



Cursor's Fury

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The power-hungry High Lord of Kalare has launched a rebellion against the aging First Lord, Gaius Sextus, who with the loyal forces of Alera must fight beside the unlikeliest of allies-the equally contentious High Lord of Aquitaine.

Meanwhile, young Tavi of Calderon joins a newly formed legion under an assumed name even as the ruthless Kalare unites with the Canim, bestial enemies of the realm whose vast numbers spell certain doom for Alera.

When treachery from within destroys the army's command structure, Tavi finds himself leading an inexperienced, poorly equipped legion-the only force standing between the Canim horde and the war-torn realm.

Cursor's Fury Details

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Evgeny says

The First Lord of Alera does not get any younger (I am stating obvious, am I not?) He also does not have any male heir - or female for that matter. No wonder that everybody and their brother want his job, yesterday. Several high-ranking people actually have the means to get it.

To neutralize the danger from the most likely contender (High Lord Kalare), The First Lord forces him to act early hoping his lack of preparation would allow for an easy victory. He severely underestimated Kalare's strength and ambition. For the third time (fourth if you count the past event which gets mentioned regularly) the realm is in mortal danger. For the third time the regulars of the series have to face overwhelming odds in attempt to salvage an unwinnable situation.

For every single book of the series I read so far I was sure I would rate it with 3 stars and every one of them ended up with 4, and this time is not an exception. The beginning was fairly boring and I did not expect much from the way the events began. The conflict seemed on the much lesser scale than those of the previous installments. Tavi is still Mary Sue - or Gary Stu in his case - who can do no wrong and can overcome all challenges. I was not impressed with what Isana was doing through the whole book.

Somewhere as the plot moved along the stakes became huge, the pace picked up and the novel became the expected - at this point - equivalent of a summer blockbuster movie with lots of explosions, big fights, last minute escapes, and other well-known attributes. This means mindless entertainment at (almost) its best.

As an icing on the cake we finally get to see some interesting back history of Isana and Tavi. The big plot twist at the end typical for the series is present as well, but this time I was able to predict it (yay for me!)

I already mentioned 4 stars as the rating. Now that I am half-done with the series it is fairly safe to say I will finish it even if all of the remaining books are abysmal. They are most probably not.

Anne says

This series just keeps getting better and better.

THAT TWIST!

I *never* saw that spoilery thing coming, and I'm betting neither did most of you. But *kudos*, if you did...

Ok, it starts out with the stars turning red and *something* scary getting loose in the clouds...

All the characters we **love** are back, along with all the ones we **love to hate**.

rubs hands together with glee

The story switches mostly between these main groups of characters:

Tavi (and his friends) on a spoilery mission from Gaius as Legionaries, which turns into SO much more. <-- FANTASTIC STUFF!

Then, Bernard and Amara (and their enemies!) on a spoilery mission from Gaius to rescue political prisoners. <-- DRAMA & INFIGHTING, BABY!

Also, Isana and Fade, who because of spoilery stuff that happens, show the reader both of their origin stories. <-- FINALLY!

And even though we don't get to see things from her POV, Katai is *always* on her own personal spoilery mission to save her favorite Aleran from his Aleran stupidity.

She's such an unrepentant badass! <-- LOVE HER!

Anyway, book three really came together into something truly delightful for me.

This series? It's made of ink and awesomeness!

These are the perfect kinds of Fantasy novels for me. I know that not everyone will agree with me (and that's fine!), but I really prefer less **gory** stuff and more **adventure-y** stuff in my books. Which makes Jim Butcher's **Codex Alera** seem kind of tailor-made for me.

Highly recommended!

KostasAt says

8.5/10

Reaching at the end of the first half, having earned after two successful books a big recognition both through his writing capabilities and the love of readers who pushed his career even further, Jim Butcher comes to *Cursor's Fury*, the third installment of the Codex Alera series, with a greater will and imagination, taking us into a civil war, into a story of *Legionaries* and Cursors, of political rivals, spies and bestial ritualists, and into an adventure of subjugation and domination, of loyalty and duty, and of respect and honor, which will divide the realm and its people as never before.

Almost three years have passed since the invasion at the heart of the Realm, and the pandemonium that it brought along; a bloody battle that endangered their very existence, leaving behind nothing but souls full of suffering and pain, but now, with the events having become just bad memories, the life for the people of Alera has returned once more back to its normal rhythms- and for Tavi, having completed his training term at the Academy, eager to take on his first mission as an agent of the Crown, these years have given him more free time than he'd had ever wished.

Sent in Amaranth Vale, at the ruins of Appia, to fill his time, Tavi has spent the better part of the last six months in Maestro Magnus's company, assisting him in his discoveries at solving the mysteries of the puzzling technologies of their forefathers.

However, with the political climate becoming hotter and hotter lately, as he, Max, and Maestro Magnus will be ordered to join the newly formed First Aleran Legion - having only a little time to adapt to the military life of the *legenionares* - when an unexplained event decimates their commanding leadership at the worst possible moment, and an old rival emerges from his best friend's past with the only desire to put him out of the way once and for all, Tavi along with his young, inexperienced and ill-equipped comrades will find themselves against their greatest challenge, face-to-face with a bestial horde and the Realm's certain doom.

At the other end of the Realm, at the fortress of Garrison, Amara, having now accepted the feelings of her heart, has been trying to share them with Bernard even though their obligations seem only to keep growing, desiring nothing more than to start their own little family.

But, as they'll arrive in the city of Ceres - one of the greatest cities in the Realm, hosting from high nobles to esteemed politicians - for Bernard's family reunion, and to bring to light the true events of the past years before them, when a group of seemingly mad slaves cause chaos, killing the guests one by one, they will soon be faced with their very survival; an adventure that, when Lord Kalarus reveals his intentions for power, she and Bernard will have to undertake a high-risk mission that could very easily destroy everything they have built so far.

At the same time, Isana, lost in the memories of her past and the secrets she kept buried deep inside her heart for twenty years, where no one would be able to find them and exploit them, when Fade - her loyal slave and protector - gets mortally wounded beyond any healing, she'll have to dig up something she had sacrificed long ago in order to save him; meanwhile, Ehren, taking up his first undercover mission in the Sunset Isles, working as a scribe for a fencer, when he falls onto a pirate and his mercenary crew he'll discover something so indescribable that could judge the fate of all of them.

Yet, with the political climate reaching its peak, when the power-hungry Lord Kalarus sends his mercenary forces that he'd gathered over the years at the gates of the city of Ceres, bringing a rebellion against the Crown and the First Lord's government, and the merciless Canim leader and his ritualists set at the same time their own plans for their dominance, Tavi and the *legionnaires* of the First Aleran, Amara and Bernard, and Isana and Ehren, will have to take on their missions amidst these difficult times with courage, because if they fail to keep their morale high, it may well bring to the end the dreams of the families and the lives as they'd imagined them.

With the second book of the series, *Academ's Fury*, to have played an important role in deepening the world-building and the characters, setting the base of the political system, and of the alliances and the rivalries of the High Lords, Jim Butcher comes in *Cursor's Fury* with an even greater scope in his imagination, traveling us far away to the western cities of the Realm, which, governed under their lords' desires and whims, reveal how different they can be to one another through the rules that their people endure, but also at the impact it has on their families, their homes and the control of their living conditions; as well as to the borders between Alera and the land of the Canim, immersing us a little deeper in the ways of their bestial race, and their castes - divided in its warriors, its raiders and its ritualists - that shows their diversity among their ambitious leaders and their acolytes, and their regular warriors and their kin.

And, with each book managing to bring an even stronger handling in the development of the plot and of the characters, proving again the extent of his writing capabilities, as well as his desire from the beginning for something more epic, Butcher brings us deep into a great civil war, dividing the Realm between the power-hungry High Lords and the simple people, taking us into a military story of *Legionares*, Cursors, spies, and politicians, and into an adventure of loyalty, honor, and absolute subjugation, full of battles of suspense and thrill, creating the most entertaining novel in the series yet, but also leaving at the end many threads open to await eagerly for the sequel and the answers it holds.

All in all, *Cursor's Fury* is a strong book, with Jim Butcher - coming with a greater will - to take us, through a civil war, into a military story of *Legionares* and Cursors, creating a thrilling and moving adventure of honor and loyalty, and of duty and respect that brings the series to a higher level than before, but also leaving us hanging in suspense for the sequel and the next adventures of our favorite characters.

Ελληνικ? κριτικ?:

(view spoiler)

S.K. Inkslinger says

Another epic and adventurous page-turner in this amazing series! I'm totally looking forward to see Tavi's growth and development, and his embrace of the destiny that lies ahead of him. I have fallen totally in love with this series.

Donna says

This is the third book in the Codex Alera series by Jim Butcher. This is fantasy in the way that only Jim Butcher can do. This book was a solid 4 stars for me. The ending was 5 stars. I loved the ending.

I like the characters. They are endearing. Even the token romance between Tavi and Katai is kind of sweet, but in a good way. I like that they are still their own character without the constant mooning over each other and plus, she was funny. There was actually way more to this story than romance. There were even a few other romances happening as well, but it was by no means over done. I loved how all the subplots were mingled together.

The action is well written in the battle scenes. There was great movement and detail in this. This turned out to be such a page turner. I didn't want to put it down. So on to book #4.

Tilly says

This book is my least favorite in the "Codex Alera" series so far and, to be fair, it's probably mostly my own fault. First of all, it's been a while since I've read the second book in the series and due to the huge amount of characters and place names, which many adult fantasy books feature, I already forgot quite a few and it

took me a while to dive into this world again. Furthermore I was a bit disappointed that all the Marat, except for Kitai, were not really present in this book because their culture was probably my favorite aspect of the previous two books. I also had some minor problems with the pacing and the way how the chapters were divided up. I would have to switch a bit more between the POV characters instead reading some any successive chapters by the same narrator. Although I like Tavi as a character I found his story line in this book a bit exhausting after a while and sometimes I wished to read a bit more about Bernard and Amara. A very interesting addition to their part of the story to me was Gaelle aka Rook. I'm all in for morally grey characters and their redemption arcs so I had a lot of fun reading about her. Although I already said that I wasn't blown away by Tavi's plot line in this book, that doesn't mean that I like him less as a character. I still think that he is a very believable protagonist and I'm also all in for characters of physical weakness who are able to become strong in their own way, so I like the fact that he falls into this category. The chapters about Isana and Fade were also interesting at times and I liked that we got to know more of their backstory. (view spoiler) Overall, it was an enjoyable read and, as I said, the reasons why I didn't enjoy this book as much as its predecessors are mainly personal. I hope to read the next book in the series as soon as possible to make it easier for myself to dive into the world of Alera again. 3.5 of 5 stars.

Kaila says

[I'll begin with the title. Once you figure out the naming scheme for the Codex Alera b

Rob says

Executive Summary: To me this is where the series really starts to shine. Mr. Butcher established the world and the key players in the last 2 books, and now he gets down to the business of telling the story.

Audio book: I didn't like Ms. Reading too much at the start. Her male voices bothered me. By this book however, I couldn't imagine anyone else reading this. There is a scene where random legionaries are calling out and Ms. Reading does different voices for all of them.

I think she's also flushed out the voices she uses for all the main and secondary characters to really add that extra something that not all audio book readers seem to manage.

Full Review

I was both a bit eager and nervous for this re-read. This is one of only a handful of books that I've given 5 stars to and on my favorites shelf. My memory of it seems to have held up pretty well however.

This book seems to feel far less trope heavy to me than the last two. You still have your chosen one story, but I was just so wrapped up in the awesomeness of it all that I just didn't spend any thinking about it.

The first half of this book is good, but the second half is even better. Unlike the last book where I somewhat dreaded any chapter that took us away from the main story, the secondary stories in this book are much more interesting. Adding a lot of depth to the politics of the world and many of the secondary characters.

For a book that focuses mostly on a newly formed legion, there seems to actually be less time spent on battles, which may be a plus or minus for you depending on how much you enjoy reading them. Personally I

think he strikes the balance just right and Tavi really shines in this book as a result.

No one is going to accuse this of being some deep, complex series full of numerous unexpected twists and turns. However while some of it is pretty predictable, I think Mr. Butcher does manage a few surprises amid the more expected plot developments. But honestly, who cares? I was having far too much fun listening this book to spend much of the review getting into that.

Part adventure, part political thriller, part war novel with a decent amount of romance thrown in, there is a likely something for everyone here. I for one had trouble stopping for the day by the end and had to jump right into the next book.

Niki Hawkes - The Obsessive Bookseller says

[4.5 stars] The Codex Alera is shaping up to becoming one of my favorite fantasy series. It's already responsible for one of my favorite books I've ever read (Academ's Fury) and I'd be hard-pressed to tell you why Cursor's Fury doesn't deserve a spot of honor right next to it. It focused more on the legionary aspect of the story, which brought along with it an excellent mix of battle scenes, intrigue, and character development. I loved absolutely everything about it. I've been stingy with solid 5-star ratings lately because I want them to signify an outstanding book and really mean something when I assign them. Cursor's Fury deserved a 5-star imo, but I kept it at 4.5 because it wasn't my favorite of the series. Good stuff.

Overall, I'm thrilled with this series and can't wait to continue on. The first book, Furies of Calderon, was so average I almost didn't keep reading. I am oh, so glad I did!

Via The Obsessive Bookseller at www.NikiHawkes.com

Other books you might like:

Xara Niouraki says

Solid five starts. An excellent book that expands the universe and makes you keep reading. I love the characters. Butcher is really good at making them interesting and I end up caring about all of them, even the bad ones. Fidelias is one of my favourite and I really enjoy the fact that he is not wholly good or bad but has his own moral compass. The ending of the book was totally awesome and it made me start reading the fourth book immediately.

A highly recommended series. Butcher shows once again what an excellent writer he is.

Tom says

Another 5 for sure on this book in the series! I'm not sure whether I liked it as much as the second book but I do know that I loved it.

I loved that this book takes place years after the last book and that gives the characters to grow up a bit. As in

the other books in the series, there are constant twists and turns. The characters are so real and the villians again show to be in a very grey zone. I love how Gaius is supposed to be the “good” guy but the story is always bringing up evidence that he could easily be portrayed as the villain, especially when it comes to Isana and Amara, and now Tavi and Isana. There are some pretty big revelations that really push the series forward.

If you like fantasy and don't need sex in the story, get into this series!! It is so good! What I like most about the series so far is that they are standalone books that build on the previous one. Instead of a cliffhanger that makes you have to read the next one right away to finish the story it dangles a carrot of info that makes you want to get back to it.

Rossana says

THAT ENDING.

Ok, so, I loved this book so much! This was my favorite installment, I loved everything about it: Tavi, the Canim, Tavi, the military setting, Tavi, the new characters, TAVI and basically everything else.

I enjoyed all the flashbacks, I think they are very well done and also necessary to the story. Araris is now a much more relatable character and I got to know Septimus, my new obsession.

But let's talk about the very best: Tavi. Oh God I love you. At the beginning of FoC I liked you and I thought you were great and fun to read about, but now, NOW I can't even find the right words to express my love. Tavi is easily one of my fav characters of 2016, second only to Kip Guile (Sevro au Barca and Dalinar Kholin don't make the list 'cause I've officially met them in 2015...). I love the fact that he's furyless but he doesn't act as a human case and he's not looked down upon because of it: he's very resorceful, loyal, clever, brave, he's the perfect commander and the perfect friend, I just can't wait to see how he will act in the next book, it's going to be epic!

Fantasy books heavy on politics and military strategy are easily my favorite, so it doesn't come as a surprise that I gave Cursor's Fury 5 stars. The only thing I didn't find as entertaining as the rest of the book was Amara's plotline: I didn't really care for her and Bernard and Rook, even though I know their story was as important as the others.

Anyway, fantastic series! Need to have the next book in my hands ASAP.

Scott Hitchcock says

By far the best of the first three books in the series. I think the biggest change was Tavi stopped whining and in the first two novels the author kept insisting Tavi was smart but his clueless actions said otherwise. The action was also much faster. All of the other characters have been interesting and compelling all along and continue to be so. It's just hard when the focal character isn't.

Looking forward to the rest of the series.

Tami says

Hatte ein paar Längen, aber diese zu überwinden war alles wert!!! Dieses Ende, wowowowowow ❤?

Kathleen says

Wonderful. Best so far. Good integration of magic, strategy, and Roman engineering. Tavi's character takes shape and some new relationships develop, along with the old favorites (Max, Kitai, Ehren, Amara, Bernard, etc.). We learn about Fade's role in his birth, and see more of the wolf-like Canum warriors and ritualist sorcerers.

But Butcher goes overboard with "wolfish grins" and inserts a bit too much on the sexy Amara-Bernard ship.

I don't buy into the reformed character. Redemption isn't so cheap.
