



The Legend of Jerrod (The Kingdom of Torrence Series)

D.M. Stoddard

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Disillusioned with the thought of becoming a miller, Jerrod sets off to find fame and fortune. After prying a magical sword from the skeletal hand of a fallen knight, he and his new found friends undertake an adventure to recover the secret treasure of the Lost Kings. Accompanied by a wizard and a sage, Jerrod finds himself torn between his love for a thief and his blossoming love for a half-Elvin druid princess. Armed with courage, steel, and magic they battle formidable beasts as they race to reach the treasure first.

The Legend of Jerrod (The Kingdom of Torrence Series) Details

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Author : D.M. Stoddard

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From Reader Review The Legend of Jerrod (The Kingdom of Torrence Series) for online ebook

Eric Mccuskey says

A very enjoyable read that took me back to the days of AD&D. The weak yet powerful wizard the group members taking their roles. The thief who is loyal to the party the fighters who rush forward in every insane battle. The characters truly live in your mind which is rare in a lot of books today. I will anxiously await Amanda's Quest, because I want to see what happens to the people I met in this book. Do they team up to save Amanda? Does Fraum move on in his quest to stop Nathaniel leaving Amanda to suffer the consequences or join the effort to save her?

Sabrina Morgan says

I won this on a Goodreads giveaway. I found this book to be an enjoyable, fun read. This fiction book would appeal to the young and old adult, and to men and women alike. It offers: action, adventure, romance, a treasure hunt, interesting characters of a different world, warriors and their weapons, scholars, priests that pray to God, wizards with their magic and dragons, unusual beings (small and large) and more.

Katie Thornton-K. says

DM Stoddard creates an interesting world with humans, Elvin, druids and other traditional magical beings. He incorporates the use of Greek and Norse gods in the book, an idea that I was not overly fond with. The book follows Jerrod, a millers son, as he leaves home to find adventure and prove himself as a man. He is manipulated by a witch, whose intentions are unclear, into finding an ancient sword which somehow give him powers. In the capital of Torrence he meets Amanda, a thief, and Drin, who is sort of like a Templar knight-in-training for a group known as the Order of One. Together the three are hired by a wizard to be his protection on a quest for a lost treasure. Joined by the sage Fraum, and later by a Druid priestess and her Elvin protector, they journey across the realm of Torrence, meeting obstacles along the way. It was not hard to get into, and I enjoyed the storyline.

L.F. Falconer says

An epic fantasy with enough mythical, magical creatures to suit everyone! I am of two minds about this book. Stoddard does an excellent job with world-building--the story is rich in details which enable me to clearly see every scene and setting. Also, there is a diverse cast of characters who encounter some intense obstacles in their journey together. However, I felt that the effort expended to create such intricate narrative was done at the expense of story action. The story is there--it's interesting and was strong enough to keep pulling me through the pages, but it failed to completely draw me in. There are a number of small editing errors but the biggest flaw, in my opinion, is that it lacked "life." There were a few great action scenes--but

did little to endear the characters to my heart. The majority of the book was simply explained instead of experienced or revealed through the characters and their actions.

The all-inclusive POV that leapt from character to character got distracting and denied me the opportunity to really get to know the few characters I probably should have been well acquainted with. While I didn't care for her in the beginning, I did begin to like Amanda more near the end, but couldn't get any true sense of Jerrod at all. He had no personality, good, bad, or otherwise. Too many opportunities for character growth were simply glossed over. The love triangle could've been more character-revealing and intriguing had it contained some real-life jealousy and friction. And yes, I know that magic was a major theme in this, but I felt there was too much reliance upon it overall. The few major scenes of conflict encountered on the journey were simply overcome by someone wielding a magical spell.

I did enjoy the story and believe that continuing with the series will be a worthwhile read--hopefully with more emphasis on the characters and their motivations/actions/emotions, and less focus upon the sight-seeing tours.

Jacci says

D.M. Stoddard has created a story with interesting characters, vivid setting and a wonderful world of magic. The plot is clear and interesting. I would have given this book five stars but the head hopping and telling vs showing slowed me down. Still, I'm glad I stayed with it because it is a story worth reading and I will definitely keep reading this new author's work!

Janice Pruitt says

I downloaded this book thinking that I would give it a quick preview before I passed it on to my kids... Once I got started I couldn't stop. In some ways the story reminded me of Eragon with the young naive boy growing up through his adventures. In other ways the book offered plenty of twists and turns to keep it exciting. I loved the way this new author got me hooked on the characters, both human and mythical. Each character played an essential role, but my favorite was Fraum. I enjoyed his self confidence and the friendships that grew between him and the other characters. I am not sure exactly where or in what time the story took place but instead of distracting from the plot, it added to it. I am pretty sure it was in the past, but not necessarily on Earth. I loved the map, all good books with long journeys need a map! It makes you feel like you are traveling too.

I would recommend this book to others and have done so already. I look forward to another book to help finish the story!

Thanks for a fun read!

Brae Wyckoff says

I am an epic fantasy author myself and understand the devotion it takes within this style of writing to bring readers into a grand adventure that whisk them away into a magical land filled with intrigue, heroes, and villains.

DM Stoddard has a storytelling voice with the Legend of Jerrod, his first book of the Kingdom of Torrence series. The biggest flaw of his story--- not enough dialogue and he does more telling me what happens rather than showing me, BUT even with that said, he has definitely woven together an epic tale with interesting characters and creatures.

I recommend his book to all those who love fantasy and I believe in this author that he will be getting better and better with each new book he releases.

Enjoy the adventure!

Brae Wyckoff, Author of The Horn King series, The Orb of Truth and The Dragon God
The Orb of Truth

Tessa Onabigon says

Won from a Goodreads Giveaway.

On the final night of the annual Bards Festival in the **Kingdom of Torrence**, a fragile old man silences the boisterous crowd of the Minstrel Inn Tavern with nothing but the promise of a song. **Reginald Rhinestone** is a master of his craft. The best of the best. Even in his old days his gift for story-telling is unchallenged. With a suggestion from the audience, he settles in and begins to pluck the chords to **The Legend of Jerrod** on his mandolin...

The son of the town miller, 17 year old **Jerrod** is not content to live a small town life. While his boyhood friends are embracing the domestic responsibilities of becoming a man, Jerrod dreams of more. He longs for a life filled with adventure, bravery and honor. Restless and a tad eager, Jerrod soon sets off for the Kingdom of Torrence with nothing but a modest pack of rations and a determination to become a noble Knight. Along the way Jerrod goes on a months-long quest, makes life-long friends, falls in love and makes enemies that have him realizing that being a Knight is not as glorious as his boyhood ideals were. Jerrod and his friends are soon engaged in battles with trolls and wizards, allying with Elves and centaurs on their journey to find the mythical treasure of **Terrace Xul**.

It was a fun, magical read from start to finish. Jerrod was a refreshing and admirable lead while his blossoming love with **Amanda** and **Rhonda** was charming and sated my need for romance. The setting was beautiful and detailed, keeping the journey part of the story from becoming tedious. The battles added the perfect amount of action and the mythical creatures (and their histories) were captivating. The characters of **Drin**, **Fraum** and **Nathaniel** were intriguing in their own ways while **Rok-lin** added a playful and sometimes intimidating edge to the group. Overall it was a enthralling read that had me hooked from page one! Thank you for the book D.M. Stoddard I'm looking forward to **Amanda's Quest** and more!

Sylvie says

I read this book and I could not stop ! I liked the storyline and it was easy to understand. It kept me captive til the end ! Great book !

Amy Freese says

The Legend of Jerrod, in short is an adventure tale. We are introduced to a young miller's son named Jerrod who longs for more than his little corner of the world has to offer. A lad with dreams of knights, heroic feats and battles of glory. We follow his story as he heads into the great world to find and meet his destiny. He meets and makes friends with Amanda and Drin. The three are invited to join an old man on a journey, an adventure for treasure. The tale has all the great things any fantasy does: mystery, danger, magic, mythical beings...and bards!

Wow. I have to say that this book created a roller coaster of emotions for me. I decided to read this one because the author did not have many reviews on it, and I do like fairy tale- fantasy themed reads. I have not read one in awhile, so I picked this one out. The concept sounded like it had promise.

I believe in being honest with my take on a book. With that in mind I must say that I very nearly gave up on it at about the 30% point. I found the point of view hard to follow, it jumped from character to character very unexpectedly, often. That is not a thing I am used to. I had a feeling akin to fun-house mirrors from it. There were also numerous editing issues that interfered with my ability to find some flow with the story. So, between those two issues I needed to set the book aside for a time, refresh myself and try again.

The IDEA of the story is what compelled me to carry on. D.M. Stoddard has very good descriptions of his characters in a physical sense, you get a really good image of their surroundings. One area I was feeling lost in was a good understanding for the place names along with how to visualize geographical distance and location for most of the journey the characters are on. Most fantasy books include a map, a guide of sorts. I would have liked one in the beginning of the tale. (I learned there IS one in the e-book, but it is in the BACK of the book! Little FYI for YOU there!)

All of this said, I can tell you I am VERY glad I stuck with it and finished the book! The bonds between the characters became more complex. The awareness of the "world" grew as the tale went on, so the descriptions became more real to me. The sense of unexpected grew, the danger and excitement grew. By the end of the book I had become involved with the story. I could envision the mountains, the snow and ice. I could feel the discomfort from long trail rides in cold wet weather. This made me very glad! So I LIKED the tale!

Knowing that this book is intended for a younger audience, I feel it is very good and DOES succeed in creating a nice entertaining piece. I would advice the author to consider having the beginning portion of the book edit revised, that is the only reason I feel unable to give this book a 4 star rating. Since I DID like the overall tale, and I AM looking forward to the second book, Amanda's Quest, I am content to leave a 3 star rating. :)
