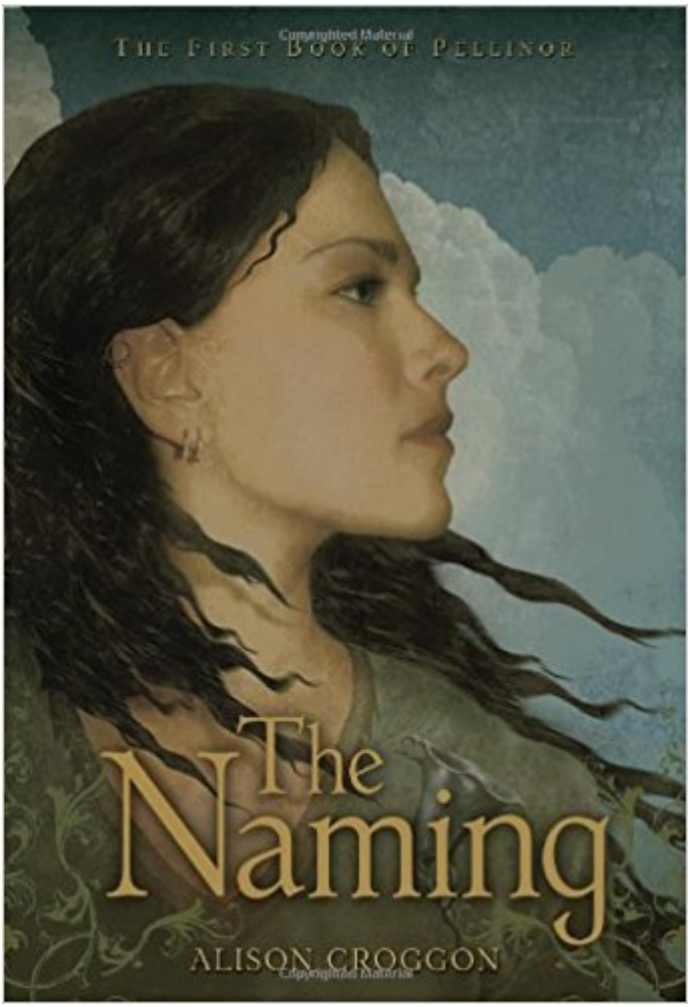
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The Naming: The First Book Of Pellinor (Pellinor Series)



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Synopsis

In the classic spirit of epic fantasy comes this glittering saga of a young girl who learns she possesses an uncanny gift - and is destined to use it to save her world from a terrifying evil.Maerad is a slave in a desperate and unforgiving settlement, taken there as a child when her family is destroyed in war. She doesn't yet know she has inherited a powerful gift, one that marks her as a member of the noble School of Pellinor and enables her to see the world as no other can. It is only when she is discovered by Cadvan, one of the great Bards of Lirigon, that her true identity and extraordinary destiny unfold. Now, she and her mysterious teacher must embark on a treacherous, uncertain journey through a time and place where the forces of darkness wield an otherworldly terror. The first book in a projected quartet, Alison Croggon's epic about Maerad and her remarkable yet dangerous gift is a beautiful, unforgettable tale. Presented as a new translation of an ancient text, THE NAMING evokes the rich and complex landscape of Annar, a legendary world just waiting to be discovered.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 870L (What's this?)

Series: Pellinor Series (Book 1)

Paperback: 528 pages

Publisher: Candlewick Press; Later Printing edition (March 14, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763631620

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.3 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 154 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #522,727 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #129 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Performing Arts > Music #340 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Dark Fantasy #452 inÃ Â Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Epic

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Australian poet Alison Croggon brings an eye for sensual detail to this heroic fantasy that follows the

genre’s familiar formula: A humble person is caught up in extraordinary events and led (or sent) on a journey by a wise figure, only to discover eventually that he/she is destined to save the world in an ultimate confrontation between the powers of good and evil. In this case the young person is sixteen-year-old Maedra, who is rescued from slavery by the Bard Cadvan. They share an exhausting journey toward Innail, one of the Bard schools and strongholds that govern the land, and Maedra grows to trust Cadvan as he reluctantly reveals his magical powers in several ambushes from evil creatures. But under duress she, too, begins to discover that she has a Gift--and more. After she has learned to read, ride a horse, and handle a sword at Innail, they set out on another dangerous trek to the prestigious city of Norloch, where Cadvan hopes to consult with his mentor Nelac to confirm his conviction that Maerad is the One who was Foretold. Many other characters and creatures come into this tale, as well as mystical intimations and dreams, and lavish descriptions of landscape, food, clothes, and room furnishings. In the tradition of Tolkien, a whole history of an ancient language and culture undergirds the story, and Croggon has even provided appendices of that history, a pronunciation guide, and an invented bibliography of her sources. Die-hard fantasy fans who can forgive its slow pace will enjoy this richly imagined story and look forward to its sequel, The Riddle. (ages 12 and up) --Patty Campbell --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Starred Review. Grade 7 UpÃ¢â ¬â œIn this first volume in a projected quartet, Croggon has created a world that is both authentic and exotic, welcoming and frightening. When 16-year-old Maerad meets a man named Cadvan, she is catapulted from her life as a slave to an epic destiny. Cadvan is a Bard, one of the magically gifted Starpeople, and he begins to teach her about her own gifts and abilities. He believes her to be the prophesied One who will oppose the Nameless, the dark power working toward the destruction of the Bards and the Balance of the world. As Maerad and Cadvan travel, they join forces with Hem, a mysterious orphan, and learn that the Nameless’s influence reaches far into the world of the Bards. Encounters with great mythic figures of their world and threatening evil forces add to the epic flavor of their journey. Maerad’s story is presented as a translation of the great epic of a lost civilization, and explanatory appendixes add to this fantasy’s realistic feel. Maerad is a strong, bold, and appealing character, and her lack of knowledge about her world provides a framework for Croggan’s background explanations. Supporting characters, including the Bards and those who oppose them, are given realistic traits and flaws. While some coincidences in the plot may stretch readers’ belief, they are integral to the story. Maerad seems a kindred spirit to Tamora Pierce’s Alanna, and her story will find a welcoming audience among

readers looking for a challenging and fully realized epic adventure.Ã¢â ¬â œBeth L. Meister, Pleasant View Elementary School, Franklin, WI Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

After I read this book I felt like I needed to read more and more of these type of adventure stories. When I first picked up this book and looked at the cover, I felt it would be just a boring and plain old book with an obvious plot and similar types of characters who are in every normal story. I found out that I was very wrong. As soon as I started reading this book, I immediately got sucked into how amazing this book was and got mad at myself for not thinking it would be good. The book has two main characters: Maerad and Cadvan. During the course of the book, we find out that Maerad is a member of the School of Pellinor because of a powerful gift she has. Maerad escapes from a with the help of Cadavan. There is so much action and adventure in this book with so much detail that you feel like you're part of the book. The setting of this book varies because Maerad and Cadavan travel to so many different places. The first setting is the slave settlement. Many people help Maerad along the journey to finding her gift. The detail and suspense are what I liked about this book. The Naming is an epic and wonderful fantasy. I was thrilled over every word and loved every minute I spent in the world of Pellinor. Maerad is an amazing and powerful heroine. The characters are rich and varied from Light to Dark. I can't wait to start reading book 2! I REALLY recommend this book and want you to read it too!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This is an interesting beginning to an epic series of four books. Because of that there is a lot of world building and foretelling that goes on here.Good story of a slave who discovers there is more to her future and her past than she realized. I am quite sure how ha things that are only hinted at in the first book will be resolved by the final bookThis is not to say the book is not complete in itself. It is, but like any epic there are more things to come.Maerad is a very believable character with human failings, though I would sometimes get annoyed by them. Understandable since she had been a slave so long and is all of 16.

I always loved fairy tales. I read all, that I could put my hands on. I stumbled upon "The Naming" completely by accident. I didn't know anything of the author or the kind of writing she does. The most important for me in this book, and the way it's written, is that while ridding it I completely forgot that it's fantasy. To me the characters, events, and all descriptions are real. As real as the breakfast, that I'm going to eat shortly. There is danger to this book - I could NOT put it down. I was doing

everything with Kindle in my hands. I should say hand, because for cooking I needed at least one hand. Lol. Honestly, if someone likes fantasy - remembers how it felt to read "Lord of the Rings" - this book is THE IT. Lovely written adventure mixed with suspense, good fighting evil - or the other way around - and sorcery out of this wield. Wonderful READ for all that don't mind neglecting everyday "chores", because once you start... Just read it and you'll know what I'm talking about.

As an avid fantasy lover, whenever I pick up a new book, all I want to know is, is this ANOTHER Tolkien wannabe? Thankfully, Croggon knows how to stick to the fantasy tradition without sounding overly repetitive (i.e. Tolkien-ish). In the quest narrative style, the heroine travels across the land of Annar (complete with map) as she slowly discovers she must save the world. However, Croggon constructs the plot slowly until you are so steeped in the details about the life and culture of Annar that you think it's all totally believable. The use of "Bards" from different "schools," who use their magic through song and storytelling, gives the traditional "wizard" concept a new flavor. Croggon supports the Bard idea by using faux histories and appendices in the back of the book, making you wonder, if just for a moment, if all of this wonderful world could be, well, real.

Kindle sold this as one of their daily deals. I enjoyed it so much I had to get the rest of the series. I gave it only 4* because it was a bit like riding a roller coaster where the ride leaves off without an ending; in the middle of the downhill slide! It was well written. I'm glad I read it on Kindle so I could look up some of the words. The descriptions were beautifully written, but sometimes too involved & too long. The characters are very real & very imaginative. It was the kind of book that I did very little skimming, wanting to read every word. I'm already enjoying the 2nd in the series, but you should have heard the fuss when I got to only "92%" & that was the end of the book!

At first I was a bit disenchanted with the book. Our heroine starts in slavery and it is a bit slow to begin. Even the first travel description was a bit dull, but it quickly made up for itself. They mystery and story was well written. It took me a bit to get into, but once I did I read the other three books in half the time it took me to read the first.It was written in the LOTR style, and at first I saw too many similarities. However, the author really does make her own world. It's also a much easier read than LOTR and doesn't diverge into quite so many side stories. I really enjoyed this book, and came to love the characters...eventually.It's not a book I will probably ever read again, but many people I've talked to really love the series, so I would definitely recommend giving it a try if you like fantasy.

I came across a recommendation for this book on a Catholic blog about good books for girls. Since I have three girls, I thought I would check it out. So glad I did! This is a great read. The detail the author puts in the descriptions of the places and people are so well written, it doesn't become mundane or boring. Rather, you can really picture these settings and get caught up in the story. The heroine is interesting and believable, and the other characters are also well written. You get a real sense of personality and place from this book. The storyline is also fascinating, and captured my imagination. I would highly recommend this book, I can see my daughters loving it, too.

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