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Fireblood (Whispers From Mirrowen Book 1)



Synopsis

Tyrus of Kenatos has made it his life's work to banish the plagues that ravage the kingdoms. He believes the answer to ending the devastation lies in the Scourgelands. Yet, Tyrus's first expedition into the cursed woods failed after being defeated by mysterious minions who stalked and killed most of his band. Now a prisoner in his own tower, Tyrus has summoned his nephew Annon—a Druid possessing innate magic called the fireblood—on the guise of finding a hidden treasure with which to purchase his twin sister Hettie's freedom. But in reality, Tyrus is using his niece and nephew, and their magic, as an opportunity to escape and resume his desperate mission. And to aid them, he has enlisted the warrior-monk Paedrin—who is almost as green as the siblings when it comes to traveling these troubled lands. The trio is determined, and along the way they grow to trust each other—and new additions to the group—in order to accomplish their missions—whether or not those missions are one and the same. But the Arch-Rike's ruthless ruler of Kenatos has learned of these plans, and has sent the fearsome Kishion to destroy all those that oppose him. Now Tyrus and his unwitting allies must face down not only the plague, but this new enemy—and fulfill their quest before a fresh horror is unleashed on the world.

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Customer Reviews

I usually give books sent for me to review a lot more of a chance than books I pick up on my own, having some sense of obligation. And that was the case with Fireblood by Jeff Wheeler. According to my trusty Kindle, I read sixty-seven percent, giving it more than a week of picking it up and putting it down. Generally, if I can't finish a book in two or three days, I know I'm having problems with it. So over a week and barely past halfway through, I decided to let this one go. The story is set in a world visited regularly by devastating plagues. The first chapter, more of a prologue, shows us the tail end of an unsuccessful expedition into the Scourgelands in an attempt to end the plagues. The leader of the expedition, Tyrus, appears to be the sole survivor. Years later, Tyrus is involved once again in an attempt to stop the plagues, this time involving his nephew Anon, a Druidecht (yes, think "druid"); his niece Hettie, a Romani "Finder" with her own issues; and Paedrin, a warrior monk. Tyrus is clearly manipulating the three and withholding information, and it turns out he's not the only one with hidden agendas and dark secrets. The story is further complicated by the opposition of the Arch-Rike, one of the most powerful rulers in this land, "Dark Druidecht," and other plot points. Without belaboring the point, my biggest problem was that nothing grabbed me. Fireblood opened up with a bang, with that first expedition, a deadly attack, the unleashing of wild magic, and a personal sacrifice. But then the pace slowed greatly, with the story sort of meandering around from place to place, meeting to meeting, sometimes crisis to crisis.

Well, loved the Muirwood series, was greatly looking forward to Fireblood and Mr. Wheelers great emotional rides that he puts his characters through, however!! After the first chapter, which I found to be great in laying out the crux of the story, chapters 2 through about 21 where not very good, I kept reading and thinking "did he write this? was this the same person that wrote Muirwood?". It had no emotional feeling of any kind, I did not care about any of the characters, seemed to be somewhat contradicting to the way they should behave etc. I mean, here we have Annon, a Druidecht prodigy and (always) he's angry (why the angry?) so what if he had not seen his uncle for ten years or more, he has accomplished a great deal being a Druidecht at a very early age! Would Michael Jordan be "angry" at someone that did not invite him to join a baseball team when he was a basketball super star!!! At best his anger should have been mastered by being a Druidecht, I can understand if he was sorry for not knowing his Uncle better (his only relative) or perhaps even ambivalent about it, but angry? I'm angry that the editor/proof readers did not tell Mr. Wheeler that the first half of the

book SUCKED! When our three adventures were in danger by the Fear Liath, Hettie pulls out a Bow, a bow, where did that come from, nothing was ever said or described about what she wore, what weapons she had, etc... Ok, she is a Finder/Hunter, ok, we have a bow but when the party meets bandits on the road, did she get out her bow and put an arrow in the bandits neck (or better yet, an arrow in the knee), no, she gets her fireblood going and her and Annon set half the woods on fire!

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