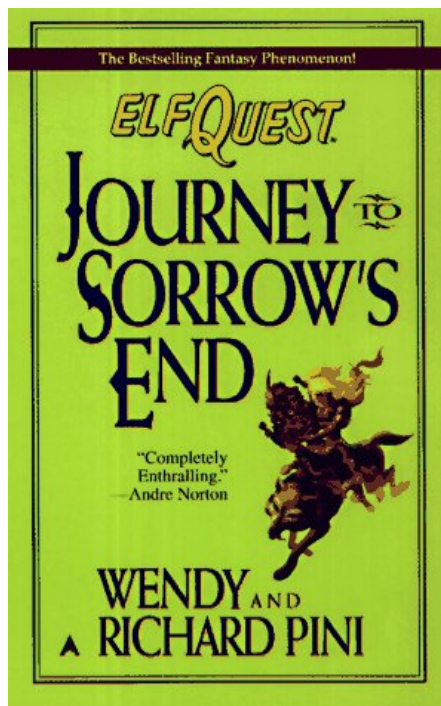




Elfquest: Journey to Sorrows End

Wendy Pini , Richard Pini , Delfin Barral

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The Holt was a forest haven for persecuted elves, until it was invaded and destroyed. Now a small but gallant band of Wolfriders must search the world for a place not contaminated by humans--a place where legends say other elves live in peace and safety. If it's not already too late. This is the first full-length novel based on the smash-hit graphic Elfquest bestsellers.

Elfquest: Journey to Sorrows End Details

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Author : Wendy Pini , Richard Pini , Delfin Barral

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From Reader Review Elfquest: Journey to Sorrows End for online ebook

Bill says

As a comic book fan, I've always appreciated and approved of the Pini's success of independent comics. And, OMG, it was so nice to have some girls in our fandom. I haven't liked the stories too much, tho, and I met Richard Pini once or twice when I was touring conventions (I was writing comic books at the time), and I didn't like him much (didn't dislike him much either, but I did begin to understand why there were a few negative rumors about him at the time).

These written chapters, told at a time when the Wolfrider mythos was as rich and as developed as a Sunday Sauce simmering for hours, far exceeded my expectations.

I would happily return to this well for more.

Corey says

I honestly thought the book was rather slow in the beginning, however I greatly enjoyed the scenes between Cutter and Leetha.

Elentarri says

I read this book as a kid. Good story and lovely pictures.

Lucy Skeldon says

This novel version is good well-conceived fantasy, and gives a little more textual information, but the graphic novel is the Real Thing.

Lorien says

When I learned that this book existed I knew I wanted to have it. When I learned of a nicely priced hardcover that's signed? HAD TO GET. Now it's mine, all mine!

AHM

As someone who's read the first volume of ElfQuest a million times, and knows it so well that I didn't read the words as much as saw the comic in my head, this was surprising good. There are LOTS of little scenes

that are in between panels and pages, things that won't work for a graphic novel or comic, but are needed for a novel to work. These scenes were full of hidden gems, flashbacks to things revealed much later, as well as things that just aren't there, but don't take away from the original material. After all, this is written by Richard and Wendy Pini, who did the original series. This isn't some random person taking the story and adding whatever they feel like. This is WARP doing every little detail of the story. Some changes are made, and one of my favorite scenes right at the end was cut, probably due to space limit and flowing issues. But on the whole it's the same story, just more of it.

This has a very large prologue, covering more of what happened on the first few pages of the comic about the High One's first landing on World of Two Moons (aka labeled Abode later), and then follows Cutter and his tribe from the moment they rescue Redlance, to them losing everything to fire and humans, to their insane journey to Sorrow's End, and what Cutter found there.

I think the best thing this novel did for me was it showed just how close to death the Wolfriders really were when they found Sorrow's End. They weren't just hungry, thirsty, and sunburned. They were dying. You feel the pain, how much they each went through, and how terrified they all were. You can understand the sore throats, and bodies so pushed past their limits that getting up each night to keep trekking on, because if they didn't get up, they weren't going to live. They did the exact wrong thing to do with limited water - rationing it until everyone is dehydrated for a much longer period of time. You should gorge yourself on water, then deal with dehydration when it comes because they felt it the first half day in the blocked exit of the Tunnel of Light, and weren't okay until the feast their first night in Sorrow's End.

While the journey is just a blip in the graphic novel, this is the heart of the story, taking up so much, and pretty much it's the catalyst of everything that comes after. They lose two wolves, and everyone is close to death. They all don't eat and barely drink the entire 3 day journey. Small sentences in the GN can't cover just what they endure during these days, and how terrified and exhausted everyone is. And even until the end the Wolfriders don't really recover from the sunburns, which while not stated, were on the level of white blisters (trust me those hurt for weeks).

While the romance between Cutter and Leetah is over half of the GN it's the second half and proves just how bad it really is for both of them. We feel how dangerous denying Recognition is, which drives both characters past their limits, even more so than the trek did for Cutter.

One thing I really dislike is more than once they say how Recognition is a reason for Cutter to basically rape Leetah. It's mentioned in passing the GN which always upset me, but the novel states it several times. I don't think it should have been mentioned as an option at all, like if the other hesitates it's okay to force them. I'm just glad that for Cutter and Leetah it wasn't okay, and it isn't even close to happening.

For that reason, while it's a great story, well told, and covers more than the comic could, this is just as 4.5 out of 5 stars. That's a big deal and it's not treated like it would be.

David Leemon says

It was good, for what reads like a game world book. I like the characters, whom I had before only known from a set of D&D miniatures made of these. I still have the miniatures, and a couple have even been painted.

Tracy says

One of the worst fantasy books I've ever read, and that includes the execrable *Urshurak* by the Brothers Hildebrandt. Just because you're a comic writer doesn't mean you can craft a novel.

Jason says

I loved the comic and loved this book.

Melissa says

While I have read the comics I have failed to get my hands on the novels. So, when the opportunity arose, for a mere \$3, I grabbed one of the novels up. When I went and looked at Goodreads there was an unfortunate lack of reviews with which to judge the book. So, I decided to read it and write my own review.

Hopes before reading: expansion of what I already know about the universe, internal dialogue of characters, further character development, and maybe I'll see something I missed before.

Review:

As a fan I struggled to pull any images out of my mind other than the ones I had already seen in the comics. Whether that is a flaw in the writing or just that I have become so sure of what everything should look like is up in the air. However, I did not feel that the descriptions matched with the images that I had seen in the comics, but perhaps that is just me.....

I feel some of the characters are less compelling in the novel than in the comic: Moonshade for example lost some of her appeal in the novel. She seems less strong. Meanwhile, other characters are MORE compelling. Rainsong is a character that in the comics I paid little mind to. But she gets an opportunity to shine more in the novel.

A small nitpick about the artwork. It did not always line up with what is going on in the story. For example, the image of the healing comes 5 pages before the actual healing.

There were a few gems of information that you would not glean from the comics alone which made this book, for me, worth the read. I did enjoy that I got to see the world from several different perspectives. I feel the characters who didn't get a lot of attention in the comics were given more attention in the novel. Although some fan favorites did not get as much time centerstage.

Overall, I think if you are not a fan of the comics this book will not appeal. The writing isn't super strong, but it isn't awful. The description of the elves are weak in my opinion, but if you read the comics that isn't that important because you already know what they look like. There are a smattering of illustrations done by Wendy throughout the book which may help new comers to the series. But it's clear the main audience is going to be their fans.

Eliza says

I ordered this book by mistake thinking I'd found one of the comics. At first I was disappointed that the novel came instead, but I enjoyed reading this because it gave me clearer insights than I got from the comic book alone.

Erika says

This is the novelization of a series of comics that started in the 80's which covers the journey of the Wolfriders from their Holt in the woods to the desert village of the Sun Folk.

The writing is very well done, well paced and full of additional details so that fans of the comics can gain something new from reading but also highly accessible so that it stands alone and readers who have never seen the original source won't feel left out or that they are missing something.

One of the best novelizations for another medium that I have ever read
