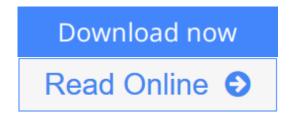
The Nethergrim



By Matthew Jobin



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The Next Great Fantasy Epic is here! For fans of Ranger's Apprentice and the Chronicles of Narnia.

Everyone in Moorvale believes the legend: The brave knight Tristan and the famed wizard Vithric, in an epic battle decades ago, had defeated the evil Nethergrim and his minions. To this day, songs are sung and festivals held in the heroes' honor. Yet now something dark has crept over the village. First animals disappear, their only remains a pile of bones licked clean. Then something worse: children disappear. The whispers begin quietly yet soon turn into a shout: The Nethergrim has returned! Edmund's brother is one of the missing, and Edmund knows he must do something to save his life. But what? Though a student of magic, he struggles to cast even the simplest spell. Still, he and his friends swallow their fear and set out to battle an ancient evil whose powers none of them can imagine. They will need to come together--and work apart--in ways that will test every ounce of resolve.

Praise for THE NETHERGRIM

"This series starter is reminiscent of epic fantasy series such as C.S. Lewis' The Chronicles of Narnia or J.R.R. Tolkien's The Lord of the Rings. The characters are strongly drawn and . . . [t]here is a compelling blend of magic, romance, looming evil, and noble sacrifice.--*VOYA*

"The Nethergrim reminded me of a cross between The Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter. . . I would really like to see this one on the big screen." –*Brodart's Library Services*

"Entertainingly told with many unique features, The Nethergrim reads like a classic." –*Recommended by Richard C., Powells.com [Staff Pick at Powell's Books]*

"I'd go ahead and say everything about this book screams BLOCKBUSTER FILM."—*The Social Potato Reviews*

"Riveting. Perfect for imaginative middle-grade readers craving a hearty magical adventure."--*Booklist*

"Fantasy fans will find much to enjoy in this elegant gem of a novel."--BCCB

"First in a planned trilogy, this is a solid debut for anthropologist Jobin, who steers clear of genre cliches while offering up a refreshingly metaphysical take on magic, a believably dark setting filled with unusual threats, and a seductive and manipulative villain."--*Publishers Weekly*

From the Trade Paperback edition.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 7 Up—Thirty years ago, three heroes—the knight Tristan, his friend John Marshal, and the legendary wizard Vithric—were the only survivors in a battle against an ancient evil known as the Nethergrim. A generation later, three misunderstood 14-year-old friends living in the medieval village of Moorvale become embroiled in events related to that dark past. Edmund wants to study magic but is forced to work in his parents' ale house. Katherine, Marshal's daughter, is an expert horse trainer and accomplished with a sword, but generally disliked for not being more ladylike. Gentle Tom has a talent for healing with herbs, but he is owned by a cruel master who beats him mercilessly. It becomes apparent to the teens that some evil magic is pervading the area, although no one else wants to believe it until Edmund's younger brother and other children are stolen by monstrous bolgugs. After the apathetic Lord Aelfric refuses to help, Marshal sets out to rescue the children. Unwilling to stay behind, Edmund, Katherine, and Tom soon follow. As in most epic quest fantasies, the overmatched heroes endure much hardship and pain, battling horrific monsters and suffering losses before the eventual showdown in the beast's lair. Although the prologue is somewhat misleading, once the story gets going it is an engrossing read. The main and secondary characters are clearly defined with personality traits that evoke sympathy or disdain from readers. Jobin combines elements of suspense and mystery with a pervasive sense of impending doom in this opening volume of this trilogy.-Martha Simpson, Stratford Library Association, CT

From **Booklist**

Edmund, a young boy who yearns to be a wizard, is trapped under his father's thumb at their inn and alehouse. Forbidden by his parents to study magic, Edmund resigns himself to his fate of running the inn and marrying the gawky neighbor girl, Katherine. When his brother, Geoffrey, vanishes one night after a string of disappearances that foretells the return of an old evil, Edmund, Katherine, and their friend Tom, all interesting and well-rounded characters, fly in the face of the terrifying legends as they seek out Geoffrey and what they hope will be fantastic destinies. They travel untold distances and battle frightening things, both human and magical, to meet their fates. These three brave, smart, and virtuous heroes embark on the beginning of what is sure to be a sweeping, epic fantasy series. Debut author Jobin tells a riveting, slowly building story, and his rich, evocative writing style only adds to the package. Perfect for imaginative readers craving a hearty magical adventure. Grades 6-9. --Stacey Comfort

Review

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ronald Ralph:

Nowadays reading books be a little more than want or need but also get a life style. This reading practice give you lot of advantages. Advantages you got of course the knowledge even the information inside the book that will improve your knowledge and information. The information you get based on what kind of reserve you read, if you want get more knowledge just go with knowledge books but if you want feel happy read one with theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. The actual The Nethergrim is kind of e-book which is giving the reader unpredictable experience.

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