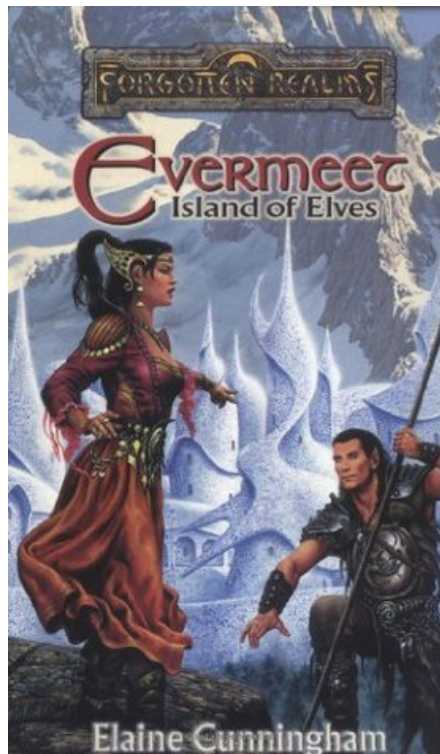




Evermeet: Island of the Elves

Elaine Cunningham

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Evermeet: Island of the Elves Elaine Cunningham

Serene, beautiful, inviolate.

Rich in magic and treasure, to those who hear of its legends it is the ultimate paradise. To the beleaguered elves of Toril it is the ultimate refuge. But to many it is the ultimate prize.

At the heart of its story is Amlaruil, Queen of All Elves. When Evermeet comes under massive, devastating attack, her sacrifice holds the last hope of saving the elven homeland.

Evermeet: Island of the Elves Details

Date : Published March 1999 by TSR (first published April 1998)

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Author : Elaine Cunningham

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Genre : Fantasy, Dungeons and Dragons, Forgotten Realms, Fiction, Science Fiction Fantasy, Role Playing Games, High Fantasy, Anthologies, Collections, Adventure, Short Stories, Adult

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From Reader Review Evermeet: Island of the Elves for online ebook

Steve says

I'll start this off by just saying it right off the bat: This novel gets a perfect score, five Beholders out of five Beholders. In my estimation, when a novel is written, Evermeet: Island of the Elves is the book that it is compared to. And, it is hard to compare to this book, really.

I'll start off with the plotline. The book is great, in that it weaves in and out of different plots, which is the plot of the book itself! Confusing for someone who hasn't read it, maybe, but for those of you who have, I'm sure you understand. And, I'm betting that that's most of you, as Evermeet: Island of the Elves really is "required reading". The book's strength is that it spans so much time, that it spans and illuminates so much history, all while having a fairly strong "metastory" (Danillo's gift to Arilyn), and a fairly strong contemporary story (the invasion of Evermeet by Kymil Nimesin).

The characters are all mostly excellent. In theory, there should have been a lot of misses here. I mean, being as that the book jumps around centuries and millennia at a time, one would think that there wouldn't be a lot of character development. Well, surprisingly, there is. But, at the same time, there wasn't. It's paradoxical, and yet, Elaine makes it work. Characters like Ka'Narlist, or Vhoori Durothil get very little actual "air time", but there is just something about these characters- and a bunch of others- in Evermeet: Island of the Elves, that just blows me away. Indeed, Ka'Narlist and Vhoori Durothil both rank in my top five favorite Forgotten Realms characters. Both are only featured in this novel (Ka'Narlist does get another short story), and yet, there is something about them that transcends the short amount of time they have to be introduced and grow.

If there is one criticism I have of the book, it is that there aren't definite dates. For example, there still- believe it or not- is a date in which we have by canon that Amlauril and Zaor were married. The scene is depicted in the novel, but we don't have any dates to link with it. But, even this one criticism, I do not attribute to Elaine.

Kaitlin says

A great addition to the forgotten realms books but it's written in my least favorite format; jumping timeline mixed with jumping POV's.

Kaylah says

Youtube Review of Evermeet: Island of Elves by Elaine Cunningham
<http://youtu.be/SXJ4Kd-i6XE>

Sunknight says

Well done and I very much enjoyed the added depth to a world I love playing in. My only complaint was the time jumping which did not seem necessary nor did it add to the story. With the amount of characters one is

expected to keep track of, the time jumping only added to the confusion.

Mark says

One thing about my taste in books that hasn't changed from my young and dumb days is that I love books like this, which tell the history of a place over a long period of time. It doesn't have to focus long on any one time period. Just show little vignettes as time goes by and this is cool.

Evermeet is this sort of book for the elves of the Forgotten Realms setting, and it is cool, even when there are like, space elves that crash down and join the commune or whatever. That part was a little weird. But Evermeet isn't there to think deeply about it - just enjoy what comes along. It's not bad at all.

JJ says

Evermeet: Island of Elves is an ambitious novel and an entertaining one. In it, Elaine Cunningham relates stories that take place during thousands of years of Elvish history. The novel contains much that is entertaining, exciting, engaging, and intriguing. Readers are witness to everything from the early strivings of the Elvish gods to the millennia-later decline of the realm of Evermeet. There are many fabulous stories in this book; there are fierce and bloody battles with many fell monsters, there are delicate scenes of moonlit beauty with unicorns and palaces, there is much magic, and there is much more as well. *Evermeet* is an ambitious book and it is executed well. It is mostly entertaining through its almost 500-page length. This reader only felt a bit bogged down during some of the tales of Elvish politics and court intrigue. Elvish names, for the most part, are long and complicated and it was not always easy to sort out who was allied with whom, and it was not always easy to keep track of family lineages. Otherwise, this long novel contains a wide range of stories, presented as a history being compiled by a scholar, that were thrilling, magical, and fun. Even though *Evermeet* is a Dungeons and Dragons novel that takes place in the Forgotten Realms setting, it also stands outside of this gaming connection as a thrilling and well-crafted novel of high fantasy.

Kagan Oztarakci says

"What mattered was not only the honorable choices that a person made, but the temptations they overcame to come to that place of decision."

"I am being pompous and insufferable again. That may be true, but when one is right, one need not apologize prevaricate."

"Remember that your path is your own to follow. Just because you can do a thing, it does not follow that you must."

"If it were easy, it wouldn't be worth doing."

Tony says

I wish the present day story was a book on its own, because it seemed sort of interesting. It came across as rushed and not fleshed out.

Jesse says

This is the beginning of my great quest to read all of the Forgotten Realms stories in chronologically order. These posts will contain spoiler and not be posted in a timely manner. I plan on reading books in-between, so who knows how long this will take. I will be using this websites (http://www.o-love.net/realms/fr_time_...) time line and I will be skipping all 4th edition books (or at least most of them), assuming I can figure out which one are 4th edition, because the Spellplauge was garbage.

c. -30000 DR

Evermeet Island of Elves

This novel takes places during multiple times peorids, for my purposes I only read the chapters that relate to the Seldarine during the Dawn Age. Most of this stories relates how Araushnee, goddess of arts and destiny, was mad about everyone loving Corellon. She sicked Gruumsh, Malar, Auril, Ghaunadaur and a bunch of other gods on the rest of the Seldarine and tried to get Eilistraee to kill Corellon with an arrow but was eventually discovered by Angharradh, a triad god/dess?. She was then banished to the Abyss (layer 66 I believe) and became Lolth.

Overall, a good telling of this myth, told in a very mythological style, assuming that's a thing. Despite the embedded fantasy racism, it does make some sense that, in the early day, when the gods and their people were much closer, those who would become Drow would be heavily influenced by their creator, and the modern-day Drow suffer under the same curse, fair or not. So, good job Corellon? Of course, this could also easily be mythologized rhetoric attempting to explain why, later during the Crownwars, those Drow are evil and you shouldn't feel bad about killing them.

Next up, a few stores for the book *Realms of the Elves*

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/2...>

Siraj Shaikh says

It might not be too profound, but I got hooked immediately. And apparently I'm not the only one. All in all, this was one of the most entertaining books that I've read.

Kevin says

There was so much in this book. It was almost too much. And, while I liked it, I imagine I will be back to read it again.

I liked the elven backstory quite a bit. Definitely #TeamSilver. ;-)

Jim Sager says

Brilliant writing by Elaine

The difficulty and in depth jumping around of timelines truly pulled me in. Not for a novice reader but still a book that EVERY Forgotten Realms fan should read!!

Jesse says

This was a great bit of Forgotten Realms lore. Cunningham is, as far as cheap fantasy goes, one of the best authors in the Realms.

This book spans thousands of years and tells the story of the elves, from their myths about gods, to the legends about when they arrived on the planet of Aber-Toril, all the way to the most current history about the elven isle of Evermeet.

Some of the long names and history jumping between chapters became a little confusing, but over all, I really enjoyed it as a great piece of Forgotten Realms history.

Christopher says

Really well written overview of some Elvish history set in the D & D universe. The book covers thousand of years of history charting events across a wide amount of time and space. A clever edition is the Spellsinger elements reminding the reader of the overall D & D universe as well as other references to other worlds in this shared universe. The characters are well written and rounded and you are left with the feeling that you hope that others would revisit them at later dates. The story often leaps thousands of years on from each character sequence making you want to know what happened to those characters. All in all the author does an excellent job of presenting well rounded characters even when they only appear briefly.

Highly recommended

Charles Gory says

I am only ten pages into it so so far so good

Michelle Joy says

Really enjoyed this book. The jumping around confused me a little (especially since I kept being tired when I read) but really enjoyed it and loved getting all that backstory!!

Piyush says

Elvish history of surface elves, very easy to read and not intensive. Long time span and scope starting with an event in elven pantheon, arrival of elves in Toril, to migration of elves on Evermeet. Political struggle between many races of elves especially between gold elves and moon elves. In all a short pleasant read.

David says

One of my two favorite books. I was in awe the first time I read it. I admit I am a huge fan of elves so I was drawn to the book, but it is so much more than that. The characters, the history, the way it jumps from present to past and weaves everything together. I loved it so much I read it once a year for 7 years.

The arrival of the elves on Toril, the rise and wars of the elven kingdoms, Vhoori and his power and inventiveness. The Starjammer ships that lead to the creation of the fleet. The history of the Moonblades, the High Mages, Elaith (best good/bad elf character ever) Danilo, the Chosen, I mean there is so much that is good about this book it is impossible to say it all.

Wonderful book, written in the same manner as Cormyr a Novel (which I also really enjoyed). Elves are so often written stereotypically, but Elaine Cunningham (in all her novels) always makes them a bit different, brings them to life, and makes me form attachments.

This was among the first Realms novels I read and I have been attached ever since. I was very disappointed to hear that Evermeet is no more. So much love, storytelling, character creation, personalities and beauty gone. As long as I have this book and my love for it, Evermeet will remain a living breathing place, a refuge for the elves.

B says

Sort of the "Silmarillion" of the "Forgotten Realms" books--easier to read; not as intensive.

Jade says

I'm not sure if three or four stars would reflect my view more soundly. The manner in which time is handled in the book was a touch difficult for me. I enjoyed the narrative well enough to make up for that, though.
