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Age Of Iron (Iron Age)



Synopsis

LEGENDS AREN'T BORN. THEY'RE MADE. Dug Sealskinner is a down-on-his-luck mercenary traveling south to join up with King Zadar's army. But he keeps rescuing the wrong people. First Spring, a child he finds scavenging on the battlefield, and then Lova, one of Zadar's most fearsome warriors, who has vowed revenge on the king for her sister's execution. Now Dug's on the wrong side of the thousands-strong army he hoped to join -- and worse, Zadar has bloodthirsty druid magic on his side. All Dug has is his war hammer, one small child, and one unpredictable, highly-trained warrior with a lust for revenge that might get them all killed . . .

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This was a very down and dirty, gripping, enjoyable read. It is dark, twisted, funny and exciting. Despite that, this is going to be a really hard review to write. I enjoyed it. Actually, I really enjoyed it. But the interesting thing is, while reading I could pick out things that I think other people may complain about. So, do I ignore them, since I don't really care? Or do I let people know, since I am sure some readers will. I decided to go with a list of who I think should read this book at their own risk. I'm certainly not going to tell them to not read it, because, like I said, I found it to be a really good story. Who should read this book with caution? People who are easily offended by descriptions of women's bodies. Personally, I never felt it was out of line in this book, I didn't feel the women were objectified. But were there descriptions of the female form? Yes. If that bugs you, well prepare yourself. Now you know and can choose to read at your own risk of being

outraged.* People who don't like to laugh at dark humor. I don't know who these people might be, but if humor that comes from a dark place or sarcasm, or self-deprecation bothers you, well, I have to wonder why you are reading my blog. I love this stuff. And you probably won't get this book.* People who are easily disturbed by deranged characters. If you lose sleep at night easily when reading about twisted individuals who get their jollies in depraved ways, well, you might not want to read this book.* People who don't enjoy seeing women excel in battle. What? You think only men can be useful in battle? Well, then, you are not my friend. And you might not enjoy this book.* People who are unsettled by violence.

Dug Sealskinner, is old and, truth be told, a bit down on his luck. His best days are probably behind him, his wife and daughters dead and buried years ago. He's not much to look at, and while he carries himself like a man who's fought in -- and survived -- his share of battles, he doesn't strike instant fear in the hearts of his enemies or send ladies swooning weak-kneed to the floor. But the truth is, underneath the dirt and grime, Dug is a solid fellow who keeps making big-hearted decisions that draw him further into conflict with some very bad people. In many ways, Dug is very similar to very book in which he serves as protagonist. AGE OF IRON by Angus Watson definitely has some warts, and while Dug's comrades are willing to look past his flaws, I struggled to get past some of my issues with AGE OF IRON, even as I recognized that many of the pieces were there for a successful trilogy. To be honest, as I read the book, I imagined Watson was like many authors who self-published their work, found success and were picked up by a traditional publisher who then distributed the work without going back through and giving the book a thorough scrubbing. The Kindle edition I read the book had several spots where punctuation was misplaced, extraneous words were inserted or sentences didn't flow especially well. Early in the book, we're introduced to a bad guy named Ulpius who seems like he will be integral to the story -- we get 4-5 pages of back story detailing Ulpius's childhood, describing his vanity, how he committed his first murder and where he got the mirror he carries around with him. Then, in the present day, Ulpius walks up to a seemingly unconscious Dug and Dug wakes up and hits him in the head with his warhammer, crushing his skull and instantly killing him.

In the last year, I have been reading mainly women's fiction, so recently I decided to start reading more genres again. After enjoying a couple of crime books, I was offered this book to review and I was told if I had enjoyed Game of Thrones, I would like it. I had read the three first books of Game of Thrones in a row a couple of years ago and I am planning to go back to the series soon. Anyway,

I went for it and I am glad I did. It took me a while to get into the story, basically because I am not very good with names and I was a bit lost with the characters at the beginning, but after that I was hooked. The main characters of this epic story are Dug, an old mercenary with exceptional skills with his hammer, Lova, who used to be King Zadar's favourite, and now has become his worst enemy, and Spring, a little girl that is too smart and knows too many things for her age. We follow their story, first separately and then together, around the south of England. The story flowed well, the chapters focused in different characters, not only the main ones, so you got a wide view of the story with insights to different towns, sides of the battle and customs and traditions. It was really interesting to read about how the Iron Age in England might have been, as it is a not well known era. We know a lot about the Romans but not about their opponents. I am very intrigued to find out how the story is going to continue in the second book of this trilogy as I expect that the Romans are going to finally arrive at England. Also I would say the book is equally funny as horrifying so if you offend easily or just don't like gore descriptions of decapitations, cannibalism or arena fighting, just don't go for it. In my opinion, all this fits in the story perfectly.

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