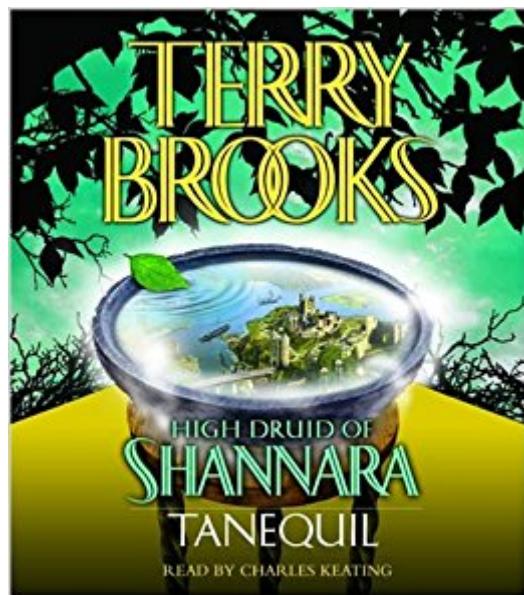


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High Druid Of Shannara: Tanequil



Synopsis

Dark magic has opened a gateway to the Forbidding and trapped within it Grianne Ohmsford, rightful High Druid of Shannara. Rescuing Grianne will be merely the beginning of the effort to return the Four Lands to some semblance of peace. Only her young nephew, Penderrin, has any hope of returning her to power. But to breach the Forbidding and bring Grianne back to the natural world, Pen must find the fabled Tanequil . . . and the talisman it alone can provide. That means journeying into the Inkrimâea, a dreaded region thick with shadows and haunted by harrowing legends. And there, Pen will strike a bargain more dire than he could ever imagine.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

War threatens the Four Lands, and Shannara's only hope lies in Penderrin Ohmsford, but it's a dreadfully slim hope. To save his world, Pen must restore his aunt, the former Ilse Witch, to her rightful position as High Druid of Shannara. But first Pen must free his aunt Grianne from the Forbidding: the world of the demons. To have the slightest chance of freeing her, he must find the mystical tree called the Tanequil, and somehow craft a talisman from its wood. But Shadea a'ru, the treacherous usurper of his aunt's position, will do anything to stop Pen--and she has already captured Pen's parents and forced them to reveal their son's whereabouts. Sen Dunsidan, the monstrous Prime Minister of the Federation, has armed his greatest airship with a horrible new weapon. And Pen is just a boy, accompanied on his dangerous quest by only a Dwarf, a young Elf, and a blind Rover girl. Filled with action, treachery, and sacrifice, Tanequil will enthrall Terry

Brooks's millions of fans as it roars to a shocking conclusion. However, newcomers to the Shannara series should not begin with *Tanequil*. It's the middle book of the High Druid of Shannara trilogy, and the thirteenth novel of a complicated high-fantasy series with numerous characters and sentient races. Newcomers should start with *Jarka Ruus*, the first book of the High Druid trilogy--or, better yet, with *The Sword of Shannara*, the first book of the series. --Cynthia Ward --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Make a wish on an Elfstone and anything can happen, including a fresh second installment (after 2003's *Jarka Russ*) in Brooks's bestselling High Druid fantasy trilogy, part of the long-running Shannara series whose magic has been showing signs of wear. As the Free-born Federation war continues in the Four Lands, life is packed with peril for the Ohmsford family. While High Druid Grianne Ohmsford languishes in the Forbidding, a demon tracks her gifted nephew, Pen, with orders to kill him from the Druid responsible for her banishment, the evil Shadea a'ru. Young Pen and his followers--perky Elven Elfstone carrier Khyber, grumpy dwarf Tagwen, blind Rover girl Cinnaminson and helpful Rock Trolls--seek the tanequil, a mysterious tree from which a "darkwand" must be formed that will aid Pen in rescuing his aunt from the Forbidding. Pen's parents, Bek and Rue, are also ensnared by Shadea, an uneasy ally of Sen Dunsidan, the Federation's prime minister. New readers may feel a little disoriented by unfamiliar references, but Brooks's efficient pacing, skillful characterizations and suspenseful plotting all bode well for the trilogy's conclusion. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

I wrote a review of the first book saying it was setting up one of the best sets in this series. This book is a continuation of that. I have been re-reading the series from the beginning. I hadn't read any of this series in quite some time and I've got about 14 left that I haven't read. I believe that (3) of those are short stories, though. So while I can't say for sure, because I haven't read all of them, this is what I believe is the best written and most emotion provoking mini-series for me. The rest of the series has been very good, but it didn't particularly make me feel anything emotional. With the other books you're glad when things work out and don't like it when they don't. However, I haven't felt particularly strongly about anything either. You either know it'll work out for the characters, or if they die, you feel like it was time for them to pass. I haven't come across a lot of his writing on this series where something has happened and you just have a visceral reaction that just says, "NO, that's wrong". I feel like this set achieves that multiple times. Of course everyone reacts differently, based

on their own morals and personal experience, but these are the first of his books where I've felt that. The story is also unique for him. I mentioned in my review of the first book that this is the first time where you're getting the same characters again. In every other instance you'll get the same set of characters for 3-4 books, then there will be a gap of a few hundred years. In this case, you're only getting a gap of about 20 years. While overall, I think he needs to make the huge leaps to keep it fresh, I do like that you get to see the characters after their epic adventure concludes. You get to find out a little of what happens to the characters from the last set and how their lives worked out. Some of them are happy and healthy and some of them are not. The fact that not everything is peachy for all of them makes it a better story. So I really recommend you read this book, but I assume if you're considering reading it that you're going to, or have, read all the previous books. At minimum, you should have read the previous set in the "Voyage of Jerle Shannara". You need to know where these characters are coming from and what they've overcome to get there, to really experience this set. I'd definitely recommend this book/set.

As with the other books in Mr. Brooks series, it was masterfully done. I love the plot and the vividness with which he brings the characters and settings to life. My only negative is the fact that it leads me hanging. Yet, that is the essence of a writer's craft. On to the next in the sequence.

Most fiction I read has a plot to it and those that don't I wonder how they get published. Terry Brooks has written many a book, most of which I have read, and some so long ago I have forgotten what they were about. I am still reading his books and he still puts character names in these books from previous works. He knows not all readers will have read his earlier works so he must give a back story on these characters but not too much to cause his faithful readers to be disappointed in his new stories by being overwhelmed by too many old facts to them. It is a tough road to hoe and I think he falls short in "Tanequil". Sen Dunsidan is introduced in Book 1 of "High Druid of Shannara" and is further developed in Book 2 but not by much. He is the one where Brooks displays the correct touch, a portrayal, not a painting; the man is only a minor character. Then we are introduced to others but told nothing about them and they seem to be important, more so than Dunsidan. There is Moric, and who is he? There is Tael Riverine, who is he? Why go on, there are others in the same category, Weka Dart may be overdeveloped, is he a major character? No, the protagonists are supposed to be Pen Ohmsford and Grianne Ohmsford, The Ark Rhys has been developed in an earlier series, and Pen is new but we have his father and mother, how much development do they need? So much to watch, wait and see what is necessary and what is not, whom to watch for and

who can be evaded. That is solely for the characters, Then there is the plot to develop. "Tanequil" is the middle book, it has no beginning or ending of its own, there is a predecessor and a successor, how far can the plot be developed if it is only a weak plot to start with? Well, an author can throw in more characters, spend time on them and not advance the plot an iota. Who suffers? The reader of course and I might have been too generous in the stars I allocated for this book. Still, Brooks is an interesting writer, throw out the need for advancing the plot, sit back or lie back and enjoy what is given you, there is another book to come.

I enjoy all Terry Brooks books and this did not disappoint.

good book

I have read all of this series excluding Imaginary Friends and although they can stand on their own, this one is wow, and a page Turner. If you can get it do so, you'll love it.

a Brooks fan

great author

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