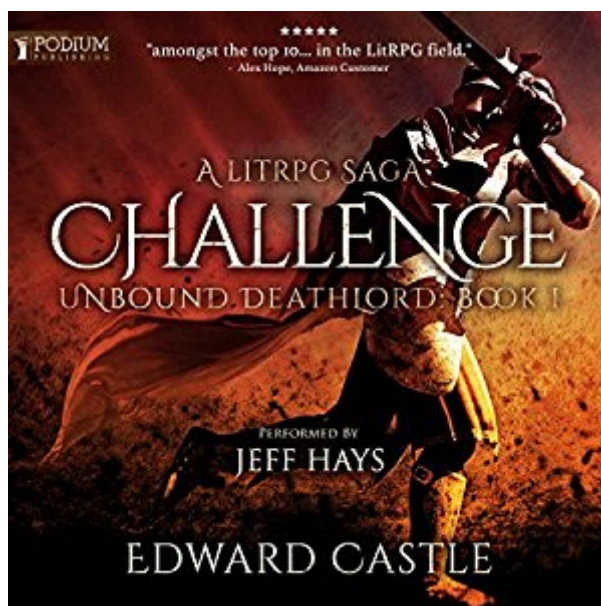


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Challenge: Unbound Deathlord, Book 1



Synopsis

When virtual reality becomes real enough that people feel as if they're being transported to another world, Valia Online arrives. A man running from his past joins the game to forget it all. Calling himself Jack Thorn, he chooses an undead race, Deathlord. A mage by choice, and a swordsman by necessity, he soon finds out that he'll need to use much more than magic and steel to survive; strategy, creativity, and carefully chosen words can often accomplish what simple attacks can't. As the game becomes too real and touches a part of him that he'd rather leave buried, he is faced with two questions: Who is he, really? And who should he become? Challenge is book one of the Unbound Deathlord series, a LitRPG saga.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was in a word: awesome! I read it because it was recommended by another author, Aleron Kong. His description of it at the end of his 6th book sold it to me. It's like deadpool meets LitRPG. Only criticism is it needs better editing. Too many errors kept interrupting the flow. I'm not talking about grammar mistakes either. I suck at grammar and would know where to place a comma to save my life. No this was more of a proof reading thing. Missing words were the main issue because I couldn't always figure out what the author intended to write. Normally, I would have ranked this a 3 because of the amount of errors, but the story was simply too amazing to down grade it that far. In fact, I really wanted to rate it a 5 on story alone.

Usually, in other stories, the kind of protagonist that was used in this book repulses me. Usually, in other stories, the kind of narrative used in this book bores me. This is not a story "as usual". The author combined some undesirable elements from other LitRPGs into something very entertaining. The characters are not two dimensional, yet character growth (besides the protagonist, of course) is minimal. They still manage to get attention to themselves. There are some obvious sequel hooks, which are presented tastefully and without discouraging the reader. The worldbuilding is top-notch. I couldn't spot any internal inconsistencies, nor are there any idiot balls handed to any characters. The quality of text itself is remarkable too, as is the plot. The self-hate could have been dropped early without diminishing the story, but that is the only fault I can find in the book. The most important thing is, this book has passed my Garfield test. I can recommend it to anyone with a few free hours to be spent on reading.

Wow! I'm not quite sure where exactly to start with how good this book was. I'm floored that this was a first novel for the author because it is so well done, definitely felt like a book from a veteran author. This is Fantasy LitRPG at its best, with a very interesting (and well integrated) real world component as well which I won't go into so as not to introduce any spoilers into this review. Great Main Character who I cheered for and whose cheekiness I laughed at quite a few times throughout the novel. Absolutely unique game world which was well thought out and well implemented in the novel. And this book was huge! Even with a high page count the story pacing was great and I devoured every single and want more! I can't say enough good things about this book so just stop reading my review now and go check it out!

Well done! I had to work my way into the story a little, but was soon totally immersed. The characters are alive, the plot Byzantine enough to satisfy most, the game universe is rich, complex and hints at being full of even more potential, the fictional reality is almost as interesting, certainly intriguing, and the final nail in the coffin, is that the MC is not that boring vanilla good guy cookie cutter template, that every other story seems to use. He's as selfish as most of us, but thankfully not as boring, and special enough to keep things interesting. An excellent read, I was very impressed with this first book.

Don't plan on going into too much detail here. I have read virtually everything published in the LitRPG field. This novel ranks amongst the top 10. The MC is dark, complex and amusing. Being the first in a series the need to introduce the MC and side characters without devoting the entire

novel too it is handled well. The MC is not OP but defeats opponent through tactics and strategy. My only criticism might be that the action is not described in what i consider sufficient detail and the fights are somewhat short. However if you are into LitRPG i would strongly recommend you give this book a try

Rarely if ever in this genre has an author actually blended the real world happenings as well as the in-game in such a seamless and realistic way. I don't typically write reviews but the character and world building were great to me. The characters were compelling, the plot line had its fair share of unpredictable twists and the book didn't get too bogged down by the numerical minutiae of those typically found in this genre. I'm looking forward to the next adventure with Jack - who I have to say is one of my favorite protagonists in a long time. Bravo.

A very fun book! Would have been 5 STARS were it not for two issues: 1. It needs a lot of editing. 2. Some slow spots where fighting is overly repetitive. Even with these few issues, I still highly recommend it! The author is very creative. I enjoyed the book a lot. I will definitely read book two!

Super fun romp. I'm not a big fan of making the real world a big part of the story but I really enjoyed this book. Even though the author is making the real world a part of the story arc, the game world is really fun! Buy the book it's worth the small price Tag!

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