



Is This Apocalypse Necessary?

C. Dale Brittain

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This is an established fantasy author (A Bad Spell In Yurt and other book is the Yurt series, issued by Baen). Release will be supported by a full-page advertisement in Locus, SF Chronicle, and SFWA.

Is This Apocalypse Necessary? Details

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Author : C. Dale Brittain

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From Reader Review Is This Apocalypse Necessary? for online ebook

Nick Nielsen says

An exciting conclusion to the Daimbert series. I continue to love the various characters, and the plot in this book is much grander than the previous books in the series. Both Daimbert's and Joachim's roles are expanded in the world, and Daimbert fights to prevent all-out war in the neighboring kingdoms. I look forward to more books by C. Dale Brittain.

Mike says

A full unqualified 5 stars for the searing culmination of Daimbert's adventures

If you'd asked me whether I could see myself calling this series "searing" before I'd started this book, I probably would've thought you were kidding. I can think of many adjectives I would've applied to Yurt – all of them complimentary, don't get me wrong – but one of the things I enjoyed so much about the books was...actually, I'm not sure I can explain this. The plots of the prior ones were intricate and well done, and increasingly thrilling, but I never lost my sense of "it'll turn out alright in the end." The excitement of the prior books was tempered by an affable tone, some well-placed humor, and a main character who refused to take himself too seriously. Boring, the series was certainly not, but at the same time, it didn't exhaust me the way a book full of non-stop tension might.

Never let it be said that I'm too hidebound to change my tune. Now I'm sitting here wondering if "searing" is strong enough!

Is This Apocalypse Necessary is aptly named, I think, for if you think of Daimbert's adventures in the prior books as skirmishes against enemies known and suspected, this is the last stand. All bets are off, and nothing will ever be the same again. Apocalypse starts off like a cannon shot and then keeps upping the ante, and for the first time in probably years, there was no question about going to bed before I'd read the last word.

I wrote in my review for book five that the separate plots were starting to come together; if one paid attention, one got hints of an overarching story with its seeds planted in each of the standalone Yurt books, and I was excited to see if my suspicions about where the author was leading us were correct. Well, those suspicions were correct - in the sense that I'd be correct if I said "I'm expecting tomorrow's weather to be a bit warmer"...the day before the planet gets knocked off course and flies into the sun. Apocalypse, indeed.

I don't want to give away too much, so...let's just say I was surprised, several times, and delighted, and breathless, and my already-high estimation of C. Dale Brittain just got blasted into the stratosphere. I want to go back to my review of A Bad Spell in Yurt, where I smugly typed away about this new pleasantly light fantasy I'd just found, and point and laugh at what a doofus the me of two weeks ago was. Why most of this series is out of print, I don't think I'll ever understand.

To say this series is "good" doesn't do it justice, and Is This Apocalypse Necessary was so masterful that there's no doubt that Yurt has a permanent spot on my (surprisingly short) list of all-time favorites. My only caution to potential readers is that you perhaps wait to start this final installment until you've got plenty of time to see it through to the end.

Standing O, Ms. Brittain.

PS: I would sell my own mother for a purple flying beast.

Joel Flank says

An amazing conclusion to the stories of the wizard Daimbert and the kingdom of Yurt. Thirty years and many adventures have passed in Daimbert's time as royal wizard, but things come to a head with his arch-enemy, the best wizard of his generation, Elerius. With the master of the school of wizardry dying, he begs Daimbert to be his successor and oppose Elerius openly. Daimbert is thrilled that someone finally believes him that Elerius is bad news, but since Daimbert knows he can't match Elerius, he sets off on a whirlwind tour of the world, looking for an edge. Along the way he finds new friends as well as revisiting older ones, but can't find anything that will help him deal with a superior wizard that will also let him keep his morals.

Not only does the book keep the light hearted whimsy of the series, but also keeps the moral dilemmas of how to deal with enemies when you're not willing to take the same easy steps to power they are. Daimbert's talents for improvisation and willingness to take the difficult path rather than the easy one serve him well, even as his whole world is literally collapsing around him.

Thankfully, the author has recently published an e-book only short story that looks like it continues stories from the world of the kingdom of Yurt, even if it looks like Daimbert isn't the main character going forward.

Becca says

I didn't know that this was part of a series when I picked it up, but now I'm thinking of going back and reading the rest. This was good entertainment.
