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# Alvin Journeyman (Tales Of Alvin Maker, Book 4) (Tales Of Alvin Maker (Audio))




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## Synopsis

[Audio CD Library Edition in vinyl case] [Read by Orson Scott Card, Heather Cogswell, Gabrielle De Cuir, Kirby Heyborne, Stephen Hoye, Stefan Rudnicki, Mirron Willis] A 1996 Locus Award Winner for Best Fantasy Novel Alvin is a Maker, the first to be born in a century. Now a grown man and a journeyman smith, Alvin has returned to his family in the town of Vigor Church. He will share in their isolation, work as a blacksmith, and try to teach anyone who wishes to learn the knack of being a Maker. For Alvin has had a vision of the Crystal City he will build, and he knows that he cannot build it alone. But he has left behind in Hatrack River enemies as well as true friends. His ancient foe, the Unmaker, whose cruel whispers and deadly plots have threatened Alvin's life at every turn, has found new hands to do his work of destruction.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The legal thriller wave laps at the shores of fantasy fiction in this fourth novel (after Prentice Alvin) in Card's popular series about natural-born mage Alvin Smith, who's the seventh son of a seventh son, and the magical early America in which he lives. Also returning are Alvin's equally talented brother Calvin, who's a scoundrel, the mixed-up little boy Arthur Stuart and Alvin's ladylove, Peggy Larner. Hatred of his brother and boundless ambition prompt Calvin to run off to England, where he meets an English barrister who so embarrasses him by seeing through his lies that he moves onto France, hoping to learn the arts of manipulation under the tutelage of Napoleon Bonaparte himself.

Meanwhile, Alvin must leave his beloved town of Vigor Church because of a lovesick young girl's lies. Returning to Hatrack River, where he was born, he becomes embroiled in a trial for his life. Unfortunately, much of the novel's action stops during the trial, as Alvin languishes in his cell and Card jabs at lawyers and the justice system. The courtroom scenes prove something of a procedural joke, with truth finally served only because Alvin uses his magic to make everything come out right. This parable bogs down in its own folksiness, but fans of Card, who's won both the Hugo and Nebula awards, may love it dearly. Major ad/promo; author tour. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

YA?At last, Book IV of this terrific series. Set in an alternate history, Card's frontier America is a land where wives' tales are fact and magic- in the form of hexes, beseechings, and "knacks"- really works. Alvin has the most powerful knack of all; he is a Maker, with power over the physical world. In this installment, he ignores a prophetic warning and falls victim to the manipulations of The Unmaker, an ancient enemy that seeks anarchy. While embroiled in a legal dispute that places him in jail, Alvin draws to him the people who will assist in his quest to build the Crystal City of his vision. Alvin Journeyman is the springboard for this quest that will be played out in future volumes. Knowledge of previous titles is beneficial, so be sure to have copies available of Seventh Son, Red Prophet, and Prentice Alvin.?Robin Deffendall, Bull Run Regional Library, Manassas, VACopyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A really, really imaginative, capturing tale of how Our Country might have been in a parallel dimension. Slight change in place names, historical characters with just a bit of a twist of the history found in text books, added to folk lore and magick; Creates a new story unlike any tall tale of the old frontier you will ever have heard before. Delightful, humorous, heavy with love, the strength of family ties and small town bravery. This novel comes straight from the heart of Orson Scott Card. I can't wait to continue on to the next sequel. I truly care about Alvin, Peggy, Taleswapper, Arthur Stuart, and TenskaTawa, the Red Prophet and his people. THAT is the measure of a great story., in my humble opinion.

It's a fun series. The books are simple fun. Card has tapped into some cultural stereotypes and collective dreams that most Americans harbor, or are at least aware of, then he takes those dreams and weaves them into stories. I've heard an interview with Card where he mentions Isaac Asimov as

one of his greatest influences and he mentions that he believes that Asimov was one of the best writers in Science Fiction.I don’t agree. And I don’t think that Card’s writing style is inventive or his narration compelling for itself. He speaks as plainly as the country-folk he idolizes (and sometimes demonizes) in these books. That said I’ve read most of Asimov’s science fiction work and several of his works that aren’t science fiction and the same holds true for Card’s writing. It’s easy. It’s fun. And it touches something in my psyche that is a bit like holding onto my favorite teddy bear when I was still knee-high to a grasshopper.

Good author and good series for kids and adults alike.

Interesting to say the least

I really wanted to like this book. I did like the three previous ones in the series. This one however I quit about a third of the way thru it. This seems like one of those series that goes on and on just to be selling books. It is not Mr. Card at his finest IMHO.

Found the first Alvin Maker book in an old box and have been hooked ever since. The series is entertaining for Young Adults as well as intriguing for the adult reader. Although a story, Card presents much to think about in our own very real world.

A great easy read.

Such a unique story. It takes a bit to get into these books, but the character development is great. The setting is something of an alternate universe where historical characters are meshed into the same timeline and some have superpowers called "knacks." It isn’t a fast paced book, but a good story about the protagonist pursuing a dream.

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