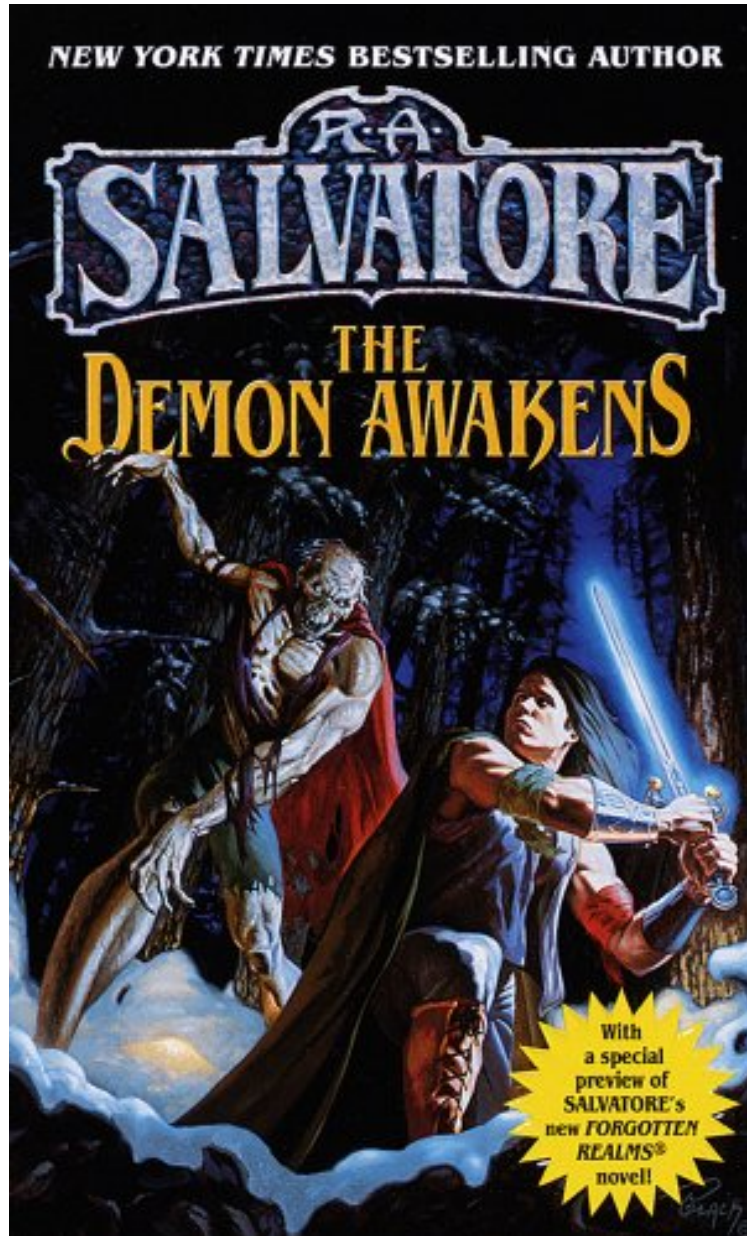


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Von R.A. Salvatore

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Von R.A. Salvatore : The Demon Awakens (The DemonWars Saga) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Demon Awakens (The DemonWars Saga):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Been

There, Done That Von Ein Kunde R.A. Salvatore offers us nothing new here - but then, he rarely does. I loved every page of The Dark Elf Trilogy and am a huge fan of Salvatore's TSR character, Drizzt Do'Urden. However, Salvatore's other offerings thus far have been lacking in creativity and originality (see The Crimson Shadow). The Demon Awakens gives us more of both - but that's not to say it doesn't have some redeeming qualities. The main characters depicted here are Avelyn the renegade monk, an Elven-trained ranger named Elbryan, and the woman he loves, Pony, who has also suffered her fair share of trials and tribulations. The monk, Avelyn, is a delightful, interesting character while, as one might expect, the others add very little to the experience. Unfortunate in particular since the series focuses primarily on THEM. As for me, I think Elbryan is a Drizzt wanna-be with an attitude problem, and I only found him interesting in the early stages of the book when his Elven initiation is under way. All in all, he's one of my least favorite main characters of all time. The story itself offers nothing overly exciting. The Demon Dactyl (give me a break) is taking over the world with his armies of Goblins and Giants from his volcanic lair (Mt. Doom, perhaps). If you've read one Salvatore battle scene between a ranger and a dozen Goblins you've read them all. Fortunately they are handled better here than deeper into the series when such encounters are mind-numbingly frequent. All in all this book has its share of good traits, but almost all have a "been there, done that" effect on most readers. However, it IS worth a look to fans of fantasy and Salvatore, but it is the only effort in the Demon Wars series I would recommend at all.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. This book is more or less terrible Von Ernest D. DiMicco, Jr. (sparhawk@wpi.edu) Salvatore's need for explanation and a need for safety, coupled with plot predictability and a healthy dose of ridiculousness are his undoing in this "could have been much better" book. This book is an excellent example of what happens when a good author happens to turn out a bad book. Unlike his previous excellent "Dark Elf" series (of which I am a die-hard fan), this series has cardboard-cutout superhero characters and a plotline so predictable that I almost never found myself wondering what will happen. His villain, as some previous reviews have stated, is a study in ridiculousness, and caused me no response other than laughter upon reading of it. A "demon dactyl and his evil hordes"? Ha. His need to describe and delineate things are his undoing in this book, as he leaves no mystery around any of his characters and the reader knows exactly what they are thinking at all times. Salvatore tends to beat the reader over the head with the truths of his world, using far too many words to illustrate that which should be either left in mystery or slowly made apparent over the course of the entire novel. This trend can be seen in the later "Dark Elf" books, but is kept under control to the point where the books are still extremely good and highly recommended by myself. The few attempts at mystique and wonder in his novel are so apparent as to be humorous, and evoke no response in the reader other than derision. A good example is his treatment of the afterlife, which should be shrouded in mystery for perhaps all of the novel, but instead is illuminated far too early: again the reader is beaten over the head with it rather than having it subtly introduced over the course of the novel. This book reads on the emotional level of a third grader, and the best way that I can describe this book is as a watered-down rip-off of the standard Tolkien-type of novel with little character development and none of the emotional impact associated with the genre. The book is not a total loss, though: Salvatore's world of Corona is a very nicely created one with all the elements one would come to expect from such an otherwise-great writer. The "stones" are very well done, as are the battle scenes, Elbryan's "milk stone" training, and other associated Salvatore-type things, but in general the book reeks of unoriginality and stock characters that do not touch one and do not move one. In general, aside from a few good points, this book is a cobbled-together work that goes careening from ridiculous event to ridiculous event without any self-consistency or explanation for how these events are happening at all, beyond slight two-line explanations that only serve to enhance the ridiculous nature of the book. The characters are stock characters with little dimensionality and no creativity in their characterization. This book is certainly not one of Salvatore's better works, but if one wants a bookcase filler to round out their Salvatore collection, be sure to pick this one up.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Best is yet to Come Von Ein Kunde As a fan of Salvatore I have read all there is to read about Drizzt and his dark elf misadventures. After reading the brilliant (perhaps unsurpassable) Dark Elf Trilogy I grew tired of Salvatore's mediocre efforts with the venerable Drizzt saga. Let's face it... the premise has been beaten into the ground. When I read the Demon Awakens I was delighted, mainly at the depth of the story-telling, and it was a welcome advancement coming off of the stale Passage to Dawn. I read some negative reviews about this book and some of them are well placed. Unfortunately Salvatore seemed leary of removing himself from his typical character formula. Demon's two main protagonists reeked heavily of Drizzt and Catti-brie, and Avelyn seemed like a mix of Wulfgar and Bruenor with a touch of Regis. Aside from some minor character shortcomings Demon's quality resides in its depth and story structure. An underlying theme instilled within the book hit me greatly as well. For those of you who were unsatisfied with the dactyl as a villain, I believe that he was more-or-less supposed to be seen as a personification of the evil brewing from within the hearts of man. In a manner of speaking, mankind can be his own worse enemy. The sequel deals with these more complicated themes in greater detail, and I believe it to be better than the original so far. I felt Demon Awakens was thoughtful, entertaining, and I recommend the book despite its minor flaws.

Kurzbeschreibung In *THE DEMON AWAKENS*, bestselling author R. A. Salvatore creates an astonishing new world for readers to explore--and an intrepid hero to lead the way: Elbryan Wynden, who must confront the dark tides of destiny in his epic search for justice and peace . . . A great evil has awakened in the land of Corona, a terrible demon determined to spread death and misery. His goblin armies and fearsome giants ravage the settlements of the frontier, and in the small village of Dundallis their merciless attack leaves behind two shattered orphans: Pony and her lifelong friend, the youth Elbryan. Taken in by elves, Elbryan is raised to become a formidable ranger--a fateful role that will lead him into harrowing confrontation. Meanwhile, on a far-off island, a shower of gemstones will fall onto the black sand shores. These heaven-sent stones carry within them an incredible power--the key to all that is good in the world and all that is evil, and it is up to one young monk to liberate them from the corrupt monastery that harvests them. Pray that they don't fall into the wrong, clawed hands . . . From the Paperback edition..de

The Demon Awakens is epic fantasy with a familiar flavour, from an author best known for "Forgotten Realms" game tie-ins. Three centuries after a previous defeat, the demon Bestesbulzibar returns to degrade the quality of life in the world of Corona by uniting hordes of nasty goblins, giants and powries (Salvatore's name for dwarfs) with a view to wiping out humanity and gloating over the blackened ashes. Seven companions are duly assembled to strike back: an elf-trained human Ranger, his long-lost girlfriend, a renegade monk who's adept with magic stones, a centaur, an elf, and two reformed rogues. Much of the story follows the detailed and often painful schooling of the Ranger and the monk. The latter's "Ring Stones" are neatly worked out: haematite allows astral travel, graphite is a conduit for lightning, ruby emits bursts of flame, sunstone cancels other magics, and so on. After skirmishing with innumerable armies of evil, the gallant party (plus an extra, uninvited helper) tackles the demon in its volcanic stronghold--but must first deal with Bestesbulzibar's latest creation, an unstoppable lava golem with a special reason to hate our rumbustious monk. There's considerable dramatic slaughter at the climax. Salvatore is over-fond of exclamation marks but writes energetically; this novel, though self-contained, opens a trilogy. --David Langford.co.uk

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