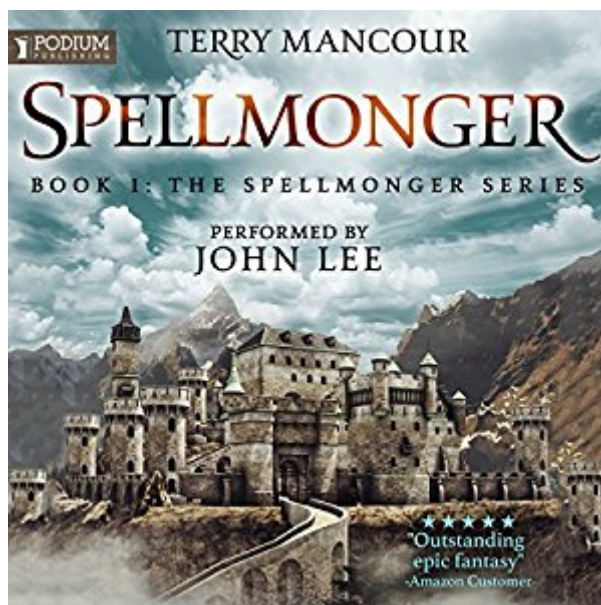


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Spellmonger: Spellmonger, Book 1



Synopsis

Minalan gave up a promising career as a professional warmage to live the quiet life of a village spellmonger in the remote mountain valley of Boval. It was a peaceful, beautiful little fief, far from the dangerous feudal petty squabbles of the Five Duchies, on the world of Callidore. There were cows. Lots of cows. And cheese. For six months things went well: He found a quaint little shop, he befriended the local lord, the village folk loved him, he found a sharp young apprentice to help out, and, best yet, he met a comely young widow with the prettiest eyes. Then one night Minalan is forced to pick up his mageblade again to defend his adopted home from the vanguard of an army of goblins - gurvani, they call themselves - bent on a genocidal crusade against all mankind. And that was the good news. The bad news was that their shamans were armed with more magical power than has been seen since the days of the ancient Imperial Magocracy - and their leader, a mysterious, vengeful force of hate and dark magic, is headed directly to Boval Vale, along with a massive invading army of gurvani. The good people of Boval and their spellmonger have only one choice: to hole up in the over-sized Boval Castle and hope they can endure a siege against hundreds of thousands of goblins. When the people look to him for hope, Minalan does his best, but the odds are depressing: there are multitudes of goblins, and they want Boval Vale as a staging ground for a vengeful invasion of the whole Five Duchies. Add to his troubles a jealous rival mage, a motley band of mercenaries, a delusional liege lord who insists victory is at hand despite the hordes at his door, a dour castellan, a moody, pregnant girlfriend and a catty ex-girlfriend who specializes in sex magic - all trapped in a stinking, besieged castle with no hope of rescue, and you'll understand why Minalan is willing to take his chances with the goblins. All that stands between the gurvani horde and the people of the Five Duchies is one tired, overwhelmed baker's son who wanted nothing more than to be a simple village spellmonger.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I really liked this book, enough to get the rest of the series.

This is a pretty solid start to a fantasy series my one complaint is that the author has a tendency to go on and on about the world or magic which on the one hand is good for developing the world and the magic system but it is also a huge info dump that went over my head the longer it was

In Terry Mancour and his "Spellmonger" series I have found another author to worth following and books that I earmark for a reread when there is nothing available that appeals. All my family, 4 kids and 4 sisters read, fantasy is one genre that all of our interests intersect. It was my delight that I was able to be the first to introduce Terry Mancour's Spellmonger to the clan. Its a great new world, well constructed, good dialogue, likeable but fallible heroes and an overpowering enemy that fights to take back what was once theirs. A very well constructed magic system, yet one that is not so overpowering that only magicians matter. This first book gets four stars only because it is the first and the world hadn't been fleshed out enough. The series gets five stars and my gratitude to the author. I reread from start to finish the series over the past week, it was like sharing memories with an old friend. The clan awaits impatiently the next addition to the series!

You can tell it's written by a man, totally sexist, doesn't try to be PC and it's funny! Written in first person without changes of perspective makes a nice change from your typical multi character story.

I had bought this book ages ago but only read it recently and I'm kicking myself for holding off for so long. Spellmonger is a very fun, PG-13 level fantasy starring a charming and likeable rogue of a protagonist. Min drinks, he wenches, and he comes from the Han Solo school of loveable scoundrels. He's a great character. The supporting cast is also great. From Min's apprentice to his troublesome nemesis, Mancour populates the world with an interesting cast of characters. There's great action scenes, insane magical battles, some genuinely funny humor and just a world you wish actually existed. The climax of the book is possibly one of the most outrageous, original and amusing situations I've ever seen. I defy one to find a fantasy novel that has a similar resolution, its

definitely a riot. As much as I enjoyed the book there were a few quibbles I had with it. There are a few formatting errors and situations where words aren't properly spaced, particularly in the second half of the book. It isn't a deal breaker but they do mar an otherwise smooth and enjoyable read. There are also a handful of situations where information is repeated, sometimes a mere few pages later. Ok, the goblins are generally as smart as humans, I don't need to know that 3 times within the first 15% or so of the book. It doesn't happen very often but it was enough for me to take note. Other than those minor issues, this was a genuinely enjoyable book and I've already picked up the sequel. It occupies a nice comfortable spot between comedy and seriousness without giving in to either. Like I said, PG-13 fantasy. There's some cursing, adult situations and blood but none of it is overdone, graphic or really focused upon. I think both adults and older teens will find a lot to like in this book. I hope Mr. Mancour continues this series beyond the 2nd book, I think he's got a winner here and he joins the list of my favorite indie fantasy authors.

Wonderful first book into the series, it's a gripping story that leaves me wanting more of the series.

I am currently reading Book 4 of the Spellmonger Series. Very interesting thus far. I like how the author builds my knowledge of war tactics and politics in this fictional world. In Book 3, the author even teaches me how to start a village from scratch (with magic and money). Although there are some war terms and magic terms that I don't know, there are lots of chapters that are not difficult to read. The only thing is that in Book 1 and Book 2 of the Spellmonger Series, I do want to warn you that the author flips a lot between present time and the past that leads up to it. This did make things kind of confusing for me, which is why I am giving this book 4 stars instead of 5. But, definitely a 5 star for Book 3 Magelord. I do want to warn you. If you dislike perverted humor, this series is not for you. For example, a typical curse/cuss phrase is "By Ishi's Tits".

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