



The Redemption of Althalus

By David Eddings, Leigh Eddings

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The Redemption of Althalus By David Eddings, Leigh Eddings

It would be sheer folly to try to conceal the true nature of Althalus, for his flaws are the stuff of legend. He is, as all men know, a thief, a liar, an occasional murderer, an outrageous braggart, and a man devoid of even the slightest hint of honor.

Yet of all the men in the world, it is Althalus, unrepentant rogue and scoundrel, who will become the champion of humanity in its desperate struggle against the forces of an ancient god determined to return the universe to nothingness. On his way to steal The Book from the House at the End of the World, Althalus is confronted by a cat--a cat with eyes like emeralds, the voice of a woman, and the powers of a goddess.

She is Dweia, sister to The Gods and a greater thief even than Althalus. She must be: for in no time at all, she has stolen his heart. And more. She has stolen time itself. For when Althalus leaves the House at the End of the World, much wiser but not a day older than when he'd first entered it, thousands of years have gone by.

But Dweia is not the only one able to manipulate time. Her evil brother shares the power, and while Dweia has been teaching Althalus the secrets of The Book, the ancient God has been using the dark magic of his own Book to rewrite history. Yet all is not lost. But only if Althalus, still a thief at heart, can bring together a ragtag group of men, women, and children with no reason to trust him or each other.

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The Redemption of Althalus By David Eddings, Leigh Eddings Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #126010 in Books
- Brand: Del Rey
- Published on: 2000-12
- Released on: 2000-12-05
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.50" h x 1.70" w x 6.50" l, 2.60 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 726 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

As the first stand-alone one-volume epic fantasy by the popular Eddings team (whose series include *The Belgariad*; *The Malloreon* and *The Elenium*), this hefty saga about Good trouncing Evil plumps an engaging young reprobate hero into the arms of a literally divine feline heroine. A professional thief and occasional murderer, Althalus accepts a commission to steal a supernatural tome known as the Book. When he arrives at the mysterious House at the End of the World, a lissome black cat with emerald eyes turns out to be the fertility goddess Dweia. Together they enlist a Mission Improbable team to out-sorcel the assorted villains marshaled by the sorcerer Ghend, who is bent on converting this medieval-like world from the worship of Dweia's good god-brother, Deiwois, to awful servitude under their wicked sibling Daeva. Plenty of derring-do splices up the first two-thirds of this jolly romp, and some zingy flashes of wit home in neatly on stuffy human institutions like overorganized religion and landed aristocracies. Unfortunately, the Eddingses can't resist a lengthy time-traveling reprise, which drags the story down into so-so conventionality. Though the Eddingses' multitudinous fans will likely feel right at home here in their safely magical realm of good-natured fun, this circle of would-be faerie has been trodden so often that here it yields very little deep-rooted literary greenery to munch on or to savor, still less to ruminate upon.

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From [Booklist](#)

The Eddings, whose fantasies usually sprawl for several volumes, had to cram to get their latest adventure into a mere 700 pages (768 in galley form). The first section, covering more than 2,000 years, sets up the premise: a talented thief, Althalus, is hired to steal the Book from the House at the End of the World. Althalus, who doesn't know a book when he sees one, gamely enters the house, is trapped there by a talking cat, and remains for 2,500 years, learning to harness the Book's powers. The talking cat, Emmy, is in fact Dweia, one of three sibling gods who rule the world. Her brothers, Dewois (the creator) and Daeva (the destroyer), are choosing up sides and preparing for battle. Dweia enlists Althalus' aid to obtain a knife covered with runes that can be read only by those companions chosen to join the fight on the side of good. Althalus, traveling with Dewois as the cat Emmy, seeks and enlists the help of several unlikely accomplices, including a young boy, a priest, a witch, a warrior, and a princess. Once the companions are gathered, the Eddings hit their stride, and the story takes off. The interactions between characters, straightforward plotting, and doses of wry humor keep the tale humming. Judging by the popularity of their other books, this is a sure purchase for fantasy collections. *Candace Smith*

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Review

"Highly recommended . . . Featuring a cast of engaging characters, some fanciful plot twists, and a light-hearted atmosphere that should appeal strongly to fans and first-time readers alike."

--*Library Journal*

"The story takes off. The interactions between characters, straightforward plotting, and doses of wry humor keep the tale humming."

--*Booklist*

"An engaging young reprobate hero . . . [A] magical realm of good-natured fun."

--*Publishers Weekly*

"A compelling, involving story."

--*Science Fiction Chronicle*

From the Paperback edition.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

James Peterson:

The e-book with title The Redemption of Althalus possesses a lot of information that you can discover it. You can get a lot of benefit after read this book. This book exist new understanding the information that exist in this book represented the condition of the world currently. That is important to you to be aware of how the improvement of the world. This kind of book will bring you throughout new era of the global growth. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read the item anywhere you want.

Louis Hudson:

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