



First Hero

Adam Blade

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Deadly Beasts. Brutal combat. Welcome to Avantia.

At the age of seven, Tanner's father was killed in front of him by the evil warlord Derthsin. But his father's death was not in vain and Derthsin was carried away to his doom by a good Beast, Firepos the Flame Bird. Now, eight years later, another evil army is wreaking havoc across Avantia. But Tanner has been training with Firepos, waiting to avenge his father's death. There is something familiar about this new menace, who rides with a Beast of his own. The evil army is after the pieces of the Mask of Death--which allows whoever wears it to control all Beasts. Tanner sets off on a journey to stop them. Along the way, he encounters twins Gwen and Geffen, who hold the map to finding the remaining pieces.

First Hero Details

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Author : Adam Blade

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From Reader Review First Hero for online ebook

Emma_LOVE says

This book was awesome. The gore stuff wasn't even that bad and I think this is a book for children because it is basically about this kid getting through the deaths of his family and he's fighting for what he believes in.

Criticalmick says

Warning! The best character in Adam Blade's First Hero is not even in the novel.

I read this book to my nine year old, who loved the fantasy and friendship of the original Beast Quest series. Chronicles of Avantia rejects all that imagination and roots around in a juvenilic mire of graphic violence, guilt and gloom. Whenever there came a description of villagers being slaughtered or people boiled alive, I would make up a bit about Sheepie, Tanner's pet superhero sheep. Now that beast had some fun and adventures!

Instead of old ladies being impaled, the First Hero I read had a heroic sheep who head-butted the stock bad guy Gor right outta town. Some inventive dialogue turned the attacking army from bland targets into comical dolts. It got a few laughs. Tanner's wary love interest had a belt full of throwing pastries instead of axes. Ridiculous, yes, but no less stupid than the original text. And don't underestimate the deadliness of a week-old donut. Rock hard, baby!

Sheepie won't be making a return. I was lucky to coax my son to the conclusion of his book- he requested reading something else rather than finish the rest of the series. If you have inadvertently picked up this pile of turgid slurry yourself, I only hope that a certain free-roaming brave and cheery sheep charges into your copy and brings along a bit of life. It's easy! All he ever says is "baaa!" It is more interesting and challenging than what "Adam Blade" filled fifteen chapters with.

Dan Green says

I picked this up looking for something for my kids to read. (spoiler, not giving this to them)
I read all four books of this series together, so this review is for the whole series. the books start out OK (I'd have given this book 3 stars), but get progressively worse, ruining the whole story for me.

didn't like the pacing of this story, everything feels rushed.

what character development there was felt very forced. kids start out fairly normal, then spontaneously become amazing warriors and leaders...

One of my biggest peeves is when a story is not internally logical or consistent. couple examples:

The prologue to the story is that the bad guy who can control all the "beasts" kills a boy's father, then the

boy's beast kills him (or at least attempt to) No explanation of how he couldn't control this beast..

In the later books this basically happens: "we've formed an army to help you fight the bad guy" moments later "our army isn't here to fight the bad guy, we just got together for safety in numbers while we forage for food." a few more paragraphs later the army is formed up facing the bad guys ready to storm the castle and we get a generic "rousing " speech to get everyone psyched up that ends with "who's with me?" to which no one speaks up, until we get the delayed volunteering led by one person, then another until the whole army cheers and attacks....

the beasts are big enough to ride, carry multiple people, and fling around house sized monsters no problem, but 12yr Olds can sword fight foot soldiers while riding... so how big are these things exactly?

another issue is that so much of the plot seemed forced, e.g. Main hero is repeatedly about to stop or kill a major bad guy, only to stop at the last second to go do something else. or two of the main characters repeatedly blowing up and brawling with each other?

some things were just plain silly or dumb, e.g. a village has been recently attacked and all the men and older boys hauled off, except for one (12/13yr old I think?) who is challenging 8yr olds to sword fights and half the village is cheering and applauding him and jeering the 8yr old...

or the main character is given a potion to drink by someone who praises the bad guy, then gets possessed and tries to kill the hero, and then the hero decides to trust them and drink the potion.

or repeatedly trying to race their beasts while they are trying to sneak up on an army

also like many have said the violence level isn't appropriate for the target audience. e.g. one kid is tortured, smashed to death in a rock slide, brought back to life as a living rotting corpse to be tortured some more, commits suicide.

sorry, this review would not have been so negative if I had reviewed after reading just the first book, but the fourth was so bad it tainted the whole series.

FantasyWereld says

De 15-jarige Willem was nog maar een kind toen voor zijn ogen zijn vader vermoord werd. De kwaadaardige Derzin viel zijn dorp aan en stak alle huizen in brand. Derzins leger nam Willem's moeder mee en liet Willem's dorp verwoest achter. Derzin zelf werd gedood door Vuurpos, een vlamenvogel die Willem die dag ontmoette. Op die dag veranderde Willem's leven voorgoed: Willem bleek namelijk de Uitverkoren Ruiter van Vuurpos te zijn.

Na die rampzalige dag keerde de rust terug in Willem's dorp en Willem groeide op bij zijn oma. Maar nu dreigt er weer gevaar: het dorp wordt opnieuw aangevallen, deze keer door Gor en zijn mannen, en de geschiedenis herhaalt zich. Gor en zijn soldaten zijn op zoek naar het masker van Derzin, dat Willem's oma

lang geleden in vier stukken heeft gescheurd en verstopt. De drager van dat masker heeft de macht over alle Beesten in Avantia. Het is dus duidelijk dat Gor dat masker nooit te pakken mag krijgen. Maar als Willems oma weigert informatie te geven aan Gor, kost dat haar haar leven. Willem en Vuurpos gaan op pad om het masker te vinden, voordat Gor het vindt. Maar waar heeft Willems oma de stukken verstopt?

Avontuurlijk en fantasievol

De eerste ruiter speelt zich af in Avantia: een prachtige fantasiewereld, die een beetje middeleeuws aandoet. Dankzij de landkaart voorin het boek kun je precies zien waar Willem is en waar hij heen gaat. De wereld van Avantia is heel interessant: op het eerste gezicht lijkt het zich alleen in de geschiedenis af te spelen en lijkt er weinig magie te zijn. Maar dan zijn er nog de Beesten. Uit de proloog blijkt dat er vier Beesten zijn, die samen met hun Uitverkoren Ruiters Avantia moeten redden van de oorlog. Willems Beest is een vlamenvogel, een soort feniks. Vuurpos is ontzettend sterk, maar met zijn tweeën kunnen Willem en Vuurpos Avantia niet redden. Gelukkig ontmoeten ze onderweg Gwen en haar Beest Gulkien, een gevleugelde wolf. Kunnen ze met zijn vieren Gor en zijn leger aan?

Veel geweld

Er wordt veel gevochten in dit eerste deel van De Kronieken van Avantia. Complete dorpen worden uitgemoord, mannen en vrouwen worden neergestoken en kinderen verbranden in het vuur. Eigenlijk valt Willem van het ene gevecht in het andere. Dit is allemaal heel spannend, maar hier moet je wel tegen kunnen. Er vloeit behoorlijk veel bloed en het leger van Gor doet gruwelijke dingen. Sommige dingen zijn misschien zelfs wel een beetje te gruwelijk voor jonge lezers.

Wil je de gehele recensie lezen? Klik hier:

<http://www.fantasywereld.nl/recensies...>

Sarah Scribner says

I read this at my son's request because he loved this series. It's well written and interesting for a 3rd/4th grader without being overly complicated. I felt like it was a touch violent in the first few chapters - a little too gory for my taste - but overall I liked it.

Erik says

This book simply has horrible writing. I know that it is aimed at 3rd grade readers (and I'd say probably more like lower 4th & 5th grade readers), but even taking that into account, I found this to be an unfortunate book. The story and the idea is original, but I couldn't get past the writing to enjoy this book at all. For some reason, I also found this book a bit on violent side (a little too detailed).

Fraser says

It was an easy to follow story lone. Nothing great.

Sean Harding says

The first in another series by Team Blade - this one is a prequel series to the Best Quest one apparently. but it is really all part of the same idea and is OK for what it is.

Michael Bafford says

This book was grim and not much else. Too grim for me.

Erick says

The entire book has a good feel for the world of Avantia. The story cuts a little short but it makes you want to read the next! I entirely enjoyed this book to its full extent. The story has a good flow and works well with transitions. So far one of my favorite books :).

Sydney says

This is a great book and I love all the adventure and action that is included .Its a good book if you like Beast Quest .

Vanalottiel Olanthir says

I first read this book series when I was like, 12, and now going back and reading them again several years later, I'm not too disappointed. The writing and world building is decent, although we get very little background before jumping right into the action. The only reason I wasn't confused is because I've read the book before.

However, even though this was written for elementary/middle schoolers, I wouldn't recommend it for anyone younger than 11 or 12. The descriptions of battle scenes are surprisingly graphic.

Nurete says

Gory and bloody. I don't know why people are saying this is a good book for kids. Too many people get violently killed in it. It gave my 9 year old son nightmares and he is not the squeamish type.

LegendaryUmbreon says

This book was just awful... Of course, it had a good idea, but it plunged way to quickly into the action as a way to "hook" the reader. not only that but the writing is awful as well. The idea for Avantia and The four beasts (technically 5) is good, but it should have been put into the hands of a better writer. I, being 14, could do a better job than Adam. (Sorry Adam but it is entirely true). I had so many more and better ideas that could have been put into this book instead of what did get put into it. If i had a chance to make this book my own i would in a heartbeat.

So my final words will be this:

Good idea, bad output

Maximilian Lee says

I think this book was very good (as I expected). The story has 4 beasts and their chosen riders. They all have to battle a evil person (that has a weird name) to save Avantia.
