



## The Lion of Farside

*John Dalmás*

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## **The Lion of Farside** John Dalmás

The Macurdies had been farmers for generations, and Curtis Macurdy would have been content to spend his life with his exotically beautiful wife Varia, earning a living by tilling his plot of land in the American Midwest. Varia was from Yuulith, a magical world separated from Earth by only a dimensional barrier that could sometimes be breached.

## **The Lion of Farside Details**

Date : Published April 1st 2004 by Baen Books (first published July 1st 1995)

ISBN : 9780671876746

Author : John Dalmás

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## From Reader Review The Lion of Farside for online ebook

### Garrisonjames says

Dalmas has skill and ability, but doesn't bring as much of it to bear on this book as he does on some of his other works. The premise is promising, but the execution leaves a lot to be desired, though it is technically rendered very well. The fault lies in the story, the character development, the characters, the plot...not in the actual writing, which is actually quite readable. It feels like Dalmas was handed some sort of outline and had to make it work. This is certainly nothing like The Walkaway Clause.

Here we get treated to an alternate universe where magic works, what is set-up much like Dalmas' take on Witchworld, only the magic never really makes a very deep impact on things. The world remains a stock pseudo-medieval quasi-Europe where pointy-sticks and bashing people are the real determiners of overall success. The magic is there, but it isn't very useful, aside from supporting arbitrary plot-points or to serve as a sort of condiment or veneer over the more militaristic-style campaign of vengeance. H. Beam Piper did it tons better in Lord Kalvan of Otherwhen. I recommend reading Piper's book and skipping this one.

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### Ben Mason says

It felt like I was reading a graduate student's novel that he had written in his spare time.

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### Ron says

Starts out promising, but disappoints as the story goes on. Half way through the story starts losing steam.

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### Dantegideon says

I got about ten percent into it, and it was pretty miserable. I thought, "Do I want ten times as much misery to find out the end?" and I didn't. He has a very easy writing style but I didn't like the things that happened. I also didn't appreciate the perspective switches, from first person, to another character in third person, then back to the original character but in third person this time. I've no idea if the whole book hops around like that, but it was jarring.

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### Bill says

Free ebook at Baen (trying Dalmas on the cheap). This is fantasy (magic in the air); I tend to prefer military/political themed scifi so this is a little out of the comfort zone. Not as good as I had hoped, shallow main character, several of the others were better developed.

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## **Roberto says**

Some writers take a small theme and create a landscape. Dalmas takes a big premise (Alternate universes! Magic!) and creates a puny story about a guy that has no idea why he does things and is lead by the nose by his destiny, until things just stop.

Yes, the writing has a style, and the character development is not as terrible as it sounds like, but the lack of ambition is stunning.

I had the same reaction when reading Soldiers (Aliens! Invasion! Genocide!) which turned into a sort of comparative imaginary religions pamphlet.

I am not sure I will read other John Dalmas books unless I have nothing else at hand.

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## **Cameron says**

Good undemanding science fiction fun.

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## **Patricrk patrick says**

alternate universe where magic is possible. gates to connect with earth. first book in a three book series. I won't be looking for book two or three. Available as a free download from Baen.

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