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The Dead Mountains

Tyler Svec and Jordan Svec Independently Published (2023) ISBN: 979-8863758329 Reviewed by Kathy Stickles for Reader Views (06/2024) 4*- Vivid and Interesting

"The Dead Mountains" is the third book in the *Drake Thomas Series* by brother authors Tyler and Jordan Svec, and a story that I would recommend to all those who enjoy a good fantasy novel. While I have not yet read the first books in the series, I was able to catch on and really enjoyed the ride. For those who are caught up on the series, you will love it even more. At the end of book 2, the foe has been defeated and the new nation of Rhallenin has emerged. Drake and his wife Gwen have been chosen to lead this new nation but want no part of it. They have appointed a new king and queen and in the middle of the night, the couple sneaks away.

As "The Dead Mountains" begins, five years have gone by since Drake and Gwen left Rhallenin. They are now living in the nation of Avdatt where they have spent these years living a happy, simple, and mostly easy life. Nothing, of course, lasts forever. This peaceful life is quickly thrown into turmoil when Aiden shows up at their home and convinces the couple to set out with him on a new adventure. As always, the mystery and danger come quickly to the forefront and Drake and his friends end up right in the middle of it. Can they survive once again against their most serious opponent and, more importantly, what will happen as Drake's memories of his past start to come back? Grab the book as soon as you can to find out. It will be worth it, I assure you.

"The Dead Mountains" is a wonderful continuation of this series. The authors have created a very vivid and interesting world which they have presented to their readers. The descriptive writing will make you feel as if you are right there in the middle of all of the action with Drake. The characters are very well-developed and keep the story interesting at all times. Drake is a strong protagonist and one that the reader will be cheering on. The other characters, both major and secondary, are also well done and everyone has a special place in the story. The plot itself is well-written and woven together seamlessly. It is a tale that will definitely hold the reader's interest throughout.

I was especially grateful for the brief synopsis at the beginning of the story to help me catch up a bit on what happened previously. That was very helpful, and I think it was a great addition to the book by the authors. I would recommend, however, that readers start with book one and read the entire series. While the book can stand alone, I think the reader will lose out by not having read the others first.

All of that being said, "The Dead Mountains" is really a great story which I recommend. The plot, the characters, and the world presented are all excellent and readers will not be disappointed in it. I am going to find and read the first two books in the series, not only to catch up but also in

anticipation of book 4. I think there is definitely more to Drake Thomas' life and that of his friends and I cannot wait to see what it that is.