



The Fallen Fortress

R.A. Salvatore

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R.A. Salvatore's The Cleric Quintet tells the tale of the scholar-priest Cadderly, who is plucked from the halls of the Edificant Library to fulfill a heroic quest across the land of Faerûn.

Cadderly leads the combined forces of Carradoon and Shilmista against Castle Trinity, stronghold of his enemy Aballister. But another mission calls him on a journey leading into a past he hoped he would be able to forget.

The Fallen Fortress Details

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From Reader Review The Fallen Fortress for online ebook

Ethan says

This series is getting really dry and repetitive. It's a fun adventure if you enjoy Salvatore, but man it's predictable. There's not a single twist or unconventional storytelling element to be found and it doesn't help that about half the book is battle descriptions.

Tammie says

Better executed than the previous book but Cadderly has entered what I deem a "God-phase", where he's almost invincible against anything that crosses his path.

Mark Austin says

★ - Most books with this rating I never finish and so don't make this list. This one I probably started speed-reading to get it over with.

★★ - Average. Wasn't terrible, but not a lot to recommend it. Probably skimmed parts of it.

★★★ - Decent. A few good ideas, well-written passages, interesting characters, or the like.

★★★★ - Good. This one had parts that inspired me, impressed me, made me laugh out loud, made me think - it got positive reactions and most of the rest of it was pretty decent too.

★★★★★ - Amazing. This is the best I've read of its genre, the ones I hold on to so I can re-read them and/or loan them out to people looking for a great book. The best of these change the way I look at the world and operate within it.

Tony says

Cadderly, the nearly invincible cleric, along with his powerful companions, take the fight to the enemy. Along the way they attempt to dispel an evil relic, encounter a dragon, and slaughter (as usual) countless orcs and ogres.

The heroes in this novel are power-players, they cannot be killed no matter what is thrown against them; however, Cadderly deals with his foes in very creative ways, which makes the story fun and interesting - How will Cadderly solve the puzzle of this enemy?

Salvatore explores the theme of how power may bring about arrogance and overconfidence. Cadderly has his own checks and balances, with his faith in Denier, God of knowledge, and his girlfriend, Danica, a well-disciplined monk.

One of the most interesting character developments happens with Pikel, the dwarf who wants to be a druid!

There are also a handful of adversaries; many continued from the previous book, and a few new ones, but it

is also loaded with random encounters. The group also made some silly decisions along the way.

The conclusion wrapped up a lot of plotlines while leaving an opening for the next book, The Chaos Curse.

Scott says

Solid four star book in this, the fourth book (of five) in the Cleric Quintet series.

This is the big showdown (not really sure what's left to do in the fifth book) where Cadderly, Danica, Ivan & Pikel Bouldersoulder descend on Castle Trinity and battle it out with Aballister.

Salvatore drops everything on the page - we've got dragons, chimera's, hydra's, orcs, goblins, magic showdowns. Good stuff.

Why not a five star rating? Because nothing really happened with the characters. No growth. No development. Not much real interaction. Salvatore's strength (including his battle sequences) has always been character and it almost pains me to say that this book lacked a little on the character front.

Still...a really good read. I recommend it. I can't wait to get to the next book in the series.

David Williams says

Cadderly Bonaduce survived the attack on the Edificant Library and defeated the foe who brought it. He survived the attack on Shilmista Forrest and helped to kill the war chief who led Castle Trinity's forces. Next he survived and vanquished a personal attempt on his life by the dreaded assassins the Night Masks. Now he is tired of being on the defense. He decides to take the battle to his enemy. Against the orders of the Chief Priest he heads out to locate Castle Trinity. He will need all of his new found powers for this journey.

Joined by his lover Danica, their friends Ivan and Pikel Bouldersoulder, Shayleigh the elf, and Vander the firbolg he prepares to strike at his foes. This journey will bring Cadderly face to face with the foes who have tried time after time to destroy him and all that he holds dear. Along the way he will face a dragon, wizards, imps, and foes that were more powerful than he could imagine. Before it is over he will learn what we have known since the first book. The wizard who has orchestrated all of this is none other than Alibaster Bonaduce, Cadderly's father. How will Cadderly defeat this foe and bring down his evil throne? Read and find out.

Michelle Raven says

I really don't care about this series anymore i just want to finish it.

Charlie George says

My favorite of the Cleric Quintet because it splashes the most fantasy action. And not just any action, but clever, fleet-footed Salvatore action, which is, after all, the reason I read popcorn fantasy. At this point in the series, the characters have matured and wield their full power against the massed forces of Castle Trinity. And they don't command armies, requiring awkward battle summaries that leave you feeling you missed the real action. No, they wade in and jack the bad guys up personally, so we can savor each sword stroke and spellcast.

The only thing this book lacked was faces on the villains. You know, individual characters you can respect or fear. Many who have come up against Cadderly have already fallen earlier in the series, and those who remain stay out of the melee until the final book 5.

Greg Strandberg says

One of the things that's great about this series is how the suspense and tension grows. I have to add that the character Cadderly gets a bit too powerful and honestly, shouldn't there be a bit of a limit on spellcasting and what you can do?

I can't run a marathon every day all day, but it seems that's what you can get when you get to a level of...what? I dunno. Little things like that have to be suspended for you to get through all these books.

Lauren says

Salvatore brings us the 4th in the Cleric Quintet, delving into the world of Cadderly (the main character, a cleric of Deneir), Danica (a warrior monk, Cadderly's lover), and Ivan and Pikel Bouldersoulder (drawven brothers, one of whom wishes, impossibly, to be a druid).

Cadderly has at last come to trust in his deity, drawing strength from his faith, and is growing stronger in his clerical power. Yet he knows, after the attack of the dreaded Might Masks in the prior novel, that the threat posed by the evil Castle Trinity is far from over. He reaches the conclusion that he must attempt to destroy the Castle Trinity, unwittingly drawing him ever closer to an inevitable confrontation with the leader of the evil group, who Cadderly doesn't realize is his father.

My only sore point with the series is Cadderly's rise to power, turning into some near-invincible demi-god. True, he does get into some dangerous battles, yet you never get the impression that he's ever in any danger of being killed, that Deneir will always save him. Still, I did enjoy R.A. Salvatore's explanation of priestly magic, and answer the question of how a battle between a cleric and a wizard would go!

On the whole, it was enjoyable, and I recommend the book. Salvatore brings to life engaging characters, details well the fight scenes, and laces the story with enough intrigue to keep you turning the pages at a fair clip.

Geoff says

The fourth book of this series now has Cadderly; the protagonist at full godlike power. This is typical for Salvatore, as his characters achieve god like status without any struggles. So as expected he defeats his father who is a powerful magician, and he and his band of 5 companions bring ruin to an entire fortress of 10,000. Sound ridiculous? it is. But I still like the Forgotten Realms, so I read these books. They are not difficult, a child of 8 could read one, but they are still entertaining, because he uses the pantheons and magic of the d&d and Forgotten Realms universe, which I've always liked.

I wouldn't recommend this book to anyone, but I still got my cheap thrills from it.

Patrick says

About 90% fighting and 10% plot! Seriously, not a great deal happens in this book other than moving from a to b with about 10 battles along the way! Still, an enjoyable enough read but the weakest in the series so far I think.

Edward Blodgett says

Holy cows, this book starts off in "god mode". You know when you're playing a video game and you do the cheat code that allows you to beat everything without being touched? That's what every one of Cadderly's comrades has in this book. Seriously, did I just read how 6 adventures battled and won against a mantichore and chimera at the same time, while on a cliff of a snow covered mountain ????? And I didn't even mention the most ridiculous thing. OMG, I can't believe anyone can give this more than one star. The only reason why I'm still reading this, is because I like the characters despite that they get on my nerves many times during the course of a book. It's like a car crash, I can't help but look.

Jennifer Tull says

Probably the best of the books other than the original so far. The pace is just brilliant and smooth, The writing is clean complex and colorful, And the characters are entertaining. I remember back in 1994 that this one was my favorite of the whole series. However i now think the first is probably the best of the series. Well let's go to the last novel to find out.

I give it a 10/10

Shari Kay says

Well, I finally got back to this series and I have to say, I don't really care about reading the last one. I need to

qualify I *DO* know how it all ends so that may factor into my decision to skip it. I also know how it plays out in the future because of references in Passage to Dawn...So I'm all good.

Why not finish, there is only one book left? Cadderly is no longer the young cleric I connected to back in the first couple of books. Yes, I know...character growth is a *good* thing. I suppose. But I lost the innocent priest who was just trying to do the right thing, who hated the killing. Who struggled with his morals. He still does all these things in FF, but his conscious no longer wins the battle. I know it's necessary for the end goal...but I didn't like it.

I felt no connection between Cadderly and Danica. They can refer to each other as "my love" all they want, but actions/writing just didn't have me feeling a thing.

The Dwarfs have moved on to being ridiculous instead of endearing. How are they possibly still alive?

The term "jumping the shark" comes to mind in regards to the magic...it's too powerful, too convenient.

The complete and total reversal of one character's personality/morality...absurd.

The battle scenes are numerous...and so OTT as to be eye rolling. The scenes at the castle appear **HIGHLY** unlikely and don't make our friends look very bright. Salvatore kept losing track of our elf maiden's arrows...while pointing it out. It was like Legolas and the never ending quiver full. So many decisions our gang made were borderline idiotic.

So for all the above mentioned reasons and the (view spoiler) I'm good calling it a wrap.
