




The Codex Alera

Jim Butcher

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Title In This Collection:-

Princeps'' Fury:

A compulsively fast-paced fantasy adventure, set in a world where courage and ingenuity vie with magic and power.

Captain''s Fury

A compulsively fast-paced fantasy adventure, set in a world where courage and ingenuity vie with magic and power.

Cursor''s Fury:

A compulsively fast-paced fantasy adventure, set in a world where courage and ingenuity vie with magic and power.

Academ''s Fury:

Book two of this compulsively fast-paced fantasy adventure, set in a world where courage and ingenuity may yet triumph over magic and power.

Furies Of Calderon

A compulsively fast-paced fantasy adventure, set in a world where courage and ingenuity may yet triumph over magic and power.

First Lord''s Fury

The aging First Lord of Alera has fallen in battle. Yet his people must continue to resist an invading inhuman army. Desperate Alerans even pledge fealty to the Vord Queen to survive, turning the incredible power of Aleran furies back on their own people. And despite all efforts, the Alerans are being ground into dust and pushed to the farthest reaches of their own realm. However, Tavi has returned with vital insights from the Canim Blood Lands. He knows how to counter the Vord and, more importantly, believes human ingenuity can equal fury-born powers. Now events are rushing towards a last stand, where Tavi and the last Aleran legions must formulate a dangerous new strategy, together. For a civilisation is on the brink of extinction

The Codex Alera Details

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From Reader Review The Codex Alera for online ebook

Sheryl Mason says

An excellent series! A lot of action and a little bit of love. The details are binge worthy. I stayed up late many nights reading this series. I love the main character and the way his strength grows through out the books. In a world where furycraft ability is considered people's strength he proves real strength lies in determination and strategy. Tavi, the main character, always thinks outside the box and finds a way in a hopeless situation. This series has become one of my favorites! :)

Darin says

The series as a whole is well handled and thus made it enjoyable to read.

Jared says

I'll need more time to let the series settle, but I think this may be my favorite fantasy series ever.

While some fantasy authors spend far too much time on world/history crafting for my taste, Jim Butcher keeps the engrossing story moving at a cracking pace, and fills the pages with constant battles, strong male and female character arcs, and a magic that is just damn fun. Without giving much away, the story centers around the life of Tavi and his place in the land of Alera. The inhabitants of Alera are able to master the elemental "furies" of the land and call on them to craft magic, which they use for everything from working the land to engaging in battle with the various hostile races bordering Alera.

The novels I read prior to these were the first two Kingkiller Chronicles from Patrick Rothfuss, and I find it an interesting exercise to contrast his series to The Codex Alera. While reading the writing of Rothfuss I found myself rereading passages and turns of phrase I found beautiful. With that said, I felt like large chunks of the story were indulgent and unnecessary. What I found most brilliant about Jim Butcher's writing style was that rather than trying to use overly sophisticated prose he just got on with it, and let the story rather than the writing be the star...which I think is a talent lost on other authors who seem at times to get more caught up in writing than telling the story.

I loved everything about The Codex Alera, from the characters, to the different races, to the magic system. Most importantly I love the way Butcher was able to interplay all the above. I really, really hope he writes more novels set in this world as I have never read a book, let alone a series of six, that felt so perfectly aligned with what I enjoy that it felt like they were written specifically for me.

Lady Nouf says

The best high fantasy series ever.

Maurinejt says

2.5

Thank God it's over. I did it. It's done. I never have to read it again.

In all fairness, I know it's a better series than that. I rounded up a half point because I actually approached enjoyment during the second one, where Tavi still didn't have powers, he was a student and uncertain of everything. His friends were a lot of fun, and he didn't solve everything with a sword.

But on to the series as a whole. Big props for the aliens, they were very well done. The Vord, which was the big bad enemy in the series, but the other races we met too. We heard enough about the cultures where they seemed real, and the intricacies were fascinating. The Vord queen particularly had layers that were contradictory and almost complex. The way the Vord could adapt to whoever they were fighting was unique, though I thought it made them overpowered. Why had they not wiped out everything long ago? The Marat (another alien race, but an ally) ran from them hundreds of years before. What had the Vord been DOING all that time?

I wish I could say the same thing about the good guys. They were SO straightforward. Well, except for the gaffe in the first book where Tavi's aunt, Isana, is introduced. She is watching the domestic bustle of a steadhold around her, wistfully regretting she never had children. A couple books later, it turns out she's really Tavi's mom in hiding. Huh?

Tavi, of course, is the shepherd who would be king. He lacks the magic that literally everyone else has, which provides a nice flaw for awhile, but then of course he gets the magic. After that, you can pretty much tick his attributes off a list for the ultimate hero: charismatic, a skilled warrior, a visionary planner, a good listener, a strong magic user, a quick thinker, caring, responsible, and bright...if there are some I left out, I bet they fit him perfectly too. His love life doesn't even have the slightest bit of tension, in the first book he bonded to one of the Marat. Period. No jealousy, no serious fights, no argument, no chafing at the bonds of fate. I like Kitai but it's all very A leads to B without a single surprise.

The meat of the books are the battles. And we're talking never-ending fights, especially in the last two books where the enemy attacked our stalwart heroes in every freaking way an enemy can. Where was the witty banter, the nuance of Harry Dresden and his foes that made the prolonged fights bearable in the Harry Dresden Files? Absent. We're also missing the overarching plot, flush with strife and political intrigue as Harry makes his way between volatile sets of antagonists. Here, everything except the blows exchanged in battle was shoehorned in between epic descriptions of fighting. This is why I think the series was a little better than how I personally liked it. I find battles boring in books. You can't not have them, because all quiet, character stuff makes for a very claustrophobic novel that usually lacks plot. But they should act as punctuation to the actual meat of the story. There are readers, a lot of readers, who adore fight scenes and could care about character bits; or either offering is fine and the balance one way or the other doesn't matter as long as the plot is solid. I was warned that the last two books were one big fight, but the interesting races and a couple of the characters I liked kept me reading. And it's hard to read four books into a six book series and call it quits. I wasn't lied to, though. It was basically one fight with any deviation acting like the slender sinew binding vast swathes of violence together. And so many of the "good" characters were SOOO boring! Even the ones that showed promise in the early books were unexplored and untended in the later ones. The

ones that remained interesting were all of alien species.

So, if you love a good fight, go for it. All the fights were well described and innovative. For fights. If you love Harry Dresden but find the fights the least appealing thing about those books, give this a miss. Trust me. Between this series and the mess that was The Aeronaut's Windlass, I think I might be done with Jim Butcher books that don't involve Harry.

Kumar says

4.5 star, fast paced action adventure that reads well as a series with only a bit of repetition towards the end.

Sharon says

Kept my interest throughout all 6 books. Hate to see it end.

Nicole Volc says

Heavy on the rise and fall of the roman empire but an enjoyable read.

CJ says

One of my all time favorite series. Hands down.

George says

I have read all six of these novels in chronological order from the very first page of book #1 to the very last page of book #6! This entire series kept my full attention to the point of sleep deprivation from being unable to put them down!! Jim Butcher's characters are simply amazing. each one with their own distinct personality and undeniable traits that makes each one unique and seem life like to the extreme. there's no doubt which character is being referred to at any point in time. For them being fantasy, you would feel that any supernatural strength or power possessed by an individual was real. you would never know they were make believe! I must say, these are six of the greatest novels in history! each installment (book) is so full of action and detail it will blow your mind! when you finally tear yourself from the pages there will be a noticeable transition back to the real world. I was actually bummed out to be out of Aleta and back on earth!

Austin Chambers says

This series, which I've heard was something of a dare on Jim Butcher's part to see if he could write a good

story with the elements of Pokemon and the Ninth Roman Legion, has incredible character development, excellent pacing, and is one of my favorites that I always come back to once or twice a year, like visiting old friends who live far away.

Rich Maloy says

I cannot recommend this series. The plot lines of books two through six are so similar that I burnt out on it and even after the final book came out, I debated whether or not to buy it for six months. There are things about the series that are good—the magic system is very interesting and unique. The world is large enough to provide new settings in each book. And the main characters are well-written. The the author's credit, he really makes his main character struggle and earn it in every book. But the rest was too repetitive for me to rightfully recommend.

Lexxi Kitty says

Consolidating

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 3. Cursor's Fury - 4.25
 4. Captain's Fury - 4.25
 5. Princeps' Fury - 4.00
 6. First Lord's Fury - 4.25
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Adam Roll says

One of my all time favorite epic fantasy adventures. That Jim Butcher was able to whip these up while simultaneously working on the Dresden Files is really amazing. A second writer could have hung his laurels on the Codex series alone. I know the Dresden Files are usually everyone's favorites, and I love those books, but the Codex Alera is really special with it's scope and fantastic scenery, these books are simply a must read.

Taylor Woodhouse says

This was my first foray into Jim Butcher's portfolio. And I immensely enjoyed it! At a glance: take Avatar the Last Airbender, Lord of the Rings, and a dose of the Riyria Chronicles and mix them all up, and you have this series. It's a perfect blend of epic battle, political intrigue, and magic- with a perfect salting of romance.

Some of the criticism I've seen for this series addresses that it's sometimes difficult to keep up with the number of characters involved, and that it can be a bit dense. I would say both of those are sometimes true. The second book in particular was a little slow at times, as it's mostly setting up the rest of the series. I personally didn't have much trouble keeping the characters straight. All of the main characters were very

fully developed, and I enjoyed the spice that the side characters brought in.

I enjoyed that one of the traits valued the most in this book is the intelligence of the characters. I also enjoyed the moral issues explored, and the presence of strong, capable female characters. I found that the combination of somewhat gory battles with sneaky political moves was very entertaining. I was definitely hooked on the characters.

Overall, I would highly recommend reading this!
