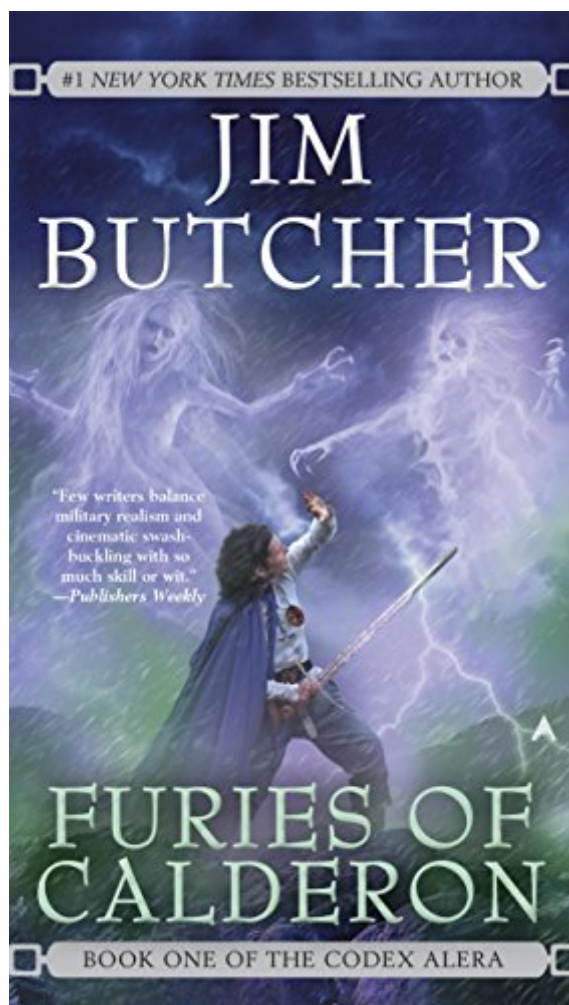


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Furies Of Calderon (Codex Alera Book 1)



Synopsis

In this extraordinary fantasy epic, the #1 New York Times bestselling author of the Dresden Files leads readers into a world where the fate of the realm rests on the shoulders of a boy with no power to call his own... For a thousand years, the people of Alera have united against the aggressive and threatening races that inhabit the world, using their unique bond with the furies—elementals of earth, air, fire, water, wood, and metal. But in the remote Calderon Valley, the boy Tavi struggles with his lack of furycrafting. At fifteen, he has no wind fury to help him fly, no fire fury to light his lamps. Yet as the Alerans' most savage enemy—the Marat horde—return to the Valley, Tavi's courage and resourcefulness will be a power greater than any fury, one that could turn the tides of war...

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Customer Reviews

I decided to start reading this book after reading "The Cinder Spires: The Aeronaut's Windlass" and I really enjoyed that one so decided to give this one a try, I was not disappointed. One word of warning, if you like to see a story arc conclude before you get thrown a new one, this book will

probably annoy you in that case, it jumps perspectives right as something good (read as exciting) is about to happen to one character or another. That said I never felt that the interludes lasted long enough for me to lose too much of the suspense I felt from where it ended, but some of it was lost or mixed in with the suspense created from the "interlude", I call it an interlude but in reality you are following different characters that are well written and interesting, personally I have a tendency to get attached to one character or a group and I want to get their story and not everyone else, again that is just a personal tick if you can call it that. All in all I would recommend the book if you enjoy fantasy and don't directly dislike jumping perspectives.

What a fantastic and epic fantasy! I'm a huge Jim Butcher's fan but I hadn't read this series because of time limitations. After all, I had to read all the other books in the Harry Dresden series first. My husband had continuously reminded me to read the Codex Alera series. He kept on saying that this was his favorite series ever and I had this book on my TBR for a while. I finally decided to jump start it and now, I want to reprimand myself for waiting so long! From the first chapter, I knew this book was going to be good. I liked the premise of the Furies. Some people have the power of "fury crafting". These Furies can manifest as elements: air, water, metal, earth, fire. Each person who has this power gives a name to their Fury. Of course, the main character Tavi has none. He's fifteen and by now he should have shown signs of being able to craft but so far Tavi has no powers. His uncle Bernard is the stead-holder. He's big and powerful. He's also fair and good hearted. His power comes from the earth. His sister Isana is a powerful water-crafter and a healer. Together they keep their people safe. When Tavi and Bernard go looking for Tavi's sheep, they are attacked by a Marat. The Marat are big, savage creatures. They attacked the realm years ago and now they are back. This time they are in the company of mercenaries wanting to bring down Gaius Sextus, the First Lord of Alera from his throne. What ensues is a page-turning, magnificent fantasy with great characters, incredible fights, and amazing courage. "he's doing that because it's what he set out to do." "I can't wait to continue reading. I know there are some secrets that must come out soon. Tavi is in the middle of it and it's going to make his life even more interesting." "Uncle Bernard! Uncle Bernard!" he shouted, pointing at Doroga. "He followed me home! Can we keep him?" 5/5 Fangs

I just now finished this first book of Butcher's Alera series. I did enjoy it for the most part, and it is a real page turner. It's just that there are some contrived imperfections in the protagonists that prevent them from succeeding all the time as they could, and should, given their enormous powers via their

furies. I note that the furies of the villains never tire in battles, but those of the heroes do, and battles are lost due to this discrepancy. Did Butcher overlook this inconsistency? Don't know. It kept the narrative going instead of having the hero/heroine win easily as logic would seem to dictate, so there is that. Can't have a planned multi-book series end so quickly. The other nit I have to pick is with the continuous reluctance of the main female character, the Cursor Amara, to inform her allies of info she has come into possession of which would also turn the tide of battle and planning to her side. She keeps getting herself further into trouble by doing this, and she has no need to keep stuff close to the vest if her goal is really to survive and save the innocent folks. Very frustrating. As another reviewer noted, this leads to multiple instances of the protagonists getting beaten/stabbed/killed, over and over again. Bad things happening to good people ad nauseum. So it's another book, like Redick's "The Ruling Sea", that imposes untoward and implausible self-limitations upon the heroes/protagonists in order to keep them from winning easily over the bad guys. The bad guys have no such limitations imposed upon them, are seemingly smarter, and definitely ruthless in pursuing victory. In one on one matchups with the villains, sans the author's handcuffing of the heroes, the latter would prevail all the time. Their furies make them immensely powerful, almost superhuman, yet they keep losing to the bad guys. Plus the ruler of Alera is so powerful and has so many forces that he could have swooped in and wiped out the attacking hordes easily, as apparently happened fifteen years in the past. But Amara chooses not to bother him and so thousands die. Huh? But, I'm sticking with it. The ending is the traditional feel good, rewards to the heroes kind of ending I like. My assumption is that Butcher is going to dispense with the self limitations of the good guys/gals and let them fight the good fight with their full powers. Except for Tavi, the main male hero in making, who has no powers. At this time anyway.

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