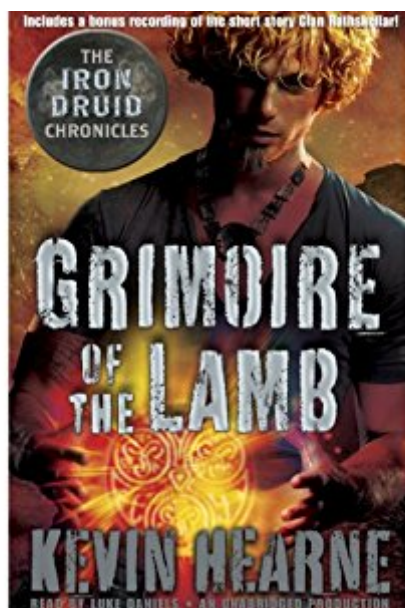


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Grimoire Of The Lamb: An Iron Druid Chronicles Novella



Synopsis

From the author of The Iron Druid Chronicles comes a rollicking, all-new urban-fantasy adventure featuring Atticus O'Sullivan. Atticus has a history of messing with the gods, and in this original novella, he'll have to outfox a deity at her own deadly cat-and-mouse game. When he's not vanquishing villainous gods or dodging demons, 2,000-year-old Druid Atticus O'Sullivan can be found behind the counter of Third Eye Books and Herbs in modern-day Tempe, Arizona, literally minding his own business. But when an evil sorcerer - and amateur shoplifter - snatches an ancient Egyptian tome of black magic, The Grimoire of the Lamb, Atticus is not sheepish about pursuing him to the ends of the earth...or at least to the Land of the Pharaohs. Unfortunately Atticus already has enemies in Egypt - including cat goddess Bast, who wants her own book of mischief back from the Druid. In the streets of Cairo, she sends a feline phalanx after Atticus and his Irish wolfhound, Oberon. With fur still flying, Atticus must locate the sorcerer's secret lair - where he will face killer crocodiles, spooky sarcophagi, and an ancient evil Egyptian who's determined to order the sacrificial lamb special tonight. Includes a bonus recording of the short story "Clan Rathskellar"!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Thoroughly enjoyable, well-written and well-researched books with an interesting premise. I am more than happy to give Kevin Hearne a 5 star rating in addition to purchasing everything he has published. I hope many others discover the fun adventures of The Iron Druid and a very entertaining cast of characters. However, the reader must jump through a mandatory hoop if you choose to

leave a rating. Star ratings are not acceptable on their own. No, any star rating is booby-trapped with the requirement of a written review, further weighted with a minimum word count, no less! Write a review or no stars from you. This is a tad bit bit onerous for the buyer who enjoyed reading the book and respects the author enough to pause and tap some stars. The demand for a written review effectively prevented me from posting the 5 star rating that might encourage others to enjoy an excellent book. This is ultimately unfair to Mr. Hearne, undoubtedly depriving him of many well-deserved 5 star ratings. Guilt eventually caught up with me, so herein lies not only my enthusiastic support of this book, but a bonus review of a misguided policy: to the Kindle folks or whoever came up with this Either/Or toll: lighten up on the needy/greedy gate keeping, already.

Overview (4 stars):-----Grimoire of the Lamb is a fun, quick read for people who enjoy the Iron Druid series of books. The writing style and tone are in line with the other books. The story is set in modern day Egypt and Tempe, Az. Atticus's past comes back to visit him. An Egyptian gentleman wants to purchase a very specific book/grimoire that only a few people have ever known about. So, naturally, Atticus is assuming something strange / potentially bad is happening. Atticus and Oberon end up going to Egypt to secure and/or destroy a very nasty evil tome. I love it when Oberon is involved in the Iron Druid stories; Oberon gets a few choice scenes in the story. The story plays out like a tabletop RPG one-shot game session -- interesting, self-contained and potentially lethal for the characters involved. It is worth getting this as a fix between other books. There is nothing earth shaking to the Iron Druid world in the book but it does add a bit of background as to why the Druids came into being. The Kindle price is about right for what you get in the story. Enjoy!

And now an observation from that long-lived philosopher, Atticus O'Sullivan: "People today think ancient Egypt was ineffably cool. I blame this misconception on hieroglyphics and (to a lesser extent) on the Bangles." To whet your appetite and to tide you over, Kevin Hearne's launched an eBook prequel novella, "Grimoire of the Lamb," one month before the release of *Hunted* (The Iron Druid Chronicles, Book Six), the much anticipated next installment in the Iron Druid Chronicles. In Hearne's own words, "Grimoire of the Lamb" is "set in 2005, four years before *Hounded: The Iron Druid Chronicles*, Book One. Aenghus 'g hasn't found him yet, Granuaile isn't bartending at R'la B'la, but we do get a cameo from the widow MacDonagh." Nostalgia drops in for a visit. In 2005, Atticus O'Sullivan's cover wasn't yet blown. He was still an established rare-book dealer running his own hybrid book shop/apothecary in Tempe, Arizona. One day an Egyptian bloke named Nkosi Elkhashab inquires about a rare book in Atticus's collection, titled "Grimoire of the Lamb." And when

the Egyptian shows up at the Third Eye Books and Herbs and steals the book, Atticus is forced to reassess his assumption that it's an ancient recipe book about cooking lambs. Oh, and he also gives chase... all the way to Egypt. His awesomely snarky telepathic Irish wolfhound, Oberon, tags along. Although it works as a fine stand-alone adventure, I don't know that this story works as well as a jumping on point for initiates to the series. For readers already steeped in the Iron Druid Chronicles, Hearne treats them to further background material on Atticus, specifically his underhanded exploits in ancient Egypt, and expressly his looting of the legendary Library of Alexandria. Atticus is aware that he's still persona non grata in Egypt, and so he makes it priority one to appease the cat goddess, Bast, who still holds a mighty grudge. But before the detente there's an exciting chase sequence in which Atticus and Oberon are pursued by frenzied Egyptian cats. What Oberon has to say about this is priceless. It's very much an Iron Druid story in the sense that Hearne is able to bring the rich worldbuilding we'd come to expect and the character work and the levity and also a touch of nostalgic for old times' sake. But this isn't as enjoyable as Hearne's other novella, *Two Ravens and One Crow: An Iron Druid Chronicles Novella*, and I'm having trouble articulating why. Maybe it's because most of Atticus's cast is missing and so we're deprived of those fun interactions. For example, Granuaile and the Morrigan are two of my favorite characters, and they're absent here. Maybe there's an element of marginalization because this arc, while harrowing in bits, simply isn't as relevant in light of what Atticus and company are currently undergoing. I found myself getting impatient while reading the extended segment in which Atticus infiltrates and explores the nasty crocodile priest's sanctum sanctorum. Still, I can't blame Hearne too much. I appreciate that he took time to write this story as a tide over tidbit to the fans. He does reward us by peeling back another page of Atticus's past, after all. He also presents a neat twist near the end of the story. And at least Oberon's here, loaded with canine witticisms and angling for treats. 3.5 out of 5 stars.

This is one of the best series I have read. The characters are well developed and Hearne's writing just pulls you in to a world where Atticus and Oberon kick ads.

A good read! Kept me on the edge of my chair! This time Atticus must tackle the Egyptian gods and their lackeys. Very fast paced. I wondered if Atticus would make it out alive or was that all he wrote?!

This isn't a novel; rather it's a story which takes place while Atticus is still living in Tucson. As with

all things Iron Druid, it's excellent-entertaining, smart and unique. At this point, I've read all of Kevin's ID Chronicles, and they occupy first place in my Urban Fantasy personal top 10-along with Jim Butcher, to whom I'm certain Hearne is sick unto death of being compared. If you haven't read this likable series, Do. It. Now. Word of advice-this novella won't make a lot of sense if you haven't read anything else in the series, although it will give you a pretty good idea of his writing style-which is ridiculously readable and entertaining.

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