



Kindred Spirits

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*an alternate cover edition can be found **here***

Magic and Murder

When Flint Fireforge, dwarf and metalsmith, receives a wondrous summons from the Speaker of the Sun, he journeys to the fabled elven city of Qualinost. There he meets Tanis, a thoughtful youth born of a tragic union between elf and man. Tanis and Flint, each a misfit in his own way, find themselves unlikely friends.

But a pompous elf lord is mysteriously slain, and another elf soon meets the same fate. Tanis stands accused, and if his innocence cannot be proven, the half-elf will be banished forever. Solving the mystery will be a perilous task. Time is on the murder's side, and he is not finished yet.

Kindred Spirits Details

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From Reader Review Kindred Spirits for online ebook

Tabitha says

Reading this was like seeing old friends again after a long absence. The Dragonlance Chronicles started my adventures into the world of Krynn back in high school. I felt that returning years later to read how the companions met one another was fitting.

In this first book we meet Flint Fireforge and Tanis Half Elven. Flint is a guest metalsmith for the Speaker of the Sun and Tanis as many know, if your familiar with the series, is the product of tragedy after the Cataclysm. An orphaned boy of half royal blood, taken in to be raised among the Speaker's children. We see the hardships that fall on Tanis as he is ridiculed for being half human, and my heart breaks for him.

As the story progresses we see the bond between Flint and Tanis grow, from a simple act of kindness when Flint gives him a handmade toy into a steadfast friendship. But trouble waits for Tanis, as he grows older and is accused of murder. The only thing standing between his exile from Qualinost is Flint's determination to prove him innocent.

This was a slow building book, as the reader is shown Tanis' whole childhood, but it serves to show the basis of his personality we see in later novels. I also never tire learning about the different elven races in Krynn, so the ability to read more about Qualinost's culture and coming of age traditions interested me. Flint's humor does break up the long stretches and his faithful donkey causing laughable mayhem. A definite read for fans of the original trilogy that started the Dragonlance World.

Glyn Lee says

Picked up 32 dragonLance books for about £20 and thought I'd start with this one, enjoyed it and will look forward to reading the rest over the course of the next few years, all in all a fine start to getting to finally read the Holy six which were also included in my charity haul??

Hillary says

I might not read the rest of the Meetings Sextet series, since the writing bothered me enough that I didn't really enjoy this one. It included language and phrases that could only be described as modern American slang, as though the authors had trouble staying in character and keeping their setting in Krynn. It was very slow to start--despite it not being lengthy, it took me too long to read. I had difficulties getting invested, despite the fact that I've been a fan of Tanis since I was a child.

The way the mystery was solved and the conflict resolved felt like deus ex machina. All of the foreshadowing to the time of the War of the Lance felt contrived and unnecessary, since presumably, if you're reading this, you've already read the Weis & Hickman stories. Kindred Spirits has its moments, but mostly feels like fan fiction.

Leonardo says

This was one of my first "Dragonlance" books, back when i was 12 or something. The descriptions on the book made me fell in love with the world of elves and that side of Krynn it showed me.

That being said, a while later i re-read it and was not so impressed...

Never the less this has high marks because it dorve me to keep reading. In it's time, i loved it.

Theresa says

I'll admit I had never even heard of the Dragonlance series. On a lark because I love dragons,my sister bought me this at a library book sale. Now I must read them all. It will be my own little quest.

When I start reading books that I'm unsure of I give it about 12 pages to hook me. Show me that I care about the characters. I was hooked on page one.

There are a lot of characters in this story. I have to assume it was to hide who the murderer was. I kinda guessed all along. I did not guess however the wallop of a surprise that comes with that.

I adore Tanis, Flint, Fleetfoot, Laurana and Aliea. Every scene with two of them in it twinkled. There is just so much chemistry. Not just romantic but pure friendship.

Also I admit I looked up the synopsis of the rest of the series to see if Laurana and Tanis end up together. That did not help. I have to assume that eventually they do. That ring can't amount to nothing.

I'll probably never get over the sad death in the story. I cried so much and punched the book a few times. That really is a sign that I loved this book. A beloved character died and I still gave it 5 stars.

Ana Elena Romero says

Nada que ver tienen las sagas secundarias con la historia principal.

Conservan los nombres de los personajes, pero no tienen nada más en común con ellos.

Se desdibujan sus perfiles y las tramas de las historias son intrascendentes, superfluas y carentes de la intensidad que les imprimen Weiss y Hickman.

Lo dicho, nada que ver...

Binta says

Five Stars: Dragonlance is so nostalgic

Glen Peterman says

Old friends becoming new friends. Getting to read Flint again was worth the price of admission. The authors

did a reasonable job of getting the grumpy dwarfs voice right. As fun as it was with Flint it was jarring seeing Laurana regressed back so far. This was supposed to be a murder mystery however it was painfully obvious who the killer was if not the why which did surprise me I will admit. There is an incestuous plot hole in the book that was never explained along with the reasoning for the killers actions, nor was how Tanis decided to go with Flint. I would have liked to see the interactions with his family when he decided to leave. the ending of the book in that regard seemed rushed, like something was edited out. If you want to see more of the companions I would recommend this first book as a good place to start.

Jim C says

This is a Dragonlance book. This takes place before the original trilogy. Flint is invited to the elven homeland and meets Tanis for the first time. Tanis is half elf and half human and is not accepted by his peers. Flint becomes a mentor to Tanis and when Tanis gets into trouble, Flint comes to his rescue.

I would describe this book as a mystery book set in a fantasy setting. The first part of the book details Tanis' life and Flint being an outsider in the elven kingdom. I really enjoyed the first half of the book as it played on my nostalgia. Fans of the original trilogy will enjoy the first part and people who haven't read the original trilogy will not be lost but will be missing some enjoyment. The second part of the book deals with the mystery and this part lowered my rating to three stars. During this part it felt like the storyline was going nowhere and I had no real connection to the mystery. When the truth was revealed it made sense as hints were dropped throughout the novel and I had one of those "Oh yeah!" moments.

If you are looking for a fantasy book with countless battles or epic journeys this isn't that book. This book is more of a person finding himself in the middle of a mystery novel.

Emily White says

This is the first book in the Meetings Sextet and occurs prior to Dragons of Autumn Twilight. Flint Fireforge happily settled in the elven land of Qualinost - who would ever believe this? He meets the young half-elf Tanis, and this is where their life-long friendship begins. This is also the start of the collaborative work of the companions of the Chronicles series, and tells part of the story of Flint and Tanis' younger years. I would recommend this book to anyone who really enjoyed the main characters in the Chronicles. The story shares some insights into these two notorious characters.

Liana says

I loooove this! FINALLY, A Dragonlance book that I like! I haven't liked any of them until now! (Wait, why are the ratings on this book so mixed...?)

...I really thought the book was good. The characters were well written, the murder mystery plot was cool... It didn't bore me with over described details about the world or the characters, didn't drag on as long as other books, and pretty much told what it needed to. ...for the most part.

It was a fun read. :)

David Leemon says

I think this would probably have been better as a Star Trek novel.

David says

A guilty pleasure. This is not Tolkien, but should work fine for a child

Erik Akre says

I remember days of reading sophisticated biographies, "literature," poetry, not so long ago. But recently it's been the fantasy novel that has captured my time, and held it hostage. Even these cheap paperbacks that Goodwill practically pays you to take away... Some of them are actually not terrible!

So enough talk about cheap paperbacks and how they're mediocre bait for D and D nerds! Enough talk about how they're a waste of time and a diversion from the real meat of literature and life! Enough talk about enjoying them with a slight twinge of sheepish shame! This was a fairly good book!

Kindred Spirits is written better than most books of its genre, and the characters and setting are decent, buyable. The plot gathers itself very slowly, and once it actually kicks in (halfway through the book), it proceeds in a rather formulaic way--a murder mystery, of all things--until the very end. It is quite well written, however, and succeeds in capturing the imagination.

Well, perhaps the book is a bit boring after all, but I did look forward each time to returning to its pages, and it held my interest. I plowed through it in a mere five days or so, despite being quite busy with other things.

Altogether, I say "Bravo" nonetheless. A book worth reading, if you're into the cheap paperback fantasy schtick. Good enough, good enough!

Tim says

Leuk om te lezen hoe Tanis opgroeit tussen de Elfen, vaardigheden leert ontwikkelen, onderdrukt wordt door Porthios en Gilthanas, hoe Laurana als klein meisje en later verliefd op 'm wordt, hoe hij valselijk beschuldigd wordt van diverse dingen, enz...

Ook de avonturen met Flint Fireforge, die Tanis helpt om open te bloeien, zijn goed geschreven en geven een goed beeld weer van hoe het eraan toeging.

Wanneer Eld Ailea dan vermoord wordt, wordt het helemaal spannend om de moordenaar te vinden. Mark Anthony en Ellen Porath zijn er in geslaagd ook mij op het verkeerde spoor - Lord Tyresian - te zetten, hoewel de connectie Eld Ailea - Tyresian mij niet echt duidelijk was. Eigenlijk had ik het moeten

doorhebben toen Miral Laurana probeerde te overtuigen van z'n liefde. Nuja, 'liefde'.

Toen op het laatste, tijdens de Kentommen-viering van Porthios, wanneer Tanis Gilthanas verving om de moord te verhinderen, ontmaskerde Miral zichzelf en stormde Flint op het juiste moment binnen om hem volledig te ontmaskeren: Arelas, de doodgewaande broer van Solostaran (Speaker Of The Suns).

Kortom, m.i.: Zeer aangenaam en spannend om lezen.
