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Critical Failures IV (Caverns And Creatures Book 4)



Synopsis

The adventure continues. Tim and the C&C gang face their most difficult challenges yet. Horses die. Eyeballs are eaten. People are urinated on. A god is born.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Once again, Robert Bevan shows that he knows just how to raise the stakes in high fantasy, then drag them through the gutter, making the reader laugh like a loon the whole way. But it's not just dick and fart jokes; we also get treated to satisfying character development, a light seasoning of mordant social commentary, and hilarious enough blasphemy to keep even the damned cackling as their spit turns.

Once again Robert Bevan has given us an awesome hilarious read. He can't write these fast

enough for me. The humor can be rude and crude and a ton of crazy. The number of messes these poor gamers get into is off the charts and the ways they try to handle them are outrageous! Bevan shows that he can raise the stakes, then drag them through the gutter, making the reader laugh like a loon the whole way. But it's not just dick and fart jokes; we also get treated to character development and hilarious enough blasphemy to keep even the damned cackling, I'll never look at Pillsbury dough the same again!

I love this series. This particular addition has some major surprises which left me agape and tweeting the author. The book is more grim than the previous ones. It still has funny scenes, but Bevan used his black crayon a lot more on IV. I actually liked that. Pretty sure my mood would darken if in their shoes. (Not pants, NEVER pants.) The ending is cliff-hangery and had me frantically brushing my finger across my Kindle hoping for more. Can't wait for the next book.

Critical Failures IV (Caverns and Creatures #4) by Robert Bevan is not like the previous hilarious books. This fell so short of the others. It has a few giggle moments but really... I laughed my ass off on all the others and this was just meh... What was with Tim? Same sort of jokes but flat...I bought CC5, hope Bevan is out of his slump because I have all his other books and this is the only one I found disappointing. 2 1/2 stars rounding up to 3.

This one doesn't hold up as well as the previous ones. It's not because the topics of the jokes are more sensitive, but that they don't have as much effort behind them. It seems the author was moving Tim more and more into a self annoyance at the end of book 3, and all of the sudden, the characters all become aware of it. And every character seems to break their personality and behavior to take notice of it. It's obvious that this book tries to pull in some current political satire, but again, does so lazily and almost as if the author didn't really care about it other than to vent at a really bad day. Denise and Randy could have really been funny, but it seems the author doesn't really appear to know enough about southern culture to make it stick, and so the most shallow form of redneck is on display here, and even that is dropped by Randy for some reason halfway through the book, in favor for his new religion. Jumping from one shallow 2-d character to another halfway through the book would be pretty irksome, if the rest of the book wasn't so bland. In the first three books its clear that the joke is that some not-so-well-intended characters happen to have the worst luck when it comes to making it through, but the fourth book just makes everyone so insufferable rather than clumsy. Instead of the idiot ball being passed around for fun, everyone is holding it at the

same time. It's probably a result of having so many characters busy doing so many things. Also, for whatever reason, a really big foreshadowing is thrown right in the reader's face, but it doesn't seem to have an effect on anything. Then the same exact foreshadowing happens again. It's almost as if the story shifted into a lazy detective for two very brief scenes. I would have expected either the characters to take notice, or for the foreshadowing to be more subtle, but the stark contrast between the two opposites just makes that moment particularly annoying. That's not to say there isn't some fun stuff going on. The story is actually one of the most interesting and fastest paced, and I'm figuring that the author is putting more effort into the story than the characters. The build-up of events, and the crossing of characters trying to determine what the other groups did is hilarious. But character Flanderization is really hitting this arc hard, and I hope that he tones it down next time.

TL;DR Great followup on the previous books, the Audiobook version is amazing. Some people might suggest the characters are one-dimensional, but I have seen character development occurring throughout the span of the series. For anyone who has read the previous books, this one continues in the same vein. Honestly if you have made it this far you are committed to the series, so just keep buying!

I will never eat a Pillsbury product the same again. It will have to be served with wine. Seriously, I'm a little angry there isn't a 5th book yet.

Bevan's Critical Failures series is hilarious high adventure. I've read and loved them all and this latest installment is the perfect follow up. The characters are so familiar, I'm pretty sure I've rolled dice with some of these guys. Great story, great characters, great laughs. You'll love it!

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