



Readers' Favorite®

Book Reviews and Award Contest

Book Review Mini-Critique

Below you will find ratings (scale of 1-5) with general descriptions for the major parts of your book followed by your Readers' Favorite review. Although this is just a Mini-Critique, we hope it will give you an insight into how readers may view the different components of your book.

These are the opinions of your reviewer, and although they are not a literary professional, they are an avid reader of books just like yours.

Title: Fae of Legacy and Lies
Subtitle: A Magdalene of Avalon Novel
Author: M.J. Azinger
Genre: Fiction - Fantasy - Epic



Appearance: The appearance of a book can make a significant impact on the experience of a reader, whose enjoyment is often enhanced by an enticing cover, an intriguing table of contents, interesting chapter headings, and when possible, eye-catching illustrations.

5

Plot: The characters of a book should be well defined with strengths and flaws, and while they do not have to be likable, the reader does have to be able to form a connection with them. The tone should be consistent, the theme should be clear, and the plot should be original or told from a unique perspective. For informative books -- those without plot and characters--this rating refers primarily to your concept and how well you presented it.

5

Development: Development refers to how effectively you told your story or discussed your topic. The dialogue should be realistic, the descriptions should be vivid, and the material should be concise and coherent. Organization is also a key factor, especially for informative books -- those without plot and characters. The order in which you tell your story or explain your topic and how smoothly it flows can have a huge impact on the reader's understanding and enjoyment of the material.

5

Formatting:

5

Formatting is the single most overlooked area by authors. The way in which you describe scenes, display dialogue, and shift point of view can make or break your story. In addition, excessive grammatical errors and typos can give your book an amateurish feel and even put off readers completely.

Marketability:

5

Marketability refers to how effectively you wrote your book for your target audience. Authors may include content that is above or below the understanding of their target reader, or include concepts, opinions or language that can accidentally confuse or alienate some readers. Although by its nature this rating is very subjective, a very low rating here and poor reviews may indicate an issue with your book in this area.

Overall Opinion:

5

The overall starred rating takes into account all these elements and describes the overall reading experience of your reviewer. This is the official Readers' Favorite review rating for your book.

Review:

Reviewed by Jamie Michele for Readers' Favorite

In M.J. Azinger's *Fae of Legacy and Lies*, at twenty-three, Mary is the Maiden of the Triple Goddess on Avalon, a sacred island where she has spent her life secluded from men and convinced her half-fae blood has no magic. After her mother Caerllion dies, Mary begins questioning why she cannot cast even a mortal spell, then secretly crosses to the mainland hoping distance from Avalon will awaken her fae Grym. Her escape exposes signs that Caerllion kept far more from her than Mary ever understood. Soon her estranged father, druid trader Cyrus, arrives with orders that take her from the only home she knows. Unknown to Mary, High Warder Talorc shadows their journey as blood-hunting Grymadder returns to the region, leaving Mary to discover why so many people have plans for her future.

M.J. Azinger's *Fae of Legacy and Lies* is an incredible fantasy, and Mary is a main character that I almost instantly cared about. Her compassion comes naturally, and she always kicks into gear when needed. For example, we see her chewing snake grass into a poultice for Nimuë, a badly wounded huntress. Talorc is just as fully fleshed out, and something of a mixed bag, with quite a few surprises. When I go into a new fantasy, however, it's the immersion in the world that has to happen quickly for me to stay on board. Thankfully, Azinger's world-building is beautiful, from Fae Henge rising from a grassy knoll as a circle of enormous gray stone slabs, with open meadow below and woodland enclosing the site, to Oak Hallow, which begins with its soot-darkened stone arch before opening into longhouses beside a running stream, with the obligatory oak trees scattered between the buildings. Well written and completely engrossing, readers who enjoy Celtic fae fantasy will adore this.