



The Álfaræn Legacy

Marc Jacobs

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There are some places in Teynia none were meant to go, hiding secrets none were meant to find. But one morning, sisters Kali and Kilyn Middlethird stumbled upon such a place, and uncovered such a secret. They stood before an enchanted Gate left behind by the Álfaerëns long ago to imprison the Spirit, an evil capable of destroying all of Teynia. If only someone had told the Middlethirds about the Gate, they might not have opened it. Now, Teynia's fate hinged on the Middlethirds, aided by Ice and the wizard Marac, surviving long enough to find the legendary Portal of Worlds, and the lost descendants of an ancient hero hidden somewhere within the Portal. To save their world, they would have to leave it. Their journey would lead them to Earth, where they would have to decipher age-old clues to find what they were looking for. But if Pennsylvania high school senior, Alexandra Castellano, failed to unravel a thousand year old mystery of her own, buried deep within her family name itself, Teynia would be lost to the Spirit, and Earth was next. And none of them would ever find out who they really were...

The Álfaerën Legacy Details

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From Reader Review The Álfærën Legacy for online ebook

Leticia says

I received this eBook from the author in exchange for an honest review.

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Wizards!

Dragons!

Aliens!

Oh my!

I was really thrilled to be reading a book featuring two sisters who go on a grand adventure to save their world from the forces of evil. It kind of reminded me of *The Hobbit* a bit, which is not a bad thing at all.

Kali and Kilyn Middlethird are orphans of Deben and live in the trees with other orphans. When they are chosen to go on a journey to bring back herbs for the tree dwellers, they're thrilled. On the way back, they're forced to seek shelter after a freak storm crashed above them. In doing so, they followed fresh air to try to get out. Instead, they happened upon a long forgotten secret and snatched what they assumed was a valuable rock they could sell at the markets.

In grabbing said rock, they open a locked Gate and release an evil they had been lurking for thousands of years.

This spurs the girls and their newfound friends (and ultimately family) to go on a journey of a life time to save their world.

Meanwhile, on Earth, Alexandra or Aly as she prefers, is set to the task to researching her family by her teacher. Man, I wish I could have done that in school. Anyhow, as she embarks on her own journey, she finds flaws in her family's past. Flaws that bring up more questions than answers.

Long story short, Aly and Kali, Kilyn and Ice (Kali and Kilyn's uncle) are long lost relatives from different planets. They manage to get together using magic portals and battle shadow minions and even meet a nice alien.

The sci-fi part threw me for a loop but it was interesting nonetheless.

The story, it has a few flaws like information overload in some spots and in other spots, I felt like some of the lore of Teynia wasn't explained enough.

I would love to know more about the dragons and why they were in hiding though. What each dragon represents to the lore.

But either way, I enjoyed the story. It was interesting and complex. Each character filled their spot easily and they all had their own shot at learning something about themselves, whether that was a strength or a weakness.

I recommend this story, especially for young adult. It's a great and wholesome story with magic and grumpy dragons! Nothing like a good ol' battle of Good versus Evil.

Lynne says

What a wonderful read. It kept my interest from beginning to end. The more I read my interest was piqued, I could not but it down. I was amazed at the research that went into this book, which was surprisingly sophisticated but still made for an easy read and fun book. It is a book that can be read by all ages. I do not want to give anything away, but I loved the baby dragons. Interestingly , I am not quite sure what genre this book falls into. Is it fantasy? Sci-fi? Historical or urban fantasy/fiction? It definitely has a little of everything. Curious if someone else has an opinion. All I know is it was a great read.

Elizabeth Ehlen says

Kali and Kilyn were thrilled to finally be chosen to go buy herbs in the far off community of Deben to bring back to their treehouse orphanage. They had no idea that their journey would lead them to their destiny, in the form of a strange cave in a mountain they stumbled across by accident. Their discovery would open a portal to a strange world and connect them with another teenager who was destined to save them from the Spirit lurking inside the mountain, patiently waiting for his revenge. Can three teenage girls save a world?

The Alfaeren Legacy is a fun YA fantasy novel that centers around three strong female protagonists, and their combined efforts to save a world from a spirit demon. While I liked the plot and the pace of the story, I found the dialogue and the characters a little shallow. However I loved the modern use of the internet to trace one's roots, and the intersecting of Finnish history, as honestly I don't know much about Finland. As a fantasy novel I think it is a really fun and fast read, but in the series I'm hoping to see a little more character development and depth, particularly in the dialogue, as they all sounded the same to me. Can't wait to read the next book in the series!

Jenifer Jacobs says

This was such a clever story! Great for fans of fantasy and also partly set in modern day. I loved how all the main characters were strong (dare I say "badass") girls! Clever and cool and nerdy. Loved it!

Mandy Wultsch says

This book is a great fantasy for older children to adults (perhaps ages 10 and up). There are two parallel worlds where the story is told: our world (albeit with magic) and a fantasy medieval-like world. Both are fully developed and described in detail. The action in this story starts in the first chapter and does not stop until the last page. The characters and dialogue are both believable and interesting.

The font in this book is slightly larger than most books for adults, but not so large it could be called large print. It is easy on the eyes and a pleasure to read. The only fault I could find with this book is the author's tendency to occasionally use two or three exclamation points to end a sentence; otherwise, this is an excellent novel and I look forward to reading more from him.

I receive this book through a Goodreads Giveaway. Thank you to the author.

Romuald Dzemo says

What happens when a door that was not supposed to be opened gets opened? A vengeful evil spirit, a secret door, a world to save, the race against time, and a search for clues to a portal... these are all elements that can make a YA fantasy too exciting and that is precisely what it does for *The Alfaeren Legacy*. Two sisters set out on a simple mission to another community but stumble on surprisingly strange things and are trapped in a world where danger lurks everywhere. Kali and Kilyn are helped by a third teenager, but will they be able to escape danger, find the portal of worlds and save their own world, Teynia?

I enjoyed this book immensely and I loved the compelling idea behind it. The pace moves very fast, and the sense of mystery pervading the book made it even more intriguing and exciting at the same time. The reader is forced to journey with three teenagers who discover their path as they struggle to find clues to a greater mystery they have never known before. The writing is beautiful and the characters are interesting enough. *The Alfaerën Legacy* by Marc Jacobs is a work of great imagination, highly entertaining.

Lora says

I won this book in a Goodreads giveaway and will review once I've read it.

Chloe says

J'ai gagné ce livre via Goodreads giveaway et je doit admettre en être TRÈS contente!
Il y a de l'action dès le tout début, pas de temps mort et ça jusqu'à la dernière page.
Une histoire fantastique, des personnages attachants et des lieux magiques.
Un auteur à découvrir absolument!

Laura says

I received a copy of *The Alfaeren Legacy* from the author, Marc Jacobs. All opinions expressed are my own.

Meh I have so many feelings about this! On one hand, I see *so much potential* but on the other, this debut was not as developed as I would like it to be. I debated for a while about the star rating for this, whether it should be 2 or 3 stars and as a compromise, I ended up in the middle because of various elements. Allow me to explain.

1. The plot. This book takes the form of a traditional hero's journey and by that standard, it excelled wonderfully. There is a very clear overarching plotline with a couple teeny secondary plotlines mixed in. The main story line is clear and direct and there's never any doubt what the next step is. The plot is

actually the one element of this book I **loved wholeheartedly**. I'm all for a good fantasy with a hero's journey circle and this fit the bill to a T. There is never a dull moment as the Middlethird sisters gain allies in their attempt to right both their wrongs and the wrongs of those who came before them. It is **well-charted and fiercely defended**.

2. The characters. This is where it starts to get a little bit dicey. The characters were all there and they all had their own personalities, however, it was all **telling and not showing for the most part**. I'll talk about this a bit more in the writing section but suffice to say, the characters felt a bit flat, in my opinion. **My favorite character, and by far the most well-defined, is Aly** (the girl who grew up on Earth) because we really get to delve into her world as she tries to find out more about her family's past lineage. **The rest of the characters were fine, but I felt like they didn't have too much feeling to them.**

"Kali doesn't have any friends, Mr. Gibbens," said Kilyn. "Oh. Maybe she'd have some if she had cabbages." Albo was nothing if not persistent.

3. The setting. This was **really interesting to me and I felt that it was well done, to a point**. This book is a **curious mix between fantasy and science fiction**. In their exploration of worlds, it's made clear that Teynia (Kilya and Kila's world) is one of many planets in the actual universe (as in the universe we live in) which is where Earth and other, more science fiction-y societies come into play. I think this was **handled rather deftly** and it's fascinating to see how the worlds interact. As for Teynia specifically, I thought that while it was nicely defined and painted, there was a **little too much information without any reference points**. The characters would know the specific names of rivers with no explanation as to how they would know it and no map is provided. While this isn't a deal-breaker for me, it's something that threw me out of the story.

4. The writing. This is where my beginning comments come into play. I think **this author has some really great ideas and has potential as a fantasy author, I see definite missteps throughout this book**. For example, the POV. About 10% of the way through, I figured out that this was written with a limited omniscient narrative POV (there's a third person narrator that can selectively see into the minds of most of the characters). However, there were strange foreshadowing moments where the book read more like a frame story (think The Princess Bride movie) and there were references to the reader without explicitly talking to the reader. This made the **method of delivery feel a bit fuzzy and ill-defined**. There were also **issues with character authenticity** through word choice and sentence structure and I often came across questionable paragraphs.

The Final Verdict:

A wonderfully defined story with heart-pounding action. Unfortunately, the character development and writing flow need a bit more polish. I do look forward to seeing how the author develops his prose more fully.

2.5 stars

Cindy says

Loved this book

I loved this book. Once I got to the second half of the book, I could not put it down. Great story which unfolded in a way I did not expect, with an imaginative plot and unique problem solving through the stars and Europe. Dragons and magic are all well and good, and this story has it, but this story adds spectacular

flare to the norm. When all is said and done, it reads more like a fantasy version of the Da Vinci Code than a redo of the same old evil demon chasing good guys plot. It surprised me in a great way."

Dianne says

Journey with Kali and Kilyn as they meet the Earth teen, Aly, who just may be the missing link they are looking for. Family trees, ancient history, myths and legends are all part of the trail these girls must follow, but are they prepared for the sights, sounds and technology of modern Earth? Computers, museums, and libraries will serve as guides for the secrets they must unravel, but time is not on their side and there are those who would stop them by any means, as two worlds as different as night and day lay precariously in the balance.

Marc Jacobs has created a fantasy for all ages, from younger readers on up as he takes us from our reality into that of **The Alfaeren Legacy**. Savor the world-building, feel each scene come to life and prepare for an adventure like no other! See the differences in the worlds of Teynia and Earth and realize that no matter where we are, people are the same. There is evil lurking in the shadows, innocents caught in the middle and young heroes who risk their very lives for the side of good. Unlikely heroes with the pluck of youth and the will to never say never take on a nearly impossible mission and we are there!

Expect the unexpected and watch as Mr. Jacobs creates a fantasy with fresh elements, brilliant characters that almost breathe they are so realistic and be a part of the action as it unfolds! Great dialogue and inter-relationships make this adventure one that will mesmerize the young and totally entertain the not-so-young. Set your inner child free, and take an amazing break from reality!

I received this copy from Marc Jacobs in exchange for my honest review.

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Genre: Teen/YA Science Fiction

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Available from: Amazon

For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Terri Farris says

I received this as a giveaway from Goodreads. This a great read for anyone from middle school up. I usually read multi volume epics in this genre, but this kept my attention throughout! Sort of felt like the video games the kids played in their pre adventure life. At the ending, I was ready to go on to the next chapter in the story

Ashleigh (a frolic through fiction) says

Review originally posted on A frolic through fiction (book blog): [https://afrolicthroughfiction.wordpre...](https://afrolicthroughfiction.wordpress.com/2017/05/01/review-of-the-forest-of-the-forest/)

I received a free copy in exchange for an honest review

This book was eventful, to say the least.

It was a bit of a rocky road for me. ***I did enjoy it***. I really did. But there were a few issues that stop me short on the rating scale.

So, with this being a fantasy book based on two girls going on a great adventure including magic and dragons, it's fair to say I was highly interested in the plot. It was dramatic, it was lively, it was action-packed. There was so much going on in this story.

But that's where the info-dumping comes in. Every so often, there'd be certain points when so much information was revealed in one go, where entire pages would be taken up on explanations...sometimes it just stopped the flow of my reading. I mean, the book itself was a fairly quick read. But every time I came to a lengthy patch of explanations, it'd slow me down considerably and I felt like I had to be careful not to miss anything. This, combined with a lot of unnecessary name dropping (*of both people and places that didn't need mentioning by name*)...well...like I said, **it just seemed to stop me short.**

Other than that, I really enjoyed discovering and journeying through the world. It reminded me slightly of *The Hobbit*, with the journeying through mountains, dragons flying around and magical elements. I wanted to learn more about the world – the places, how things worked, the creatures discovered there. And while taking this journey through the world with main characters Kali and Kilyn, there's never really a dull moment.

All the way through the book, there's ***something*** happening. Whether it be something that's gone wrong, a problem being faced, an unexpected turn of events or simply some new information discovered, every single chapter had something important happening. Everything that might have been considered "*boring*" – eating, sleeping, the everyday necessities – were skipped past and moved on from. It felt like you were being told the story from an acquaintance of sorts, where they sit and guide you through the events, and brush over all the uneventful parts.

To me, the book definitely picked up about halfway through. By then, there's a few different perspectives, and I found it really intriguing to see how all the different character's stories link together. It wasn't anything too complex, but it was certainly enough to keep me turning the pages.

So while I was sometimes put-off by the writing, feeling like it would be more suited to younger readers with it's simple but lengthy explanations, the story itself I found rather entertaining. The plot was non-stop drama, and is enough to keep your interest throughout. I feel like this would be good for younger people who are a bit intimidated by the epic fantasy books out there.

Order from Amazon

[Available in Paperback and Kindle]

Marc Jacobs says

Short Description: To save their world, sisters Kali & Kilyn Middlethird would have to leave it, and journey thru the lands of Teynia, the stars in the sky, libraries and museums of Europe and New York, in search of a 1000-year old secret on Earth that could save them all, or destroy both worlds...

From the author, Marc Jacobs: You can reach me here on Goodreads or at info@thealfaerenlegacy.com.

Where Do I Live: I live in California with my wife, two daughters and three cats.

What Do I Do When I am Not Writing: I am a full time practicing attorney in Los Angeles. In that sense, I am writing all the time.

What Do I Do For Fun: When I am not spending time with my family, I am a cartoonist, having been published in more than 50 magazines, newspapers and publications nationally and internationally over the last 10 years. This includes greeting and holiday cards too. I find that humor drawn from the world around me comes naturally as lawyers provide the best material for cartoons.

Why Do I like to write Fantasy: I believe fantasy and science fiction offers great food for one's imagination, keeps people dreaming and believing in a greater world of possibilities. I have enjoyed fantasy and science fiction my entire life, and have always found inspiration in those genres.

Fafa's Book Corner says

Mini review:

DNF

I received this E-ARC via the author in exchange for an honest review.

I really wanted to like this one! But unfortunately the writing style didn't work for me.

Still recommend.
