoiler free) I recommend it for the last part. I unfortunately didn't read the first series thinking this was the first series. oops.

By itself, this is an incredibly dark fantasy. I kept thinking I was reading a book dedicated to Nurgle of Warhammer 40k. The story descriptions are depressing, smothering, disgusting and so visually realistic that I felt queasy while reading but I couldn't stop. I would compare the tone of this fantasy with Steven Erikson's Malazan series due to the general societally treatment of the human body and spirit.

I also liked it enough that I will read book 2 of this series but probably will not go back to read the first series. I am assuming its spoiled for me now after reading this book. recommended

Pat Austin says

I listened to the audio book of this and I thought that all the description got in the way of the plot. Several things happened during the book that I just kept thinking "Get on with it - how is this furthering the plot???" Maybe all would be revealed in a subsequent book but somehow I don't think I'll be reading or listening to the next book in the series.

JT Mickey says

The book was hard to follow at times, the characters confusing at times and the ending a let down after 606 pages. However, this was the first book I have read of Irvine's and I will be finishing this series to see what happens next.

Edel Ryder-hanrahan says

It was okay. It's hard for me to put my finger on the stuff that bugged me except I kept having "oh this tired old trope again?" feelings. Tropes aren't bad in books - I even actively wants a little familiarity when I hunt for a new fantasy setting, but it just wasn't doing it for me here. There was honestly not a single character who I was rooting for either. Unlikely to read book 2, but then I am a sucker for completing a story, so you'd never know.

Gareth says

Listened via audio book rather than read this time around. I think the weakest book in all the Santhenar books thus far. While the world building is still very good, with continual references to ruins / strange artefacts from long ago that I always enjoy. Plot is also its usual convoluted, twisty self, with plenty of surprises, good and bad, along the way. What lowers the score for this book though is the main characters. We don't have some of my favourites from past books (Tiaan, Irisis, Yggur etc) and the characters here seem to keep falling into the same sort of cycle - make a decision, it turns out to be wrong, really regret the decision made, but carry on to make the same sort of decision again next time. Sometimes they make what really seems to be the 'right' decision given the information they have at the time, but the story punishes them for this as well, so things then go bad, and possibly due to this, they never seem to grow from this. Another common irritation, is when they mention that time is running short / they only have moments to act, they seem to have time to admire the scenery / take in details of what everyone is wearing etc. This may be just the nature of a book / audio book, where the time taken to read / listen is quite different to the internal thought processing time, but is a bit jarring. I will continue to listen to the other books (which I haven't read or listened to before) as still keen to know what happens next, but I do hope the characters improve!

Oskari says

2.5 luin puoliväliin, ihan ok. Aika huonot hahmot, ei mitää edistystä. Päähahmojen suhde oli aivan paskaa ja ne ei tehny yhtään mitää. Niin perus tylsä, siuluton ja ärsyttävä. Magia-systeemiki oli ihan surkee ja siinä tuli vastaan ihan random asioita, joita ei selitetty mitenkään. Saatan lukea vielä loppuun. En tiiä miksi annoin 2.5, varmaan ihan hyvää kirjatusta ja tykkään fantasiasta. +++ Juoni oli jokseenkin vetävä ja ainoa syy miksi luin näin pitkälle. Pääsärky, liian epäselvä ja tosi outo.

Kuchpl says

great read

Skwerlie says

I don't like this 5-star-review system! I've rated this book at 3 stars along with some of the books from the previous View from the Mirror and Well of Echoes series, but I certainly would call this book a low 3 stars and those a high 3 stars (but I don't think this book only deserves 2 stars), so far I am not liking this series as much as either of the previous two. One of the things I enjoy about Ian Irvine's fantasy novels is that they are a bit gritty, characters have to walk places and it takes a long time, maybe they don't have enough food, maybe their boots wear out, maybe they have to do all this walking around with no food and lousy supplies while injured. They aren't just happily wandering around on adventures through forests that always seem to be full of fresh fruits and lots of easily-caught and delicious little critters (they eat bugs and slugs and mouldy bits of whatever they can get). But the Song of the Tears series seems to be much grimmer, and I'm not sure I like the at times almost hopeless atmosphere. In the other books, characters were struggling for various things, fighting, maybe the situations were a bit hopeless but you always felt they had a chance. In this book it has seemed to me as though the "good guys" don't actually have a chance of winning, and so when they do something that goes well it seems that much more improbable- and not necessarily in a good "wow, they really lucked out and scraped by there!" way- in a "well the author will clearly have the good guys win, even though it may seem absurd" way. It's not really as much fun to read a book like that, even when there are failures and challenges mixed in. I'll wait for the next book in the series and see, the other two I felt improved as the series progressed, perhaps the same will be true for this final Three Worlds series.
