



Eversong

A.C. Salter

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Elora's past lay hidden in a web of lies and half-truths; the secrecy weaved by her uncle to keep her from harm, or to keep her from harming the world. But she put her voice to a song, the wrong song and now the web is unravelling and she begins to understand why she is different, why she has violet eyes, why she has a ferocious temper that erupts on the slightest of whims.

A darkness is rising, the tide growing stronger as legions of an evil army, loyal to a dead God, prepare to cross the weakening barrier to deliver chaos and death to Earth.

Elora maybe the only weapon Earth has to stand against the evil, if she doesn't destroy the world first.

Eversong Details

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Author : A.C. Salter

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From Reader Review Eversong for online ebook

Elaina says

The cover drew me in first! There's something mesmerising about the cover, and then the title got my attention. Eversong. What is the 'eversong' I asked myself ... and started reading. I really don't want to spoil this for you by launching into a synopsis of the tale, but allow me to say this: the Eversong is all-important to saving not only one, but two, civilisations! And the song resides in Elora! All is not what it seems, though, and it is for very good reason that Elora is warned from a young age to never sing.

Enter the Shadojak and his Shaigun, assassins with a noble mission. One falls for Elora and the consequences will reach across realms. Add in a few strange creatures both adorable and particularly nasty and I know you want to read this now!

Despite a typo here and there, I am giving Eversong 5 stars. Great cover, great title, huge imagination, a fantastic tale!

John Moore says

This is the most unique and original story I have read in a long time. Mr. Salter has captured the true spirit of Fantasy Adventure. It is a rare thing to find such a great story and to find someone who know how to spin a tale that is captivating and draws the reader into the story.

Mr. Salter has gone far above the normal intrigues and has created a great and wonderful world I want to leave the mystery of the story a mystery, but want to say more authors who want to write in this Genre should read Mr. Salter's work for pointers on how to set up a good story.

Sarah Crepin says

I loved this novel and am looking forward to reading Shadojak.

Darren Cole says

From page one to the end I couldn't put it down loved every minute of it

Jane Salter says

I've been lucky enough to read Eversong before it was published I've been hooked from the start, it's everything I love in a book it draws you in with its twists and turns, I would love to see this made into a film even if it's just to see my favourite character gurple come to life.

Pearl Kirkby says

(No spoilers here...others have revealed the meat of the story !)

I truly would have liked to give "Eversong" 5 stars but am tempted to give it 3 and a half. After much inner debate, however, I find that I feel comfortable giving 4 stars, because:

The story was gripping, right from the beginning; there's nothing I approve of much more than a female character who isn't afraid to get her hands dirty and jump into the midst of battle (I can certainly relate!).

Although the concept of alternate dimensions/worlds is in no way new, nor magic, faeries, elves and monstrous demons, and nor even "demi-gods" as half god, half human, the story behind Elora's life on earth, outside of the world to which she was born, and her ultimate destiny IN her world, is one I have not read before. In short, the story is exhilarating, stimulating.

It is not until later in the book that we discover the reason Elora came to grow up here on earth, an orphan being raised by her uncle, but we are well prepared for the story to unfold by the excellent storyline leading up to each tell-tale experience, from the first chapter to the final confrontation in the last.

Each turn of events which shed light on her birthright, her particular powers and her initiation into such knowledge...and her acceptance of all of this strangeness...is well thought out. It cannot have been a simple task to portray how a basically decent hearted young person is able to accept the revelation that she is the offspring of such a vile being as was her father, and the way that she was conceived, but Mr. Salter succeeded in that and more. He very ably expressed her feelings of horror at that evil versus her innate goodness.

The prologue which introduces the first of the insect creatures that like to invade their victims bodies in order to possess them (ewwww!! :O), the details of the towns, cities, stores and living quarters, in the dimensions of both earth and Aslania and the descriptions of the battles fought...all effectively drop the reader into the middle of the action.

Eversong would have been easy to read, if only the punctuation and grammar/spelling had not been so consistently neglected for three or four chapters at a time; it appears that these chapters were never proofread or edited at all.

As much as I enjoyed the book as a whole, it was very distracting to re-read long sentences without commas or semi-colons, and improper uses of words like there/their, your/you're and instances of the use of such as "been", instead of "being", in order to follow along seamlessly with the story.

And I DID love the book (and the cover, too, btw!) I enjoyed it immensely and recommend it to anyone who likes the feeling of goosebumps, the thrill of magical adventures and ever so discreet, sweet love stories.

It is well worth the read, editing warts and all.

Taylor Leasure (McCoy) says

Eversong was a delightful mix of genres that I didn't expect to see together. The thing I enjoyed most about the story was the pure imagination that went into building the world.

Eversong's world was supplemented tremendously by Salter's skill for description. Not only did he imagine things into being that I couldn't have thought of in my most disturbing dreams, he beamed them intensely and perfectly into my head to enjoy (or dread).

Elora, as it turns out, is speculated to be the incarnation of the goddess Minu, while not so speculatively, she is the daughter of the God of Chaos. She grows up on Earth under the attentive eye of her uncle, Nathaniel, an old but powerful Minuan who can manipulate the elements with song. Elora's journey begins when she makes a heap of money for a talentless bard and friend by singing the Eversong for a group of patrons. The power of the song ignites the fuse set to release her father, the evil God, and it seems the enemy is one step ahead of the smartest defenders in the powerful ensemble until the very end. Their cunning and manipulation doesn't succeed, however. Elora not only manages to defeat her father (after accidentally summoning him from his prison), she simultaneously manages to defeat one of the strongest warriors in both worlds (it was consensual), thereby propelling her into the role of the Shadojak.

It takes a lot for me to be impressed by the twists in a story. I was shocked not once, but twice, at Salter's evil plot twists. Of course, I have no complaints because it's clear that he laid all the puny little clues out for us to pick up on.

For the record, I enjoyed Eversong so much that I WILL be purchasing the sequels, and I will likely follow Salter in his other writing pursuits. I'm very glad that I received a free copy, and that every minute of the seven/eight some-odd hours I spent reading the story was very well spent. So, while I do have some complaints, take this as the main note of my review: "Totally worth it."

[Here Begins My Few Complaints]

1. If you like *City of Bones* or the *Iron Fey*, you'll probably find these characters a bit familiar.

I don't read YA novels with Romance much anymore, I think because I got scared that the trope recycling would ruin the books I had really treasured. The ensemble trope that I have begun to see a lot of was repeated in this story.

Elora is a confusing character. She starts off being somewhat unlikable. She's sullen, a bit disrespectful to her uncle, but she's got this incredible singing voice that makes her intriguing. You can tell there is good in her based on the moral voice that crops up when she's being a real jerk, but often that wavering between sweet and mean at unpredictable times made her character seem inconsistent.

It's all too easy to make your super-powerful character a self-sacrificing, beautiful, and talented character as well, so I think I would have liked Elora more if her temper truly proved to be a problem before her powers came in. She needed more spice and less nice. I didn't find her believable all the time as it was, and she blended in with all other YA heroines who fall in love quickly, give without regard for herself, and kick ass when the timing is right. Now, I DO understand that her struggle between good and evil is important to the plot, but I'm just saying I would have liked her to have more grit in her character.

Bray, while quite nice to imagine, is also a bit of a cookie cutter character for me, little different from Cassandra Clare's Jace prototype, though Bray takes more of his own flavor as the book proceeds. Bray starts off hard-hearted, duty-driven, and incredibly good at hand-to-hand combat. He also drives this incredible motorcycle with his half-elf super reflexes (that was probably one of my favorite parts). But, being thrown in with Elora and her Elor-ing eyes (yes, that was a poor attempt at a pun), almost immediately shatters the resolve of years of training to become a powerful swordsman and restorer of balance to the

magic and non-magic worlds.

While I LOVE the idea of the Shadojak and the Shaigun, I found Bray's abandonment of his life's ambition to become a Shadojak for a girl he has known for 55 percent of the book to be too hard to believe, or I just straight up didn't understand his choice. Bray admits his love for Elora after knowing her for two days, and though I can understand the adrenaline, Elora's singing voice, her self-sacrificial character to be a hard-sell, it threw me out of the story to have proclamations of love that soon, especially knowing this will be an ongoing series.

Diagus was probably the most unique character. He goes from adversary to friend at all the right times. Diagus is duty and wisdom, power and legend.

Otholo, however, seems to be another sort of "Puck" kind of character. He's got some lusty, mischievous impulses that make him fun and interesting, and he's got this bit of wisdom that they really need him for, the song, his heritage, his humor. I do like that A.C. Salter didn't take this a direction he could have by making a love triangle including Otholo. I would not have liked that, I don't think. But, I'm never a huge fan of love triangles. The best part about Otholo is that he has this demon inside him that makes him dangerous and dark. I like that he got some real edge to him with that, and I think despite the fact that Otholo as the whimsical, song-writing, virginity stealer feels familiar, the demon-possession adds a flare.

I think, overall, the secondary characters stole the show. Norgie, Ragna and Ejan, and Gurple were all lovely and unique additions to the story. Ejan is a total babe, Norse, killer with an unshakable loyalty to her fat, but super-strong Viking husband who is a total softie. I loved them, and Norgie stole my heart from the beginning along with our little, furry elf-like friend, Gurp.

2. The dialogue can be cheesy.

My complaints about dialogue are few, but I will say that I was taken out of the story at times by things that felt cheesy, repetitive, or unnecessary. In these action-packed, slightly romantic stories, quippy dialogue is pretty common.

I'm not a staunch opponent of cheesy dialogue. I was watching a Hallmark movie last night that created the same sinful situation where the scene should have ended, but they had to recap some feelings before they could close the scene with a kiss. I personally find this sort of dialogue a bit over-indulgent, but a lot of that comes with the genre, and I understand that.

The sappy love dialogue was part of that, the wondering "Is that what I'm feeling after only knowing this girl for two days? Love?" and Elora's "I can't imagine how I would feel if Bray got hurt," after Ejan's life partner and beloved husband is killed in battle (self-consumed, much Elora? Not her shining moment). So, perhaps the root of my issue is the two days to fall in love thing, though I did notice dialogue issues with villains that said typically villainous things, thugs that were typically rapey, and uncles that were typically stern and mysterious.

3. The Pacing oscillates between "oh, days have passed?" to "how is it that we still have half the book left?"

The last complaint, concerning pacing, is brief and not really too much of an issue.

I liked, that Salter got right to the action with the story. There was barely a scene or two before there was the threat of pain or death (excluding the pre-chapter where things got dark and scary real quickly). Salter escalates the action when the Leviathans sing, and I almost feel like, "Oh, here's the real action. Now we're getting going."

Briefly, though, when Elora, Diagus, and Otholo are traveling to the Ram's Keep, it's very difficult to tell how much time has passed until someone outright says it. It's tragedy after tragedy after tragedy, back-to-back-to-back and it almost feels like this is all happening in one day until someone mentions they've been on the road for a week. This, I feel, was an error in pacing that confused me and dampened my sympathy for the victims Elora encounters.

Lastly, I return to the "I love you, I will give up my career for you," too early in the book. The "world-ending" action came in the first 30-40 percent of the book with the Leviathan song, and we've still got hundreds of pages until they get to Solarius. Again, a minor complaint because for the most part, I'm enjoying the ride, but I think that the relationship between Bray and Elora could have been deepened on this journey, could have been more moving and believable considering they have sixty percent of the book to form a bond that makes sense.

Overall, I highly recommend you take the time to read the book.

I think the most tell-tale sign of a well-written story is that you crave it when you're not reading it. I dreamed about it, and if I wasn't dreaming about it, exactly, I was dreaming up other interesting worlds for my own writing. I was challenged by Salter's passion for creating an interesting world to incorporate that in my own writing.

Salter pretty much creates his own mythology by slightly modifying some existing myths and adding about a thousand interesting layers. So, not only did we encounter urban fantasy "magic meets reality," we encountered myths and legends, and apocalyptic fiction. It's a unique combination that made it fun to read the entire way through.

Maureen Turner says

Wow! What an imagination this A.C. Salter has. This fantasy novel is the first in the trilogy entitled 'DAUGHTER OF CHAOS'. There was never a dull moment in this gripping action filled story of how Elora learns that she is no ordinary teenager but the daughter of the God Solarius. This God however is more demon and bent on controlling both Earth and Thea - Elora's childhood home. There are a wealth of characters who both aid and thwart her attempt to prevent her father's venture to dominate two worlds.. Salter weaves a fantastical story around this intriguing supporting cast and whether you love them (Bray and Shadojak) or loathe them (Silk and Reuben) you can't ignore them. I loved the scene where Ejan is trying to instruct Elora in the art of fighting with a sword.

This author is a born storyteller and I'm sure we'll hear more about him in the future.

A highly recommended read.

Simon Williams says

Wildly entertaining and packed with plenty of twists and turns, Eversong is a great introduction to Adrian Salter's "Daughter of Chaos" series. Elora, the main protagonist, is a feisty and well-rounded heroine and I can't help but feel the book would also make a great film. The story includes a wide and interesting cast of characters and combines a good mix of fantasy, horror and action. All of them play their part as the story is propelled onwards without ever meandering.

The author has filled this saga of two "twin" realities (One Earth, the other Thea) with abundant mythologies

and ideas- the various gods and demons are possibly my favourite characters and remind me somewhat of the Greek classics- which I hope we'll learn about in more detail as the series progresses.

All in all a very promising start to the series.

Renee says

An unwinding epic journey

A fabulous book with great, diverse characters. Absolutely loved this narrative. The characters were well developed and believable. The story had enough twists and turns to keep you turning the pages. There were many edge of your seat moments and great action scenes. This narrative was well written with intertwining plots. I love mythology so I found the incorporation of myths within this book fantastic. I also loved the descriptive writing; it was as if you were there taking part in it all. The different worlds and creatures were also very imaginative. Congratulations to the author, I look forward to reading the next book in the series.

Lynn Hallbrooks says

There was something about this book that called to me even though I rarely read fantasy books. I was not disappointed and I look forward to reading the sequel in the near future.

In my humble opinion, this book is a mixture of what some might call heroic fantasy and magical realism with a touch of mystery.

Urged by a fellow musician, Elora sang a song. Little did she know this would send her on a journey to a far away place.

I really enjoyed how Mr. Salter shared Elora's story. While I could not hear the actual song, I think a part of it rang through the pages and into my heart.

Warning: There is violence as well as some adult language and situations.

Gareth Ponsford says

Mindblowingly spectacular

This book has had me hooked from the moment I started it. It is fantastic and has had me glued from the first page. I cannot wait for the second installment and I urge people to read it. two very big thumbs up!!

Elizabeth Watkins says

Whoa.....that opening chapter! A fabulous dark fantasy tale spinning its story between worlds and times. Absolutely loved it from start to finish. I can't wait for Volume II and the continuation and evolvment of the

drama. My favourite character? Gurple. No spoilers here so you'll have to read the book to find out why!

Telma Rocha says

This book is a whirlwind of an adventure that I enormously enjoyed. Elora's world as she knows it is turned upside down in a very abrupt manner, all because she decided one afternoon to share her beautiful voice while singing a song that sits close to her heart. This dangerous and forbidden song is not one that Elora has ever been taught, she just simply 'knows' it. This one afternoon spent singing opened doors to a world that Elora was sheltered from her entire life. Elora soon discovers that she is not who she thought she was and, she is forced to embark on a very dangerous journey to discover her true self, and her past, all while fighting many different types of creatures from another realm. Elora must not only try to keep herself alive, but she must also save more than one planet, not only Earth but also the world she came from.

I loved the journey that author took me though while reading this book. The journey was full of adventure, wild and creative imagination and anticipation. I read almost the entire book except for 150 pages in one sitting, as I found myself not wanting to put it down. The book was very well written and constructed in such a way that I did not have an issue following the different story lines, and points of view introduced. It all blend very well together for me and ending with me immediately searching for book 2 in the trilogy.

If you are looking for adventure, a a wile and vivid imagination and worlds so unlike our own, I recommend you pick up this book immediately.

Bonnie Morawa says

great book lots of action paranormal fantasy sci fi . great read fast pace .wonderful imagery
