



Tyrant's Throne

Sebastien de Castell

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After years of struggle and sacrifice, Falcio val Mond, First Cantor of the Greatcoats, is on the brink of fulfilling his dead king's dream: Aline, the king's daughter, is about to take the throne and restore the rule of law once and for all.

But for the Greatcoats, nothing is ever that simple. In the neighboring country of Avars, an enigmatic new warlord is uniting the barbarian armies that have long plagued Tristia's borders--and even worse, he is rumored to have a new ally: Trin, who's twice tried to kill Aline to claim the throne of Tristia for herself. With the armies of Avars at her back, led by a bloodthirsty warrior, she'll be unstoppable.

Falcio, Kest, and Brasti race north to stop her, but in those cold and treacherous climes they discover something altogether different, and far more dangerous: a new player is planning to take the throne of Tristia, and with a sense of dread the three friends realize that the Greatcoats, for all their skill, may not be able to stop him.

As the nobles of Tristia and even the Greatcoats themselves fight over who should rule, the Warlord of Avars threatens to invade. With so many powerful contenders vying for power, it will fall to Falcio to render the one verdict he cannot bring himself to utter, much less enforce. Should he help crown the young woman he vowed to put on the throne, or uphold the laws he swore to serve?

Tyrant's Throne Details

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From Reader Review Tyrant's Throne for online ebook

?Luna? says

2.5/5

"Fuck anyone who ever doubts the purpose of daring acts of heroism"

Tyrants Throne is the last addition to the Greatcoats Series. I think it is a very average conclusion to a good series. I found myself writing down all the things I hated about this series instead of the things I loved. So prepared yourself for a ranty review, because let's be honest this novel left a salty taste in my mouth. My main issue with this series is how overhyped it is. Please everyone calm the fuck down, this review is all a matter of personal taste (a very unpopular opinion). I understand majority of people love this series & have it on their favourite shelves. This is quite honestly the reason why I purchased this series, I was so excited to start it, honestly this was one of my most anticipated 'new series of 2017'. So when I finally got around to read book one, it was 'insta meh'. I had high expectations and the book fell flat for me. Don't get me wrong I liked book two & three.. ALOT. But book four was a waste of my time. The main reason why is because it's the same shit that happened throughout the series, I know what your thinking "what is this banshee talking about?", well let me YELL it at you (in a very angry voice). I hate samey sameness, it's one of my biggest peeves, I was tired of hearing the same jokes over and over again, I was also sick of reading the same arguments over and over again, it's gets old quickly. I found the humour in book one refreshing, by book two I was like okay haha.. Book three I thought okay these jokes are becoming annoying, by book four it was **INSTA RAGE**, stop with the overuse of the same jokes please "oh look at the expression on Falcios face.. he has a plan" or the "oh look Falcio is about to have another speech". It BECAME LAME.. Ok we get it Castell! Falcio is an annoying main character who never shuts up! Luckily Brasti was there to break up the boringness and samey sameness of this novel, If it wasn't for him I would have tapped out at around the 30% mark. So your probably wondering why I gave this book three stars if I hated it so much. Well that ending... It was so goddamn cute, my soul has been touched and my heart broken, atleast the author got one thing right and delivered a beautiful ending.

"Because. I. Will. Not. Allow. Them. To. Forget. It"

You know for a book about war there wasn't a lot of war going on, just a circulation of the same goddamn arguments over and over again. I love war and politics but this novel felt rushed and unnecessary, I would have preferred the author adding an additional 150 pages to book three and having a conclusion in that novel, but instead he wrote a 600 page book of boringness and fillers. I refuse to even acknowledge this books existence. Because I genuinely liked book 2 and 3. So I'm extremely disappointed. **THERE WAS NO BADASSERY. Which is blasphemy.** I'm not even done ranting yet & I'm sorry to everyone who enjoyed this novel, but I'm salty.

This novel takes off from where book three ended, Falcio (the most annoying character in the universe) is

trying to keep the peace in Tristia. The Kings heir Aline is soon to be crowned as queen and return the law to Tristia. But nothing ever goes to plan in this world and the Greatcoats are faced with a few new enemy, it seems like everyone is out to get Falcio. Obviously I understand the authors reluctance to let Falcio just live his life, but seriously how much torture does one man need to endure before he can have his peace, I feel like the author tortures his characters for fun. Don't get me wrong I live for torture in books but it gets to the point in these novels that I just started to roll my eyes. Seriously. I just don't care anymore, I kinda dislike Falcio. I was over his POV, I genuinely hate first person perspective with a passion. **So annoying MC + first person perspective = terrible experience for me.** I wish the author decided to make this series a multiply POV, that way I would have been less inclined to rant about this novel. Also some of the ways Castell dealt with the 'bad guys' pissed me off, I was all up for this idea *"I'd rather rip out that little bitches cunt with my bare hands"*. I wanted savagery and got none.

But like I said earlier it wasn't all bad. There was a beautiful ending and some of the side characters are truly amazing. I loved the display of friendships throughout the series (even tho Falcio treats the people who love him like shit). A few things I loved about this novel; I love Brasti, I wish he was my friend in real life and the main character of the series, the sweetest cinnamon roll to have ever existed as a fictional character. I love Kest, another character I want to adopt and I also LOVE Darriana, SHE IS THE BEST.. But once again she got 0 page time, I was only here for her and I left feeling disappointed. But other then those things and that ending, this was not a pleasant experience. I just don't care about the story or Falcio anymore. There was a few plot reveals that I saw coming from book one, so they didn't affect me at all. Like I seriously must be a heartless bitch but i just didn't care, I had pretty much 0 feels throughout the entirety of this novel (except the last 50 pages which pulled on my heartstrings a little bit). I do however like the authors writing style but even found a few issues with that, the author uses the most overused unoriginal sentences in book history "I let out the breath I didn't even realise I was holding in".

Recommended to all fantasy fans, you will all probably enjoy it more then I did.

Ps. Mega fans please don't stab me. I'm actually a precious petal. I'm just feeling salty for wasting a week of my life on this novel.

Eon ?Windrunner? says

[confronting and, ultimately, defeating a god (hide spoiler)]

Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says

OMG!! This book made me cry in sad ways and in happy ways!

This is the best book of the series to me even though it's the last book and I loved them all. I can't believe it's over. It just can't be over. Not with that ending. I want more =>

I will always love the boys: Kest, Brasti & Falcio. Their banter is the best ever in the books. And I was thinking I might not like this series. Here is some advice, don't think, just read, because you never know.

"My name is Kest Murrowson, a magistrate of the Greatcoats." He paused for effect, before adding unnecessarily, "And I am the Queen's Shield."

"To answer your question, friend, my name is Brasti Goodbow, and I am the Queen's Jest."

"My name your Lordship, is Falcio val Mond." I am the First Cantor of the Greatcoats, also called the King's Heart."

The boys are sent off on a mission to go and find some more people to help secure Aline as Queen among other things. They go off into this bitter land and find some things they weren't prepared for.

They return home with this bad news and set up to fight more people. Yeah, they don't get a break.

There are more revelations. There is the evil Trin. There are a lot of things going on in this book. People die =(

I think the conclusion of this series was excellent. I love it so very much, but I'm sad. Yes, I know they can be read over and over, but still, I want more stories.

I can't wait to add this edition to my shelves along with the first three, when it comes to paperback.

I would like to thank Netgalley and the Publisher for a copy of this book.

MY BLOG: Melissa Martin's Reading List

Bookwraiths says

Originally reviewed at Bookwraiths.

Few series transcend their genre, bring readers of differing tastes together to brave dangers along behind its heroes. But when one does, this saga finds itself held up as an all-time great; descriptive terms such as the matchless, the peerless, the unparalleled pinnacle of the genre, and other even more flowery terms thrown around. At the end of the day though, what brands a series as a timeless classic is how it is remembered going forward, especially how many of its fans continue to recommend it to new reader for years and decades to come. Sebastien de Castell's *Greatcoats* series now among that small, heralded group of fantasy sagas for me personally. *Tyrant's Throne* delivering the finishing touches to propel it into the best swashbuckling fantasy ever written; Falcio val Mond and comrades able to proudly parade among the elites of the genre. And I for one will be trumpeting its praises for as long as I draw breath.

As the concluding chapter in the *Greatcoats* series, *Tyrant's Throne* immediately takes off with the daring do, wisecracking laughs and twisted, political machinations it has become known for. The wedding of two Tristian royals lending itself to yet another rousing dose of Castell action with our leading man pronouncing proudly the most memorable lines since Inigo Montoya in *The Princess Bride*:

My name, your lordship, is Falcio val Mond. . . I am the First Cantor of the Greatcoats, also called the King's Heart. You might not know it yet . . . but you are having a very bad day.

As our viewpoint character, Falcio Val Mond has guided readers from the grim depths of Traitor's Blades through the frantic trials of Knight's Shadow to the gloomy despair of Saint's Blood. His constant soul searching, self-induced delusions, unflinching devotion, and unfailing determination the constant pole around which the seething pool of vile politics, horrid sacrifices, and grim deeds revolve in the quest to place King Paelis' daughter Aline on the throne of Tristia. Yet, now, when he is so close to completing his last mission for his beloved king, circumstances grow even worse for Falcio.

First, there is a war brewing with the Avareans. Second, there is a final showdown with the horrible Trin, who has done nothing but torment our hero at every turn. And, third, Falcio finds any unexpected enemy — his own self. His demons come to torment him; his most cherished memories turned into horrid illusions of the truth; the very foundation of his life as a Greatcoat rocked by the revelations he must confront. The terrible spiraling of events and choices threatening to send our hero into an abyss of despair from which even he cannot ascend.

But as always, Falcio is not cowed by any threat. His single-minded faith in his beloved ideals causing him to move ever forward, even when he makes terrible mistakes. Our hero able to stand proudly before his innumerable, more powerful foes at the worst of moments and flippantly declare, *"Everyone hush now . . . I'm about to be impressive."*

And he is. No matter the trial, the grief, the torment, or the disillusion, Falcio val Mond is a man of ideal, a warrior of principle, who will not give in to the forces dragging him down. He is the King's Heart, and such a man can never be defeated!

I have to say I really didn't believe there was anything left for Sebastien de Castell to throw at Falcio after three books. He has been tortured (mentally and emotionally), seen his dreams shattered more than a few times, and faced the death of all he loved seemingly at every turn. But I was wrong yet again, for *Tyrant's Throne* plunges our hero into even greater fires of adversity, forcing him to take a long look at himself and his beliefs before raising the more refined version of my favorite Greatcoat like a blazing phoenix. It is harsh, painful to read at times, but it is such a perfect ending to our hero's journey that I cannot now imagine Falcio and the Greatcoats' story ending any other way.

Mixed into the exquisite flagellation, Sebastien de Castell still dazzles with his ability to deliver swashbuckling action, amazing camaraderie, funny moments, and classic heroics. His narrative finding the perfect balance between every emotion, tugging your heart strings one way and another; each twist in the plot spanning the spectrum from crushing despair to soaring excitement. *Tyrant's Throne* giving its frequent readers everything they could have ever hoped for in a finale, leaving one awed yet heartbroken that it had to finally come to an end.

Since my return to the fantasy genre about four years ago, Sebastien de Castell is among my favorites authors; his *Greatcoats* series listed among my most beloved fantasy series ever, resting proudly next to those of Tolkien, Donaldson, and many more. And while *Tyrant's Throne* is a fitting ending to this adventure, I dearly hope it will not be our last visit to the colorful world of Falcio and friends. This place having too many fascinating stories yet to tell. But until then, I will cherish my memories of my adventures riding and fighting alongside Falcio and the Greatcoats, proclaiming to all the villains of the world that

“THE GREATCOATS ARE COMING!”

I received this book from the publisher in exchange for a fair and honest review. I'd like to thank them for allowing me to receive this review copy and inform everyone that the review you have read is my opinion alone.

Mayim de Vries says

“Preposterous heroics are the only things we've ever been good at.”

This is a minus five stars read. I struggled with this series so much, it easily hits the top three worst ever fighting The Faithful and the Fallen for primacy.

If not for the buddy-rant, I wouldn't have made it. And **perhaps I should have abandoned this series two books ago but I'd stubbornly hoped that it would turn around. Instead, it got worse.** I know it is a well-liked series, but I'm not in this crowd. Here comes the dispatch from the May-nority corner.

The most difficult part for me was **the narrator**. Falcio's self-righteousness, selfish loyalty, and stupidity parading as pompousness **evolved from funny to mildly irritating to unbearably infuriating.** This series would have been so much better had it been someone else who narrated it or at least if it gave other POVs as a respite from this fool. What is worse, as if one Falcio is not enough this instalment introduces one Chalmers, who is, in fact, another Falcio, to this extent that they say the same things at the same time.

His companions started as a promising reprise of the Musketeers but very quickly turned out to be one of those groups with the star and his side-kicks, troupes where you can shine only at the expense of the others. Think about how Kest had to surrender his martial prowess or why the fact that Brasti misuses words is an endless source of fun. Frankly, **I despise this kind of banter that arises from making fun of and at somebody and it is prevalent here.**

Design-wise, the **book is too long and after a boring beginning of too many unnecessary chapters** that give you a very vague notion where this story is going **it veers from a lesson on how very complicated it is to rule a kingdom** (like we didn't have the whole previous book where Falcio could prove over and over that he sucks at diplomacy and power games at least as much as at horsemanship) **to a melodrama of strained credulity** with the Greatcoats facing a war against **evil who want to destroy the country.**

Wait, **again?!**

Yes, for the third fourth time.

Hundreds of pages of **incessantly repeated conversations and situations you remember from the previous books.** Protagonists faced with **the same choices end up making the same mistakes** and even though **the opening starts with a bold pronouncement that the time of preposterous heroics has passed, this is precisely what you will get: preposterous heroics in preposterous doses** especially that the plot meanders quite a lot and is heavily based on **Falcio getting out of impossible situations. To save the day. Against all odds. Always. All the time.**

The so called villain is laughable (the new one, the old one is a pitiable psycho), duels and battles protracted, and several characters that should be put out of their misery survive for no reason whatsoever. For those of you who want to point out the game-changer, I beg you spare me. I have been waiting for the chapter 51 plot-twist development since the second instalment because the whole "chariote" premise was so shaky. At the same time, the tidiness and convenience of that ending made me cackle with glee. **I know nursery tales with more suspense.**

Maybe the problem is that at its heart the biggest drama in the series is whether or not one should follow the laws (to the letter) hidden in a quagmire of half-coherent mess of stereotypes. While I expect this can be quite exciting to those studying for the bar, **I found myself strangely impervious to legalistic shenanigans.** When Falcio is "sick and tired of seeing the law twisted into a means of bringing more death and destruction into the world," I kept thinking that it is good he doesn't know the UN Security Council. **The grand finale with its "to law or not to law" question is a very weak existential problem to found the book on.**

Finally, I cannot mention the awful writing with frequent "letting out the breath he didn't realise he was holding in" as a perfect poisoned cherry on this inedible cake. This **awful book is a waste of Amazon rainforest** (I am so glad to have read an e-book, you have no idea!).

Also in the series:

1. Traitor's Blade ★★☆☆?
2. Knight's Shadow ★★☆☆?
3. Saint's Blood ★☆☆?

Samir says

I'll keep this short and try to explain my (unpopular) rating.

I wish I enjoyed this like the most but this book, like its predecessor, simply didn't work for me. This felt like I was reading the same book for the fourth time; same situations, same conversations, same plot twists and that took away the fun.

My biggest issue with this series is Falcio. I got tired of being in his mind and looking at the world through his eyes and sometimes I wished he wasn't a part of this story which leads me to Kest and Brasti. Those two are great characters and they were limited to a funny banter here and there and some insightful remark to help Falcio. Their main job was to constantly save Falcio's ass. I wanted to spend some time in their heads and I think this series would've been much better if they got their POV chapters. It was hard to connect with them this way. Such a shame. And I need to mention the side characters as well. Some of them are very cool and they got very little "screen time" and appeared only when it was convenient for the story.

My last issue with the series was the story. It felt disjointed and the main reason for it are the villains. It was established in the first book who the main villain is and the inclusion of the new villains in each book took away the focus from that person and sometimes made me wonder what's the point of the first book. And I was really disappointed with the way things ended with the main villain.

Overall, it was a good series but it had the potential to be a great one.

? Sh3lly - Grumpy Name-Changing Wanderer ? says

What to say about this final installment in the Greatcoats quartet except that it was a very satisfying conclusion. We have our hero Falcio:

His buddy, Brasti, arguably the best archer (and wannabe pirate) in the world:

(I know he's not holding a bow, but that gif reminded me of him.)

And Kest, the former Saint of Swords:

(He's the serious one, but that gif reminds me of how Kest might physically look.)

I really love - ADORE - the friendship and loyalty of these three. The humor that was missing from the last book (that one had a much more serious and dramatic tone) is definitely back.

We all know (those of us who have read the previous books) that the kingdom of Tristia is still in trouble and on the verge of chaos. Aline has not been named Queen yet, but Falcio is doing his best to remedy that.

There is a new and surprising villain and the return of another villain that we expected because that loose end had not been wrapped up.

Something happened which I won't say because obviously spoilers, but I was almost ready to throw my Kindle at the wall.

Those who have read this probably know what I am talking about, and I'm still not quite sure things had to go that way, but I have come to expect surprises from Sebastian de Castell. He takes the reader through the emotional ringer at times.

The amount of adventure, action, humor, and feels was an almost perfect blend. This might have been slightly over-long in my view, but all in all, it truly was a satisfying conclusion that felt authentic. I even cried a couple times!

I highly recommend this series if you like books that remind you of *The Three Mustakeers* and *The Princess Bride*. This is one I will definitely return to in the years to come.

I still don't quite understand why people were always giving Falcio such a hard time, though. He really was smart and made good decisions. He did babble and his inner dialogues went on too long, but he was fiercely

heroic and a good leader. I guess it was just part of the deprecating humor and if people listened to him and respected him, there would be no story, right?

I really liked the new young girl character, Chalmers. Brasti will forever be my favorite Greatcoat. The female characters were stronger here than in the previous book. I guess I will view Saint's Blood as being the book that serves as the "dark night of the soul" for the series.

Still, my one complaint (and this is a big spoiler, so don't read if you haven't read the series and intend to):
(view spoiler)

I guess that is all. Well done! Fantastic series and conclusion!

Thank you Netgalley and publisher for providing a digital copy to read and review!

My review of Traitor's Blade.

My review of Knight's Shadow.

My review of Saint's Blood.

Michael Britt says

"In an unjust country we are all nothing but victims, and the best we can hope for is one chance to prove ourselves, to turn our death into a sacrifice for what we believe in rather than a fate that was set upon us."

I am yet again blown away by de Castell's work. I think it's safe to say this is my favorite out of the series. I don't cry real tears often (I do get choked up a lot), but he managed to summon quite a few tears from me. Like a lot. That's not an easy thing to do. But I would say half were sadness tears and half were happy tears. Especially that ending. MAN, that ending!! I hope I can put together a useful review, but I highly doubt it'll be constructive.

This series started really strongly, for me, and he built upon that quality and turned this into something amazing. This addition to the series made me feel so many things: happiness, sadness, empathy, pity and so many other emotions. I felt bad for people I hated ever since the beginning of this series. He had some really great development for even our villains. And yet again, gave us some hilarious moments with my favorite trio. Also some really tough moments, as well.

The plot had some really great twists that I didn't see coming. So many that I'm not really sure what all I can really say about the plot without spoiling it. It was definitely, in my opinion, a pretty fast paced book. Nothing too ridiculous happened, either. Every conflict resolution made more sense than usual, and I really liked that. The conflicts felt like more was at stake than usual, as well.

This was one of the most satisfying series conclusions I have had the pleasure of reading. It was about as perfect as I could've hoped for. I really don't have all that much to say besides: bravo Mr. de Castell. Bravo!

Petros Triantafyllou says

I have to admit that when I first-started this series, I wasn't the biggest fan, but times change, and people (change) with them. Greatcoats is now one of my favorite series of all times.

It's been years since Falcio Val Mond, the First Cantor of the Greatcoats, first-discovered Aline, his long-dead King's daughter. The time to fulfill King Paelis' dream has come, and Aline is closer than ever in taking the throne and restoring peace and law throughout Tristia. But when news arrive from their neighboring country, Avares, that a new warlord is uniting all the barbarian war-bands with the clear purpose of invading Tristia, the Greatcoats have one last job to take care of.

"A trial is a performance, no different than a stage play or a wedding. The script may be dramatic or dull, the players captivating or hesitant, the spectators enraptured or bored, but by the time the curtain falls, everyone gets up to leave knowing that the conclusion was never really in doubt. The trick, of course, is figuring out the ending before it's too late."

It's been always hard for me to finish the last book in a series. Knowing that you will never again be able to read about the characters that kept your company for days, months or even years, is as heartbreaking as any fictional death. To get past this, the author must provide a satisfying ending that will stay true both to his vision and to his readers' expectations. An ending that the readers may not need, but one that they surely deserve. De Castell has more than done so, with finesse, skill and eloquence.

In Tyrant's Throne, Seb brought back every single aspect that we came to love in the previous three installments. Fun, action, heroism and heart-breaking sacrifices are beautifully blended together, creating a story of unparalleled beauty. De Castell could use his already established world and well-developed characters to write an easy story and provide us with an effortless ending, but he chose the hard way (and kudos for doing so); he kept expanding his world, this time exploring places and cultures outside the bounds of Tristia, and he crafted new and compelling characters that played a vital role in the story. Finally, all loose threads from the previous books are tied up; from how Falcio beat Kest to become the First Cantor and how Kest became the Saint of Swords, to Paelis' final commands and what happened to the rest of the Greatcoats.

All in all, Tyrant's Throne is an exceptional read and the perfect ending in a wonderful series. If you haven't yet picked up the Greatcoats, now is the time to do it!

You can find more of my reviews over at <http://BookNest.eu/>

Melanie says

ARC provided by Quercus in exchange for an honest review.

- 1.) Traitor's Blade ★★★★★
- 2.) Knight's Shadow ★★★★★
- 3.) Saint's Blood ★★★★★

“What do you call a judge sitting on a throne? [...] A fucking tyrant, that’s what.”

I've been staring at this word document for far too long, because I simply do not have the words to describe how much I love this book and this series. Nothing I could say, and no word combination I could create, would do this series justice, but I suppose I should at least try.

“From nothing we become men and women who write poems and wage wars and conceive of futures both wondrous and terrifying.”

In my opinion, this is the closest thing to perfection in adult fantasy. I have absolutely nothing bad to say about these four books, and as apprehensive as I felt about Sebastien de Castell finally writing a conclusion for this series that I love, he proved that he could do that perfectly as well.

I've never rooted for any character of any book like I've rooted for these three men:

- **Brasti Goodbow** - The King's Arrow, the Queen's Jest, the funniest character in all of literature, and the kindest soul in all of Tristia.
- **Kest Murrowson** - The King's Sword, the Queen's Shield, the moral compass, the always knowledgeable bookworm, and the little cinnamon roll that's too good for this world.
- **Falcio val Mond** - The King's Heart, my freakin' heart, the leader, the lover, that smartass, the clever fool, the main protagonist, and maybe the best character ever written.

Like you've probably heard a million times before, these three make up a very *Three Musketeers* like group, that travels through this country named Tristia, trying to keep their dead king's dream alive. Upon their king's death, he gave them each a secret mission to complete once he was dead. We learn of Falcio's right away in Traitor's Blade, and from there we are led on an amazing journey filled with duels, wars, deceptions, politics, betrayals, twists, turns, love, and everything in between.

“The problem with games of war is that they’re deceptive precisely because they presume that there are rules to be followed. But this is Tristia, after all, and corruption runs deep in the bone.”

Book four starts out in true Sebastien de Castell fashion, which is always in the most unexpected of ways, with our three beloved Greatcoats crashing a wedding performance in which another Greatcoat shows up to save the day, which totally just makes our Greatcoat's day much harder. Then, in maybe more true Sebastien de Castell fashion, this ends up being a parallel for the entire book.

This book also answers a lot of questions from the other three books, too. Like where the remaining Greatcoats have gone, and what King Paelis asked of the other Greatcoats. Like what Trist has been truly up to. And, probably most importantly, how are the Greatcoats going to reunite a country that is so very content

with meagerly passing by?

“What if people didn’t need outdated heroics and idealism? What if they didn’t need Greatcoats at all? What if the one thing my country needed most to survive was a tyrant?”

It's so very difficult to say much more without jumping into spoiler territory. This is the fourth and final installment in this series, and it ripped my heart out and left me crying for the last couple hundred pages, but it was everything I wanted. This series means so very much to me, and I've never loved another fantasy series quite like I love *Greatcoats*.

This series is so special and unique, with meaningful lesson after lesson on the importance of being kind and being good and to be just to other human beings. And that your past will never define who you can be. And how important friendship is, and how selflessly loving others is the most powerful gift you'll ever have in this life. And that regardless of luck, you can make a difference, always.

“It comes down to a choice between Law and Justice –and they are two very different things, Falcio, despite how hard you’ve tried to unite them.”

In my opinion, this series deserves just as much credit, praise, and adoration, if not more so, than *The Kingkiller Chronicle*, *ASOIAF*, *Mistborn*, and all the other popular high fantasy that is constantly talked about and loved and celebrated. And I love all of those too, but I love *Greatcoats* more.

Please give this series a try, it's truly masterpiece that I wish I could share with everyone I know. This final book comes out June 6th for us Americans and it is so very deserving of the recent hype it has received on Goodreads.

“And so ends Tristia, once the very pinnacle of culture and civilization, dissipating in misery while the great Falcio val Mond rushes across the land in search of anyone in a long coat who happens to share his fanatical devotion to a dead King’s dream.”

Okay, I can't resist writing a spoiler section where I incoherently gush about my babies. **Please do not continue on if you haven't completed this series! MAJOR SPOILERS ahead!**

“Ah, that’s the thing about people like you and me, Falcio: our curse is to keep living, when those we love best die”

► **Aline** - I have never wept for a character the way I have for Aline. If I had to give a complaint about this book, it would not be that Sebastien de Castell decided to kill her, it would be that he brought her back for just my heart to heal a tiny amount, only to then break in a way I never thought possible over fictional characters. Like, I'm crying writing this paragraph, that's how messed up this book made me.

“I tried to imagine what it must be like, to be young, beginning to see your own talents emerging, to see the world full of possibility –and yet have to set that aside, to prepare yourself for a marriage whose only purpose would be to ensure you never fully met your own potential. To consign yourself to be less than you could be in order to satisfy the machinations of old men.”

► **Monster** - And then Monster coming back to take Falcio and the Tailor to bury Aline? Please, God, make these tears stop. AND SHE HAD FOULS? LITTLE FAE HORSE BABIES? Please, just, take all my money and make me a book about them. Seriously, how perfect.

► **Trin** - Girl, where did you go? And how are you my favorite villain of all time? Everything Trin does makes so much sense, while she also does nothing without reason. She wants to love so desperately, she was just never taught how to. Like, I love Trin. I know I shouldn't, but my heart just breaks for her. I hope Sebastien de Castell comes back to this world soon, because I hate having resolution with everyone but Trin.

► **Fillian** - I read this book feeling like Fillian would perhaps get his own spin-off. And even though I hated Aline's death, I loved the conversations of misogyny that Fillian becoming King (so easily) brought up. I mean, Fillian proved he would put his country first, I just feel like he is too mysterious for us to not learn a lot more about, eventually.

► **Chalmers** - And once Chalmers got appointed First Cantor, I couldn't help but fully believe in a spin-off. I mean, maybe it is just a sweet ending, and Lord knows that Chalmers deserved that rank after what she had proven of herself during the war, but I still feel like we are going to learn a lot about her and her new king, Fillian.

► **Darriana** - God, I just love Darriana. Not only is she completely badass and always takes matters into her own hands, she somehow wormed her way into Brasti's heart and he into hers. I loved that is going to reform the Dashini into what it should and could have been from the start. I only hope her and Brasti get a spin-off telling about their adventures and their love together.

► **Tommer, God of Valour** - Be still, my heart. Honestly, seeing the Gods of Love, Death, and Valour show up honestly broke me. I thought I couldn't contain my tears during Aline's death? Oh was I a sweet summer child.

► **Jillard** - Jillard was one of my favorite characters, but I knew he was living on borrowed time as soon as Tommer died in Saint's Blood, but can we talk about his character development? I mean, what a perfectly crafted and written character, who was able to evoke every emotion of the spectrum from me.

► **The Tailor** - I know the Tailor isn't the most beloved character of this series, but when I think about everything she has lost, and continued to lose, my heart becomes so very heavy for her. Another perfectly executed and morally grey character.

► **Morn** - The King's Backstabber. Also, Sebastien de Castell's twists and turns will never cease to surprise me.

► **Nehra** - I loved her and the rest of the Bardatti. Whenever I play or watch D&D, Bards are always the class that wins me over with minimal effort, and I fell in love with the Bardattis just as easy. I loved the impact of their war song, and I loved the message that music can change the world. I hope there is a heavy

emphasis on them and their tales in future books.

► **Feltock** - I honestly was not expect this cameo at all, but it was so very welcoming. I loved the disabled representation, especially in a believable war setting from an actual war general. Feltock was such a wonderful addition to the ending of this book, and I am so very thankful for him and his impact on the war.

► **Valiana** - Valiana kind of missed the mark for me in this book. Like, I didn't have a problem with her, but I constantly wanted her to show Falcio she loved him and viewed him as her father, but instead she constantly acted ungrateful towards him. And I get that it was completely sad and unfair that she was lied to all her life, but then she just accepts taking Jillard's name and happily rules her new Duchy. I don't know, it just feels sort of bad.

► **Ethalia** - Okay, I agree, her being pregnant with Falcio's baby (girl, too) at the end was a little cheesy. But hell, after seeing Falcio finally say he was lucky after all the torment, suffering, and heartbreak he had to endure through his journey, I am happy for him. I am so very happy for him.

“My name is Falcio val Mond. I might just be the luckiest man who ever lived.”

Brasti becomes a Rangieri, Kest becomes a knight, and Falcio becomes a father. You know, I honestly didn't see this ending coming, but I loved it all the same. These characters have become part of who I am as a person, and I will cherish this amazing quartet for as long as I live, while I sing its praises to every book lover I come in contact with. I can't wait to see what adventure Sebastien de Castell embarks us on next!

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Petrik says

4.5/5 Stars

Here lies the end of my journey with the Falcio, Kest, and Brasti and let me tell you, it ended with great satisfaction.

If Saint's Blood was the climax to the series, Tyrant's Throne is the great epilogue to the series. Everything comes down to this installment. Falcio val Mond is on the brink of fulfilling his dead king's dream, there's only a few more obstacle to go through before he achieve it and did he succeeded? Well you have to read it yourself to find out.

This is the last book of the series so I won't go into any details on the plot but I'll let you know that this is a very satisfying conclusion to the series. All the main themes of the book are still here, the injustice, the battle to uphold laws and to end the tyranny in Tristia, every thread that began ever since the first book of the series ended here, no more loose ends and I feel a bit bittersweet about it. I feel happy that it ended satisfyingly and at the same time I feel sad that I must part with the characters of this series and in my opinion that's the sign of a great book and series.

I'll be honest, I never think of Falcio as lovable character, his temperament and somehow psychotic attitude sometimes bothered me but at the same time, I can't ever dislike him because I feel if I were in his situation

where he can't ever catch a break, I'll probably do even worse things or probably killed myself in the first book already. However, this is what made his character realistic and he's a great choice for the main character, accompanied by his best friends Kest and Brasti, the narrative never forget to switch between tension and fun.

“Everyone shush now, I'm about to be impressive.”

Every character have fantastic developments throughout the whole series, none of them started the same than when they began in the first book and I truly love these kind of developments. However, as I stated before, among all the character, my favorite will have to be Brasti Goodbow. Seriously, Brasti is in my opinion one of the best side character ever in fantasy books. He's loyal, hilarious, fun, and I always laughed at how all the amazing things he did always left unrecognized by everyone. Despite that, he didn't care, he'll still do it all over again, because well, he's Brasti.

In terms of pacing and actions, this book, is in my opinion the slowest paced out of the quartet and has fewer actions in comparison. This doesn't mean that it's bad at all, no, this is the direction that the book must take to end all the stories that has started ever since the first book. It's heavier with politics, dilemma, and feeling of determination but for the first time in the series, we finally get to see the Bardatti in actions other than singing and telling stories in a tavern.

“When there is a war, it's always the common people who paid the price.”

There is only one minor con I had with the book and that is the beginning part, specifically the whole section with the Margraves. I find the first 100 pages to be a bit out of place and cheesy but this is just a minor problem for me. After that part, everything is a smooth journey up to the end.

I embarked upon this journey with the Greatcoats 12 days ago and I'm delighted I did. Honestly, I never thought I was going to love this series this much if I were to judge it only from the first book. I like 'Traitor's Blade' but I didn't love it, the change of direction to a darker story in 'Knight's Shadow' then astonished me. 'Saint's Blood' however came and change my perspective of the series, it was amazing and it was a significant improvement for the series. **Tyrant's Throne is the fantastic culmination of everything that began ever since the first book.** Sebastien de Castell ended his first series strongly and Greatcoats won't be the last series that I read from him.

I highly recommend this series to anyone who's looking for a great swashbuckling adventure read.

Series review:

Traitor's Blade: 3/5 Stars

Knight's Shadow: 4/5 Stars

Saint's Blood: [4.5/5 Stars](#)

Tyrant's Throne: [4.5/5 Stars](#)

Greatcoats : [16/20 Stars](#)

You can find this and the rest of my Adult Epic/High Fantasy & Sci-Fi reviews at BookNest

TS Chan says

Tyrant's Throne was one of the most satisfying endings to a series that I've had the privilege of reading.

At the start of the series in *Traitor's Blade*, we have this trio of best friends; magistrates called the Greatcoats, or less affectionately known as Trattari, scorned by the people of Tristia and on a mission to further the obscure plans of their executed King in honour of his dreams of a better country. While the previous book, *Saint's Blood*, was amazing, it did digress from this ultimate plot behind the series by dealing with more religious aspects of worldbuilding.

This finale brought the focus squarely back on the treacherous political landscape of Tristia and how Falcio, an idealistic man enamoured with upholding the law, had to make the difficult decision between being true to his ideals and going against them to fulfill his promise to a dead King. The story started with a first act that was at once cheesy but really fun as our awesome trio contrived to 'save the day' in direct opposition of what they were ordered to do. The narrative progressed with expanding on the politics that shaped the country, by bringing the reader to a land and its people outside of Tristia - Avars and its barbarians - and the best of all in revealing the long lost lore of the Dal Verteri - the twelve ancient orders amongst which included the Trattari, the Bardatti and the Dashini.

The plot was well-paced and weaved through revelations, twists and turns with the expertise of a master duellist and at every lunge, parry or riposte I wondered how Falcio was ever going to overcome the odds. To this end, I was relieved that it was never something that was too unbelievable and he had to necessarily rely on his reliable entourage. An entourage of really great characters, both old and new, that I've grown to care about throughout these books. The appearance of one particular individual from the first book was a pleasant surprise and proved to be quite pivotal for the final battle. And once again, the character development of yet another villain was both surprising and very well done.

Was this all I'd ever been? A reflection in the eyes of others? A man with no dreams of his own, who only tried to live up to the expectations of those he cared for?

The characterization of Falcio through the entire arc of the series was compelling to the nth degree. He was by no means an outright lovable character. As heroic and valorous as he can be, he can also be equally belligerent and childishly petulant, and sometimes even downright insane. However, given the sheer amount of trials and tribulations that he had to endure time and time again, his reactions are wholly realistic and it is hard not to empathise with him. Even a well-tempered rapier has a weak spot and Falcio's weakness fell heavily on his inability to let go of his past but it also lent him a strength of will that was almost inhuman at

times. He might not be your favourite character in this series, but you won't be able to help yourself from feeling frustrated when crap keeps getting heaped on top of him or cheer him on when he takes control to face an impossible situation. Being the First Cantor of the Greatcoats really is the most awful job one can ever have in Tristia.

Fortunately, of course, he has the infallible Kest and wonderfully kind (and awfully hilarious) Brasti. Bless both their souls for they are the most amazing friends one can ever hope to find in their lifetime. Brasti is a personal favourite simply because he injected so much heart and humour into an otherwise really grim narrative. My favourite moments in the whole series are almost invariably the ones when the three of them were together.

"Gentlemen," I said to Kest and Brasti, "I'm of a mind to attempt something rather daring and heroic."

Brasti grinned. "I assume this preposterous venture of yours is doomed to fail?"

"Assuredly. But we're going to do it anyway. You know why?"

Kest had a broad smile, one I'd rarely seen before. "Because preposterous heroics are the only things we've ever been good at."

This was a tale told from the first person perspective of just one character, which makes it an intimate journey to me as a reader. So while the climax of the story involved a battle of a few thousands, it felt more personal than epic; I am not able to grapple for the right words or phrase to describe the feeling but it's different from reading about the clashing of huge armies and death on a massive scale. But this was what made it so satisfying for me. This story was never a grand sweeping epic but of a journey of a broken man who vehemently sought to fix what he saw to be a broken country with a singular devotion to his late King. And its denouement was perfect for me.

This review can also be found at Booknest

Orient says

Here it goes, I finished this book at last and don't want to review it. How do I feel? Tired, frustrated, happy, disappointed and ranty for sure. Like :)

Yes, that's my true form, deal with it! :)

I wonder

What happened to my fave series? I didn't find a proper connection to the characters, the narrative felt a bit scattered. What happened to great nasty villains? Why didn't some great characters have a proper time and chance to show their greatness? Why instead of having a great time reading, I feel like after a tiring day?

Ok, ranting mode off. I gave this book 3 stars not out of good memories. There were scenes I loved and enjoyed, though not so much. There were jokes and true, they made the book a bit better. I liked the heroic attempts, they really showed the characters from the best side, especially in the final battle. Also the last 100 pages really worked for me, it touched my heart.

To sum up. I liked book 1, absolutely loved book 2, was a bit discouraged after book 3 and book 4 nearly killed my love to them.

All I want to say to Greatcoats is

Stefan Bach says

"Screams, shouts, whispers, laughter... the human voice is capable of a remarkable assortment of sounds when words fail us, when reasoned, ordered thoughts cease to mean anything in the face of a world turned upside down."

Ahhhhh, good day to you worthy Fellow Traveler.
Please, please, come closer...

Too close. A little too close.
There.

Welcome to Tristia, a world of misery, of corruption, and the finest excitement a fantasy novel can offer you today, come on down!

Look at this. Yes!

Tristia, a combination of Kingdoms and Duchies, with all its excitements and delights.
Will not break. Will not...

It broke.

"The problem with games of war is that they're deceptive precisely because they presume that there are rules to be followed."

But this is Tristia, after all, and corruption runs deep in the bone."

Wait, don't go!

I can see that you're only interested in the *exceptionally rare*.

I think, then, you would be most rewarded to consider *this* series:

Do not be fooled by its commonplace appearance.

Like so many things, it is not what is outside, but what is inside that counts.

This is no ordinary series!

It more than once made people thoroughly enjoy reading it.

Why should you be the one who's missing out on all the fun these books bring?

And joy? And laugh? And misery, pain, suffering and depression...

Yes, yes, yes... it will bring you all of that.

And you will love it for it.

So, what this series is about?

It's about... three lost toads.

Brasti Goodbow

The King's Arrow, the Queen's Jest – the best *bowtoad* whose arrows killed Gods and whose jokes killed Saints.

A character that will make you laugh and soften your heart.

Kest Murrowson

The King's Sword, the Queen's Shield – the best *swordtoad* and best *shieldtoad* in all of Tristia! Even when he's left without his shield! And sword. And hand to hold them...

Even when all he's left with to pierce you or shield you are... his... - *morals?*

Falcio val Mond

The King's Heart – the heart of this book. My heart! Your heart.

If you choose to let him in.

Yes, three lost toads who found themselves out of the water for a very long time. And their quest to get back to it, while trying to make sense of the world. World that can't be reasoned with.

*"How do you bring the rule of law back to a country where the most fundamental equation of justice amounts to the fact that even those who are right will always be overwhelmed by those of greater might?
You have to change the equation."*

But they do have a choice. They can continue in their search for this misplaced puddle.
Or they can adapt to this new, vile, world.

Either way, a journey awaits them. And so does you, if you decide to follow them.
As you wish.

Obviously, you start that from the first book, not the last one.
This was just me saying farewell to them. For now...

Emma says

Everyone shush now,' I said... 'I'm about to be impressive.'

This from Falcio near the start of the book, but it could just as easily have been Sebastien de Castell himself. This was an outstanding closure to the series. Here is the bigger picture of Falcio's world with wider scope and bigger questions. Politics and philosophy take centre stage which lends a gravitas to the series I haven't felt in it before.

The character development is truly outstanding. This is not the story of perfect heros, but people with heart and flaws, who rage and grieve and make mistakes. Falcio, Kest and Basti are their usual wonderful selves and the people of Tristia are heros in their own right.

This is a book and a series with a great big Heart. Loved it!

#recommended
