

Book Review

The Malazan Book of the Fallen

When Tom Weeden (Senior Site Manager, Morgan Sindall) isn't building new schools, he likes to escape into a great book. Here he shared his current reading matter. Thank you Tom for sharing your reading for pleasure 😊.

The Malazan Book of the Fallen is an extraordinary and demanding epic fantasy series that rewards patience and attention like few others. Spanning ten novels, it weaves together countless characters and intricate plotlines that stretch across continents and centuries. I am currently on book eight, and the experience continues to be intense, emotional, and unforgettable.

The series is known for its unforgiving approach: answers often arrive several books after the questions are raised, and sometimes only in a subtle passing remark. This complexity means I often find myself looking up characters, places, or historical threads to fully grasp what has unfolded. Yet this challenge is also part of the appeal — the world feels vast, ancient, and lived-in.

What truly elevates the series is Steven Erikson's remarkable character work. Despite the sheer number of different people, characters are deeply likable and thoughtfully developed. Their struggles, loyalties, and losses carry real emotional weight, making the story feel real.

Erikson deserves full credit for crafting such a complex, ambitious fictional world. His imagination, combined with an unflinching narrative style, creates an epic unlike anything else in the genre. It's not always easy, but it is absolutely worth the journey.

Tom Weeden February 2026

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr Seuss