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The Skull Throne: A LitRPG Novel (Kingdom Of Heaven Book 1)



Synopsis

The skull throne sits empty and the Kingdom of Heaven is in turmoil. Enter "iron" Jack Russo, able to drop newbs with a single headshot and the king of online games. At least he used to be before his sister got pregnant, and he had to get a job to help take care of them. But when a particle accelerator explodes, causing Jack to get stuck in his favorite game — "Kingdom of Heaven" — he'll have to conqueror Heaven and seat himself on the skull throne. If not, he'll be trapped in the game forever.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

More fantasy than RPG, this short book and the start of a series takes a young man from the real world into his favorite game. His goal, to save The Kingdom of Heaven, and possibly be returned to real life. A fairly simple book with only a few action sequences, the RPG portion is actually told within a glossary about 90% through the book. Within the actual book, levels are occasionally mentioned along with a few quests and fairly simple game mechanics - how these fit together is left for the

glossary. This book contains several negatives which force a personal down check. Though the main character appears to be a good person, he's not very bright. He's raised and supported a sister and now a nephew, but hasn't done much for himself. His free time is spent gaming with a strength based character attempting to slash his way to the top and leaving thinking to others. He quickly shows himself to be a glass cannon reinforced to solo. He also shows minimal ability to grow, until this book's last few chapters. I'm not all that find of characters that can't think, can't take criticism, and are unable to grow. Conversations, plot, and storyline are fairly simple and linear. There are few surprises, and little character development beyond the main character. Foreshadowing is minimal and easily discovered.

I really liked this book can't wait to see where the next book takes the story I will definitely read the next book

Another must read by JA Cipriano, cleaver author, keeps you engaged

I tossed the book a few chapters in after picking it up through Kindle Unlimited. I allow a greater number of grammar/spelling/formatting issues for self published novels, but it never bodes well when the that limit is reached within the first few chapters. Another negative for this book is the whole circumstances behind the protagonist getting kicked out of his sister's home. The protagonist is the older sibling and he gave up a lot to provide for his younger sister and his younger sister's kid, but then the sister kicks him out because he spends too much time on a hobby? Shouldn't it have been the other way around? What gives her the right after all the protagonist has given up for her? It seems like there is a great deal of the story missing for that, too much to buy. I give it three stars because I liked the circumstances that led the protagonist to find himself within the game world, but with the lack of editing and lack of character and setting development it deserves only 2 stars.

Be aware the last 12% of the story is a glossary of terms and a sample chapter from J.A. Cipriano's Ring of Promise novel. The glossary includes a more detailed explanation of the game mechanics of the story. Stuff that I would have liked to see in the actual story. Written by J. A. Cipriano -The author of LitRPG Soulstone series, and Conner Kressley, Co-author of The Half Demon Warlock Urban fantasy series with J.A. Cipriano. The beginning of the story starts in the game right before the group enters a secret high level area. Then it suddenly shifts to a bunch of real life stuff for Jack the MC, who gets kicked out of his

sister's house after financially supporting her and her newborn for years. This is the woe is me part of the story that justifies why the MC would be willing to follow a stranger from a bar to some place where he's kidnapped and transported to the game world. Turns out the game was really an intersection of multiple afterlives and the things the game Jack had been playing was really a magical scheme to test out what humans were worthy of being transported to their world. Now Jack has the chance to become the ruler of this place if he can secure the skull throne before the evil Shadow does. Like: Iron Jack is a likable character. He's a reluctant hero who doesn't always do the right thing. The combat scenes are good. There are a lot of engaging scenes that draw you into turning the next page. Dislike: There's not a lot of explanation about the game mechanics in the story. Heck, most of the game questing stuff doesn't really start until the 33% mark. Before that it's all about getting Jack to the game world and pushing him to agree to take the Skull Throne. It feels like half the story is spent bullying and berating the main character into doing everything and even when he agrees to cooperate he's handed most of the power he gains to challenge The Shadow, the bad guy in the story. Overall, I had a good time reading the story. There are some flaws and things I thought could have been done better but it was still an enjoyable read. Score: 7 out of 10.

What an addicting snarky novel. The writing is great and just sucked me in from the first chapter. Easy to follow even if you are not a gamer like me and just know the basics. Full of action and thrills that kept me rooting for Jack. Jack's interactions with Hecate and his dream girl/angel Orgina are an absolute hoot as they try to work with Jack to take the Skull Throne. I cannot wait for the next book to see what happens next. I expect it to be just as good. I read an advanced reader's copy in exchange for an honest review. Great read!

I am an old lady and don't play video games, so the gaming points and attributes don't make any sense to me. But... this book is funny, full of action, angst, heroism, desire, and snarky comments. In other words, it is a doggone good book. I enjoyed the characters and the storyline was wonderful. I recommend this book to anyone who likes a tale that makes them want to know what is gonna happen next. I enjoyed the book and look forward to the next book in the series. I did receive an ARC for my honest opinion.

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