



Elfsong

Elaine Cunningham

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The bards of Waterdeep remember the past. Or do they? Even as they sing their ballads, a mysterious spell is changing their memories. Danilo Thann, Harper and would-be bard, sets out to uncover the mystery. In this quest, his closest companion is his deadliest enemy, the rogue elf Elaith Craulnober. At stake is not merely the future of Faerun but also its past.

Elfsong Details

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Author : Elaine Cunningham

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From Reader Review Elfsong for online ebook

Hacedores says

Bueno, teniendo en cuenta que del libro anterior dije que el personajes que más me gustaban eran Arilyn y Elaith, lo cierto es que cuando me encontré con que en este libro todo el protagonismo recaía en la figura de Danilo... pues fue una ligera decepción, por mucho que en la sinopsis me prometiera la aparición de Elaith. Me temía que iba a ser una aparición fugaz, al fin y al cabo, la verdadera unión entre Elaith y Danilo era Arilyn... así que sin ella no veía cómo iban a poder interesarse el uno por el otro. Sigue leyendo...

Jeff says

Some excitement and humor, and some nice ideas about the importance of art in a political realm, but none of the characters other than Danilo are that multi-dimensional. I'm glad I read it for the Waterdeep connections but this kind of story needs more teeth to be truly engrossing.

Victor says

After reading "Elfshadow" I was intrigued to see what else would happend to Arylin and Danilo, and was a little dissapointed that Arylin only appears at the beginning of the book and that her role is inconsequential to the overall story.

Yet "Elfsong" is a powerful, witty and smart tale that made me savor every page from beginning to end. Elfsong is not a stand alone adventure about Danilo Thann; rather, it sets him on the spotlight of a plot that endangers the past, present and future of Faerun. A strange spell is making bards forget the great heroic deeds of the past while the Lords of Waterdeep are being mysteriously attacked. To make matters worse, Danilo is forcet to become allies with "The Serpent" Craulnobber in recovering an artifact that ca save the city of Waterdeep, despite Elaith's hidden agenda.

The book is filled with songs, prose and riddles as Danilo and his company attempt to save Waterdeep form a great catastrophe launched by a disgruntled sorceress.

I found that I enjoyed Danilo even more in this book. I found it a relaxing read compared to Elfshadow and I found the mystery even more appealing, although the conclusion was much more simpler than the other book, which I found a little let down. Overall, it was a great read.

Mairen says

This book was a lot better than the first one in this series. The storyline was much more interesting, and the characters were very capturing! I found myself liking even Elaith, even though he is just waiting for the right moment to kill off poor Danilo. The music in this book was amazing as well. I loved how it was combined

with spell casting for an even greater effect. Songs and Swords is a perfect series name for this book in particular.

Joe says

no comment

Rhonda says

A little slow getting into but once I got into it, I just devoured the book. This book took approximately 5 days to read. Time well spent.

Benjamin Thomas says

A sequel to Elfshadow, this 8th book in the Harpers series follows Danilo Thann, nephew of archmage Khelben Arunsun, in his attempt to solve the mystery of a mysterious spell that has affected all of the bards of Waterdeep. Seems the bard's tales and memories have been re-written, dangerously so, and a green dragon who loves riddles is at the bottom of it all. Joined by companions old and new, Danilo is drawn into the mystery only to discover there is far more to this than meets the eye.

I enjoyed this entry in the Harper's series, largely due to the author, I'm sure. Elaine Cunningham writes with just the proper mix of character and plot for these sorts of D&D adventures and doesn't take these stories too seriously. My tastes in fantasy reading have grown considerably since my youth when I first discovered Drizzt Do'Urden and the vast open world of the Forgotten Realms. But it's still fun, now and again, to return to the world of Faerun and just enjoy a good fantasy adventure with characters you've encountered before.

Donna says

Someone has altered the bardic songs and the memory of all but a few bards. Danilo Thann sets out to find the culprit and to break the spell before all of history and the future of his world is altered.

This is a great sword and sorcery novel. It has lots of action and suspense set in a world you'll wish was yours.

Stuart Schneider says

Books like these remind me why I follow authors more so that just what the content of the books seem from a quick exterior examination. Well written, plot is intriguing and complex enough to keep my attention riveted. I loved it that there were riddles, particularly those craftily involving a dragon (and the intellectually satisfying use of a dragon and their D &D abilities into a reasonable plot line) and enough plausible bad guys

to keep the story moving at an appropriate pace. I can only recall a few books in FR that go into detail concerning the mystery behind the “Lords of Waterdeep” and this definitely goes into several details about them. I even complained about this after reading the prior book in the series and I hope the information tread continues as this series goes on. At least I know there are at least 15 of them (now 16 unless one stepped down behind the story).

Darren says

3.5 out of 5 stars

I enjoyed how Elaine picked up the story from Elfshadow and continued the threads in this book. And I do love a sequel. I really do. This one just didn't strike me as anything that moved the needle into excellent territory. I will commend her on the grasp of the lore, the battles (harpies... yeah!), and the way in which she made spell casting feel like we were actually battling in 2nd edition D&D :)

I'm not sure if I'll continue onto Silver Shadows... if I do, I don't think I'll be using Audible to listen to it - Eric Michael Summerer's narration did nothing for my enjoyment of the tale.

Iain says

A fun and witty outing in the pop-fantasy world of Faerun. Elfshadow has just the right amount of substance, and a very interesting premise in the idea of magical music. The character Danilo matures nicely, as does Cunningham's skill as a writer. I'll continue to read her work, and hope to see Danilo again.

Jdetrick says

I so enjoyed these books when I was younger, but as I've gotten older I just don't find them as compelling.

Brian Turner says

Elaine Cunningham is one of the better D&D novelists out there.

This one follows Danilo Thann from Elfshadow (book 1) as he has to try and find out why the old songs of the bards are being subtly changed.

Unlikely alliances are formed as he tries to get to the bottom of things.

Interesting mix of characters, fair amount of action as well as intrigue and picking at clues.

Jesse says

Okay,

So I liked this book, but not as much as I usually like this author. This is one of her first books, so maybe that could be part of the reason.

The things that I liked were the intrigue in the city of Waterdeep and a bit of insight into the politics of the Lords. I liked getting to know the character of Elaith and the relationship between him and Danilo.

I didn't like that Arilyn was not in this book (except in the very beginning). I didn't like that the antagonist wasn't really evil, but disgruntled and you never really knew where she stood. The whole book seemed a bit anti-climactic, with the antagonist disappearing without any real follow up. The biggest problem I found was with the sub plot, with the Knights of the Shield, Waterdeep's rivals in Tethyr. I felt like this would have been a better adversary, at least I was more interested in it than a disgruntled old bard.

Cunningham is still a great realm's writer and I'm looking forward to the next instalment...maybe there will be more about Tethyr in that one.

Cheers-

Veronica says

I found a receipt in the back cover, so I have apparently owned this book since 2007 but never read it! I enjoyed all the cheesy high fantasy archetypes rolling around together, although I definitely missed the Arilyn/Danilo interaction from Elfshadow. (I have apparently retained a terrible soft spot for Elaith even though he's kind of... awful... so I especially liked seeing more of him. And Morgalla and Wyn were so cute! More dwarf/elf romance always.) On to Silver Shadows!
