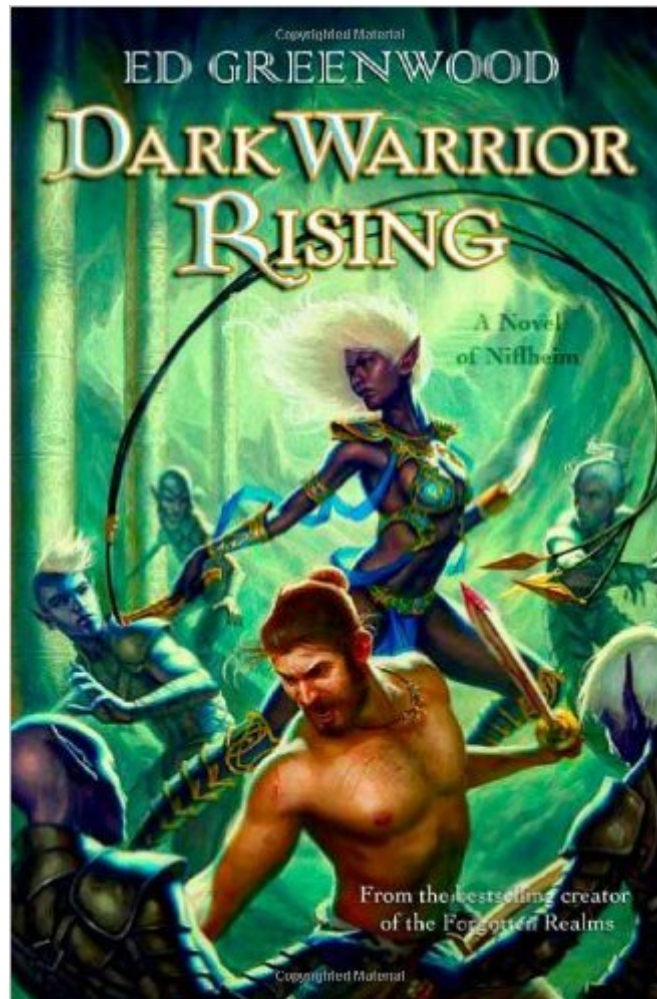


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Dark Warrior Rising: A Novel Of Niflheim



Synopsis

Orivon Firefist was captured as a six-year-old child by the Nilfghar--the dark elves--who attacked his village by night on one of their surface raids. Fifteen years later, he is a moon-pale, scarred, muscular giant of a man, who has spent his days at forgework for a dark elf family. He is also forced to use his great strength to shift furniture in the grand rooms of their castle. He has been trained (and flogged and ordered about) by the beautiful Tsarnarra, a lash-wielding matron who is icily cruel, but proud of the slaves that she has trained. Through all of this, Orivon's spirit has never been broken. He longs to return to the surface world, even if that means destroying the entire dark elf empire along the way!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For some reason I had a little trouble getting into the book; it has a good summary, interesting characters and pretty well developed world, but the dialogue is a bit difficult. It makes the read a bit jarring, when I can't get past the rather stiff conversations, and heavy fantasy language (this book has its own religions, social organization, vocabulary, and mannerisms, which are all very well designed and interesting, but laid on a bit thick). But it really is an interesting, unique concept, with the slave vs. slave handler. I'm halfway through and it's picked up a bit in action, at least. I'd recommend it if you're interested in something unique!

The main plot involving Orivon and Taerune was interesting. The characters were well-developed

and I enjoyed reading about the evolution of their friendship. Unfortunately, a disproportionate amount of the book was spent on battle scenes between extraneous side characters that had absolutely nothing to do with the plot. This greatly took away from the story. Spoilers below! I also hoped that a significant portion of the story would involve Taerune on the surface but she never even made it there, which was extremely disappointing.

The idea was good. The characters were interesting. The plot line moved along rather steadily. Maybe a little too much wanton destruction, but overall it was good. And while the story doesn't quite end, it's enough to satisfy you and not leave you hanging too much. You don't feel like you need to read the next installment to see what happens. It's not soooo interesting that I need to find out what happens next. There were a couple things though that I found very distracting and that interrupted the flow of reading - the author's penchant - or should I say addiction - for using hyphens to introduce new thoughts in the middle of a sentence. This - you'd see them used several times on a single page - was disruptive. It interrupted the flow - we may talk this way, but don't read this way - and made it hard to read sometimes. It often had me sort of - have I made my point yet - stumbling along. It was like a bump in the road that didn't enhance the storytelling. He also really enjoyed leaving sentences unfinished. A sentence would just Yeah, like that, it would stop without ending. Again, we may talk like this, often leaving things unsaid, assuming they are understood, but I don't think it's a good way to write. The author is a story teller, therefore "tell the story", don't make me fill it in. Once or twice to emphasize a thought or make a point is okay, but he did it way too much. Sometimes several times on a single page, but it wasn't always obvious what the unfinished thought was. So, while the story was good, his writing style: not so much.

Orivon Ralla's son grew up in a world where it was well known that the dark elves of Niflheim would periodically come up to steal humans away, but he never dreamed that it would happen to him. When he's ripped away from everything he's ever known or loved, he finds himself in a world where beauty and cruelty are valued above all other virtues, and where is used as either a tool or a plaything of the Nifl. But, there are schemes beyond number in this dark world, and soon Orivon will have his time for revenge. But, this is also the story of Taerune of House Everdoom, a Nifl-she who has dreams of rising to the very pinnacle of power within her house. And if she will have to scheme and plot and murder to gain her power, so much the better. But, among her slaves is the smith Orivon Firefist, a "hairy one" or human, who strangely attracts her. It is fun to grind him under her boot, but there is more there, something forbidden. This is a very good story, the story I have come

to expect from Mr. Greenwood. I really liked his take on the "dark elves," incorporating the AD&D dark elves, but expanding them and making them so much more interesting. The book is filled with non-stop action, and has lot of interesting monsters and magic. So, if you like good fantasy literature, then you will like this book, and if you are interested in dark elves, then you will positively love his book. Get a copy today!

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