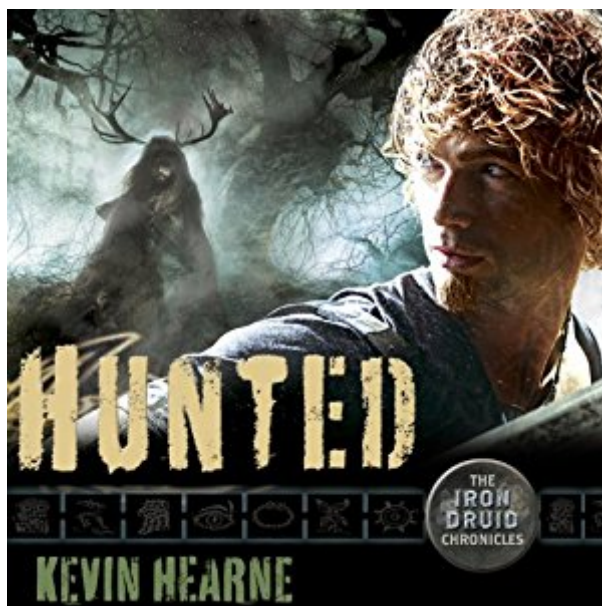


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Hunted: The Iron Druid Chronicles, Book 6



Synopsis

For a 2,000-year-old Druid, Atticus O'Sullivan is a pretty fast runner. Good thing, because he's being chased by not one but two goddesses of the hunt - Artemis and Diana - for messing with one of their own. Dodging their slings and arrows, Atticus, Granuaile, and his wolfhound Oberon are making a mad dash across modern-day Europe to seek help from a friend of the Tuatha Dé Danann. His usual magical option of shifting planes is blocked, so instead of playing hide-and-seek, the game plan is...run like hell. Crashing the pantheon marathon is the Norse god Loki. Killing Atticus is the only loose end he needs to tie up before unleashing Ragnarok - AKA the Apocalypse. Atticus and Granuaile have to outfox the Olympians and contain the god of mischief if they want to go on living - and still have a world to live in.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm back to reading this series after a long time away (reading epic rather than urban fantasy for a change of pace). The first thing I would suggest is to read the bonus novella at the end prior to reading the main novel. Because some key hints are dropped in the novella about an event that occurs in the book (fairly early on), and some background storyline issues are resolved. (There's something regarding Odin in Hunted that didn't make a lot of sense to me until after I read the novella.) If you like the previous books in this series, and the characters, you will probably like this one as well. It is a little different in some regards in that there are pretty much no breaks for the characters. They are on the run, nonstop, until nearly the very end. It's exciting, for sure, but it

leaves you wanting to take a deep breath. It was maybe a little too packed with action, as it didn't have any of the fun world-building and character development of past novels (no anti-British old neighbor lady, no running a bookshop/tea shop in Arizona, etc.). Then again, by the sixth novel in a series, with recurring characters, it can be difficult to shed new light on their natures. If you are not familiar with this series, it is fun (perhaps not quite the same as the Dresden Files, but if you liked Harry Dresden and company, there is a good chance you will also like this series), but I'd suggest starting back at the first book. Because new characters are added in nearly every book, and subsequent books (like this one) refer back to past events from the other books of the series. As with other volumes in the series, there is a goal to this volume (reach safety in England, despite pursuit and many obstacles), but also overall development of the series arc. I think a nice balance is struck, with each aspect feeding off the other. I feel like this book does a better job of making us afraid for the characters than some of the past books in the series. Really bad things happen to them and they do not dominate every conflict. Things happen where we're not sure they can recover. Once again, there are a lot of jokes about popular culture. I'm not sure that I caught all of them. In fact, I probably didn't. But it's fun to spot the references. In general, language was about what you'd expect -- modern (appropriate due to the setting) with some profanity and sexual references and a lot of one-liners and other jokes. The primary POV character is again Atticus, the druid from the series title. We do get a few POV chapters from Granuaile's point of view (she is now a full druid after what happens in a previous book), as well. Their voices are distinctly different, which is nice. There were no cues as to whose chapter was which in the chapter headings, but it turned out that I didn't need them -- I could figure out after the first paragraph, who was doing the talking (or thinking, as the case may be). There was some discussion of how one's idealism is lost after centuries of life. I think this was an interesting theme to explore, and something that lent seriousness and believability to the story. It's nice to have a theme like this, without being beaten over the head by it. I think the author does a good job here. I feel like I haven't been too specific at this point. It's hard to do so without spoiling everything, which I've been trying to avoid doing. But if you're happy with the first few books, you will probably like this one as well. Overall, a solid volume in the series. I'm glad the next one is already available.

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 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. Hearn, 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.

Pretty good all around, though the ending is so very clearly an opening for #7. I will mention that the book itself is shorter than it seems, because the novella "Two Ravens and a Crow" is printed at the end. I appreciated that, since it describes events that happened between 2 of the other books, and it made some of the later events make more sense. "Hunted" is an excellent title, because the bulk of the book happens as Atticus et al. are being hunted across Europe by various people and pantheons he's offended. It's very exciting and eventful, and does tie up some of the vast number of loose ends from previous books. I liked the way Hearne differentiated between the Greek and Roman pantheons. I don't necessarily agree with his choices- as I do not with the Irish and the Norse ones- but they are solidly based and interesting. For a 2100 year old dude, Atticus is sometimes really dumb in a young way... but I attribute that to his keeping his physiological age at 21, not an age at which young adults necessarily have lost all those teenaged hormones. If it were my choice, I think I'd go for 30 or so! It's a fun series, and I'm looking forward to #7. But- this is NOT the place to start! pretty much all of it references events that happened before, and I think someone new to the series would get lost.

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