



Sunrise of Avalon

Anna Elliott

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She is a healer, a storyteller, and a warrior. When Britain is faced with threats both old and new, the strength of her love may be the kingdom's downfall . . . or salvation.

Their love has overcome endless obstacles. Never ones to shy away from danger, former High Queen Isolde and Trystan, a mercenary with a lonely and troubled past, have already endured a perilous journey to keep the underhanded Lord Marche from the throne of Britain. But now a new traitor lurks amongst the kings on Britain's High Council--and just when they've realized the depth of their love for each other, a new danger calls Trystan from Isolde's side to test the strength of their secret marriage vow. Only Isolde knows that she is carrying Trystan's unborn child.

As Britain's armies prepare for a final battle in which they will either turn back the tide of the invaders or see their kingdom utterly destroyed, Isolde must undertake yet another daring mission--one that will bring her even nearer to a secret that Trystan has kept for seven long years. As the clouds of war gather, Trystan and Isolde must once again fight to protect Britain's throne. Together, they hold the key that can defeat the Saxon king, Octa of Kent, and Lord Marche. But the cost of Britain's sovereignty may be their own forbidden love.

Based on the earliest written version of the Arthurian tales, Anna Elliott's *Sunrise of Avalon* breathes new life into an age-old legend and brings the story of Trystan and Isolde to an unforgettable end.

Sunrise of Avalon Details

Date : Published September 13th 2011 by Touchstone Books

ISBN : 9781416589914

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Format : Paperback 418 pages

Genre : Historical, Historical Fiction, Mythology, Arthurian, Fantasy, Romance

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From Reader Review Sunrise of Avalon for online ebook

Meagan says

There was something in this book that was severely lacking for me which caused me not to enjoy the book as much as I had the other two. The constant back and forth of Tristan and Isolde about let's be together let's not, got really irritating and that was basically half of the book. So having to read that page after page after page got a little tiresome and the build up to the fight was very anti-climactic. The whole book shows Isolde's build in her seeing powers and that's how you view a lot of things, which to me, caused a lot of confusion. Like the whole thing with Marche and Tristian being sent to Arthur's tent the night before Camlann. While I'm satisfied with the happy ending that they finally got to have, this really should've focused less on the will they/won't they and had more about the happy ending rather than it being Morgana seeing it as she was dying.

Tanzanite says

The final book in Elliott's Trystan and Isolde trilogy. Beautifully written and often haunting and sad as the pair try to save Britain from her enemies and find a way to be together despite the many obstacles in their way. The pair's continued romantic tension and failure to communicate effectively gets a little tiring and the plot again drags a bit in the middle, but there is a nice twist to the well known tale.

Sue says

I liked the first 2 books of this series, not a lot, but enough to want to keep going. But this last book I totally loved. It wasn't perfect; there were way too many "I love you but how can we be together?!" scenes and it became almost impossible to keep track of who had and who had not double crossed someone. But, in the end, the fast pace, the enduring love story, and the fantastic final battle scene made this something great. And to those who complain about how it's "too melodramatic" and "Trystan took too many stupid, heroic risks" I'd remind you that this is Arthurian lore. That's what's supposed to happen.

Carina says

FINALLY it's over! No more of this crappy series!

This final book made me want to tear my hair out several times. If the previous books had too many boring and unnecessary scenes, then this one had way too much MELODRAMATIC.

I wanted to slap the main couple... repeatedly. Trystan was dead set on being a "Noble Idiot" and Isolde let him brood and mope all he wanted. Then we had a hundred scenes of "push and pull" between these two almost on the level of a Twilight book.

In short:

Trystan - "I can't be with you! I don't deserve you! I'm worthless scum and you're perfection!"

Isolde - "But I love you! You're not worthless! All I want is you!"

Trystan - "Noooo! I will disappear from your sight! You deserve a better man!"

~repeat a million times~

Trystan - "I tried but I can't stay away from you! But I'll only bring you down with me! How can you love me?!"

Just thinking about it gives me a headache. I hate this kind of romantic marry-go-round. And the ending was predictable.

Jo Bullen says

Crikey, this took me a long while to read. I read the first two books in this trilogy about three or four years ago, and then was gutted when this was only released on e-book as I have no way of reading such an item - I'm not a convert to the e-book revolution more from laziness than anything else. And then it was published and my boyfriend proved he listens and bought it for my birthday. And I read it.

Firstly, it's a decent enough end to the trilogy. Indeed, if I'd read the first two books more recently and therefore had greater continuity and memory of what happened in them, I might have liked this book more. Trystan remains the brooding Byronic hero; Isolde remains the largely self-sufficient woman (apart from when she swoons when the scene requires it). It was okay, and NOT smut despite what my boyfriend believes!

The standard of printing (and perhaps writing) is a little troubling here - for example, in the review printed on the front cover, 'Sunrise' (as in - the title of the book!) is spelt 'Surnrise'. It really needed a copy-editor because quite a few typos, etc. appeared in the text. And it DRAGGED in places, although maybe this was because I found it increasingly difficult to remember who Marche, Madoc and Mordred all were (Trystan's father/Isolde's 2nd slightly-rapey husband; new High King of English/would like to be Isolde's 3rd husband; Trystan's father's ex-master who he betrayed/Isolde's father - it got quite complicated), perhaps because of the huge gap between reading Book 1 and this book. I sometimes even got confused with Morgana (Isolde's grandmother/Mordred's mother/Arthur's sister and some-time lover). Lots of M names.

I would say it's worth a read if you read the previous 2 and enjoyed them. If you were lukewarm on them, I don't think this would rescue the series for you; for me, it was the Mockingjay to the Hunger Games and Catching Fire.

Britni says

Impossible love. Fighting and fantasy. A well-known time period but a story that most of us don't know.

The Twilight of Avalon Trilogy is made up of three books - Twilight of Avalon, Dark Moon of Avalon, and Sunrise of Avalon - and is about a story of impossible love between Trystan and Isolde in the time following King Arthur's death. Their story begins when the two of them are childhood best friends and ends, well I won't tell you how their story ends.

Set in a medieval time of turmoil after the death of the High Queen, the King's Council must come together first to decide upon a new High King and then, with the help of Isolde, to fight against the enemy Saxons to save their lands from destruction. The journey for both the armies and impossible lovers starts in book one and culminates on the last page of book three, and while the historical fighting story was fascinating, I really kept reading the books to see how and if Trystan and Isolde would meet again.

I'm not real familiar with the story of Trystan and Isolde so I couldn't tell you if these books stayed true to that story. If it didn't, I really don't care because I loved their story. At times I was frustrated with Trystan for being so hard on himself, but I loved how they both did what they had to for themselves, their country, and each other. There were various times in the book when I honestly didn't know what was going to happen so I had to read the next page to find out. And those are the kind of books that I enjoy the most.

I highly enjoyed these books and would highly recommend them to anyone who likes a good medieval tale full of romance, fighting, and suspense. 4 stars.

Tamra says

Although this was a satisfying and happy ending to a trilogy that I have enjoyed so much, I didn't quite like this book as much as the first two. The first half especially dragged for me and there were several times I was ready to call it quits if I hadn't had a great curiosuty to see how everything ended. The second half was much better as the excitement finally began to get rolling. The characters were wonderful and memorable - for good or bad - and I really liked the historical aspects interwoven throughout the books. All in all, a wonderful re-telling of the Trystan and Isolde story.

Liz says

This concluding book to the Twilight of Avalon series was perfect. If you've read the first two you will not be disappointed with this last one.

Read my full review of this series at: <http://mamashomebookin.com/twilight-o...>

K says

The final book in Elliot's Twilight of Avalon series finishes the story of Trystan and Isolde. Set in 6th century Britain, and intertwining the Arthurian legends w/ the Trystan and Isolde legends, Elliot creates a interesting story w/ her own take on these two well known legends. Overall, I enjoyed this book, and seeing how things would end. I really liked the author's twist on the ending, and her take on the legends. I love the strength of Isolde's character, although found Trystan's character frustrating at times. Besides the above, I liked seeing the story from both the H and H points of view. I would recommend this series to readers who enjoy the Arthurian or Trystan and Isolde legends.

Laura says

This is a great conclusion to Anna Elliott's Trystan and Isolde trilogy. The balance between the excitement and the love story is perfect, and the actual writing maintains the quality of the first two books. I wish there was more to the story simply because I enjoyed reading it so much, though this ending is not one of those that makes the reader feel short-changed. I look forward to more from Anna Elliott in the future. **THE TWILIGHT OF AVALON** is certainly an awesome beginning!

Sarah says

"Whether she was here because she'd known, somehow, that he would be coming, or whether this was some mission of the king's council. It didn't matter. She'd have walked straight into any den of wolves, without flinching, without hesitation, if that was what had to be done." - Sunrise of Avalon

Sunrise of Avalon is the third novel in Anna Elliott's Trystan and Isolde trilogy.

The novel begins where Dark Moon of Avalon left us: Britain is still in need of powerful allies to fight back against the threat of the traitor King Marche and his alliance with the Saxon king, Octa of Kent. Trystan has left Isolde in the relative safety of the abbey of Saint Eucherius whilst he attempts to rescue his friend Fidach, who is being held prisoner by the nasty Octa of Kent.

However, a new, more dangerous threat has risen from within the British alliance that must first be quelled in order for them to stand a chance against the combined armies of Marche and Octa. Trystan continues to be plagued by his past and his fear that he will never be good enough for the lovely Isolde, whilst Isolde holds a secret that could put them in even greater danger than what they already are. Miles apart yet seemingly always together, Trystan and Isolde once again risk their lives and their happiness for the greater good: The freedom of Britain and its people.

The legend of Trystan and Isolde has always been a story of love unfulfilled, and Sunrise of Avalon is, at the heart of it, a true love story. Anna Elliott has brilliantly fused the history of Britain with Arthurian legend and created, in my opinion, one of the greatest love stories ever told: At the root of it all - of everything Trystan and Isolde do and are forced to suffer - is an unrelenting desire to be together.

As with all of Elliott's work, Sunrise of Avalon is a beautifully written, well-researched novel that breathes new life into the Arthurian legend of Trystan and Isolde. The ending is so wonderfully poetic it brought tears to my eyes, and makes this novel my favourite of the three.

I highly recommend this trilogy to anyone who enjoys a perfectly constructed story, but especially to those who like historical fiction, fantasy and romance.

(Thanks to the publisher, Simon & Schuster, for allowing me to read and review this novel prior to publication date).

Laura says

Her raven locks caught on the wind.
She calls the magic from her heart
It runs through her fingers,
Like sand, like time.

- Sunrise of Avalon

Sunrise of Avalon picks straight back up from where Dark Moon of Avalon ended; Briton on the verge of an inevitable war with the Saxons and Isolde pregnant with Trystan's child. Isolde spends her days tending to the sick & wounded, glimpsing what may or will be in the waters through use of The Sight, leaving herself in a state of constant anxiety fearing for her beloved's life. Trystan, recently having set out on another quest in order to rescue his friend Fidach from the bloody paws of Octa the Bloody.

Trystan, has always held himself responsible for any ill or death that befalls any of his men and insists to his closest comrades that he is not worthy of Isolde's love, little does he know that Isolde carries his child and that they are ultimately, each others perfect half. After all they have been through and their personal sacrifices for the greater glory of Briton and her people; the new dawn shines down upon them, banishing the darkness leaving Trystan & Isolde united.

The Legend of Isolde & Trystan is legendary and I'm happy that Anna chose to steer away from the traditional tragic ending to that of the earlier Welsh version, a much happier ending where the lovers remain united. An ending which I had been secretly hoping for all along as I had become quite emotionally attached to the characters and believed they deserved the ending Anna bestowed upon them (I would have settled for nothing less).

Anna is one of those amazing author's who invoke a sense of place within her novels, you feel as though you're able to draw back the veil, standing like a wraith watching the story unfold before your eyes, you smell the herbs, the sweat & anxiety of battle, hear the cries of the injured and feel the bond of eternal love between Trystan and Isolde. This had to be my favourite of the three novels, not because it was written any better than the previous two but because it tied the story up with a neat bow; it quenched my thirst for Arthurian legend but at the same time, satisfied my longing for a happily ever after.

The conclusion to a wonderful love story made me laugh and cry and I have no doubt that it will remain forever one of my all time favourite Arthurian series and books read to date. I couldn't possibly recommend it more, if you love Arthurian Legend, Fantasy and a well researched & written novel, then go no further, for you will not be at all disappointed!

Review copy gifted by the author, Thank you Anna, you know how much it meant to me x

Amy Lignor says

When an author saves the best for last, her fans are not only exceedingly happy, but they also experience

some deep-seeded disappointment that this is the very last book about what has become their favorite story. This is what Anna Elliott has accomplished. Being the final book of the Twilight of Avalon trilogy, Sunrise offers a wealth of adventure, action, deception, and one of the most beautiful romances in history - the love of Trystan and Isolde.

Isolde is the daughter of Morgan (King Arthur's sister). Morgan is a dying sorceress at the beginning of our novel, tending to Isolde who is the daughter of Arthur's wife - who betrayed him and slept with his son, Modred, to become his Queen. But this novel brings readers directly to the side of former High Queen Isolde, as she worries day and night about her beloved hero (although most refer to him as a mercenary). Trystan has already gone through the fiercest fires by having to deal with Lord Marche (his father) at every turn, to keep him off Britain's throne. And now Marche is allied to the Saxon King.

There is far more fear on the horizon as Britain prepares their army for the final battle. With this, they will either lose their kingdom, or they will finally be able to declare victory against the Saxon King and the hideous Lord Marche. But without Trystan and Isolde, and the power they wield, Britain has absolutely no hope to keep their lands, people and kingdom out of the traitors' hands.

Add to this, however, the most important part for all readers - the true love that Trystan and Isolde have for each other. Long before there was a 'Bella & Edward' that everyone talked about, these two stunning characters had a love that they had to battle for each and every day. And both hold their secrets close to their hearts. In the end, they may just have to make a final decision that they do NOT want to make - give up the kingdom...or give up each other?

History has been told in many ways, and the story of Trystan and Isolde is not a new one. But what this author has managed to do is insert many historical and legendary facts by wrapping them up in a love story that will continue to inspire for millions of generations to come. Ms. Elliott's 'pen' is her sword, and she is one of the top writers of historical fiction. Begin with Twilight of Avalon, thrive on Dark Moon of Avalon, and then watch the Sunrise through Anna Elliott's amazing storytelling. You will not be disappointed. The only thing you will ask is what beauty Anna Elliott will bring to the world next...and, more importantly, when?!

Marci says

As with the first two and a half installments, this was a wonderful telling of a tragic love story. Beautifully written, this book kept me reading non stop until the end. I was so caught up in the story I could not put it down. A very different and surprising retelling of the Trystan/Isolde story, very romantic and heart wrenching. These are the kind of books that leave you thinking about them way after they are finished (those are my favorite kind!). This series has been a great journey! I can not wait to see where Anna Elliott will take me next!

Terry (Ter05 TwiMoms/ MundieMoms) says

This beautiful five star read is the final chapter of a trilogy starting with Twilight of Avalon, Dark Moon of Avalon, and ending with Sunrise of Avalon. To say the author saved the best for last is an understatement. I

love the era of Arthur (this takes place after Arthur's death) and love this bittersweet tragic love story/legend. In these books the author has added many twists that differ from others, but knowing it is all legend and no one knows what or if it happened, it worked for me. She definitely brought the times of Britain's post Arthur war with the Saxons to life.

But more than that, in this book Trystan and Isolde really came alive for me. Not only alive, but I loved them both and anguished throughout the book because of course I know this is indeed a TRAGIC impossible love. The story delves deeply into who Trystan is and why. In this rendition of the legend he is the son of king Marche who treated him and his mother viciously. He is outlawed in the first book and remains a hunted man deeply involved trying to save his country by at times playing a double agent. He is brilliant and shot with luck too in the danger he throws himself into. At times when he is about to go down his five friends have his back - at other times the woman he loves, Isolde, finds him with her mind and saves him.

In the end of the second book Isolde and Trystan are married but only have a short time together. It is done secretly and then Trystan is gone on another mission, but even as he leaves, Isolde knows she is carrying his child. She also knows he does not intend to return. She does not tell him about the baby for reasons you need to read the book to understand. As they both put themselves in one dangerous situation after the other, this is a tense read but the sense of their incredible love is so well done by this author. I spent the entire last half of the book hating that I know the way this story ends and wanting it not to be. I stopped reading at midnight last night and went to bed. I couldn't stop thinking about the book so got up and finished it at 2:30 this morning. Still thinking about it. One of those series that got better and better with each book, and the final one was truly beautiful.
