


The Obsidian Key

Eldon Thompson

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In battle's fire, young Jarom became Torin, King of Alson, and now must forge his kingdom from the ruins of an empire. But by recklessly reclaiming the Crimson Sword of Asahiel, Torin reopened a dimensional realm no longer sealed by the power of the Obsidian Key. And now the Illysp have emerged from history's darkest hour—foul spirits that possess men's bodies and enslave their souls. With enemies advancing on all sides, Torin must undertake a perilous voyage to unearth the ancient secrets once used to overcome the vile interlopers. Yet even if Torin can somehow miraculously survive, it may already be too late for his devastated land.

The Obsidian Key Details

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Author : Eldon Thompson

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From Reader Review *The Obsidian Key* for online ebook

Jason says

A much slower read than the first one; Thompson takes a long time to warm up. One thing that I found annoying in this book and the first were how similar Allion and Torin are with the exception of a few skills and preferred weapons. While they had started to diverge midway through the first book, I found their personalities and...interests overlap so strongly again that one could be confused who was who, if they weren't in opposite parts of the world. I thought they dealt with Soric and the Shadow far too easily/conveniently too, like Thompson didn't know what to do with them, so he decided to put them in a spot out of the way of the rest of the book, but throw in a loophole for their eventual return. The ending had quite the surprise though; I didn't see that coming, although I doubt that will stay, it lifted my opinion of the book some.

Sheri Medlock says

fascinating

I enjoyed this book, but I loved the story first when reading the crimson sword years ago. The conclusion left me in tears, and I can't wait to start the next in the series

Taylor P. Davidson says

The Obsidian Key, Eldon Thompson

When Soric, an insidious and conquering sorcerer, declared war on Alson less than a year earlier, Jarom was forced into a birthright he had never asked for. Torn from his quiet life as the Farson of Diln, he soon found himself floundering as the new king following his father's brutal assassination. Jarom's quest to defeat Soric and an awakened demon queen from a bygone age drove him to seek out the fabled Crimson Sword, the magic of which promised to be Alson's salvation. But the talisman was more than just hidden away and served as a key, locking a more dangerous enemy than anyone could imagine in the astral plane they come from.

The Illysp rose on mass when Jarom took the Crimson Sword and began, in secret, a new invasion of Pentania. It is not long before the new king learns of the Illysp and he embarks upon a dangerous quest to the distant shores of Yawacor. Legends say that the remnants of Finlorians, elves who are ancient and wise in the use of magic, fled to the most inaccessible regions of the far continent after their civilisation on Pentania collapsed. The Finlorians, who had once prevailed over the Illysp and locked them away. Jarom must find them if he is to save his country and friends. He must speak with their elders and learn their dearest secrets,

The Good

The Obsidian Key is fast-paced and exciting, being full of the same gripping danger and strife that made *The Crimson Sword* so exhilarating. Many of the enemies Jarom made in the first book resurface and Eldon Thompson has managed to end many of the story arcs that were left open in favour of new ones that should

develop interestingly.

The Bad

Once again, Jarom's character was one of the worst things about the book and he was understanding and docile to the point that it wasn't plausible or reflective of real life. No matter what happened to him, he never became angry or hurt over events or betrayals and worked things through logically so he could emphasise with that person. Even the nicest and wisest people in real life aren't that understanding and forgiving, which added an unbelievability to an already bland character. Furthermore, it rendered Jarom's acts of violence slightly absurd when he suddenly dove into battle and began hacking down enemies left, right and centre.

As in the series first book, *The Obsidian Key* is full of extremely stereotypical villains and cheesy mannerisms. They 'snicker' and 'smirk' over the 'evil' things they do at every chance, which, again, is slightly unrealistic. Criminals in real life commit crimes and hurt people because it works to benefit them in whatever way, rarely because they enjoy being 'evil.' A man doesn't 'smirk' and 'snicker' when he robs or store or shoots someone dead, and I find it a bit unplausible when Thompson's antagonists do this.

My Thoughts

Overall though, *The Obsidian Key* was a good read and was a nice instalment to *The Legend of Asahiel*. I enjoyed reading it and am looking forward to finishing the trilogy in *The Divine Talisman* sometime soon.

Chris stanford says

very good book worst in the series but get through this one third is amazing.

Robert says

They Killed the main character. This makes me have little motivation to read the next one. but I will because it was still a great book

Thomas says

[Click here for a full The Obsidian Review](#)

The second installment of Eldon Thompson's *Legend of Asahiel* begins not long after the conclusion of *The Crimson Sword* and the reader is immediately introduced to a more dangerous enemy (that was seen briefly at the end of *The Crimson Sword*), along with a new cast of characters. The reader is also given a better understanding of the history of this land, although it is shaded through the eyes of a character that has dubious motives and a questionable interpretation. Personally, however, I am still very confused as to the moving pieces of race, politics and mythology that make up this land. The conflicts of the past seem to be very intriguing, even if they are not explored, but I still yearn for either a deeper explanation or a current implication of those stories. It seems to me that the state of the world (humans in charge and the rest of the races pushed to the side) needs some sort of explanation to further understand the large movement of the story line. [Click here to keep reading about The Obsidian Key](#)

For more thoughts on The Crimson Sword, visit my website.

Harry Flores says

A fantastic adventure! A little background on me reading this series:

I picked up the first book in the series way back in 2008 or 09. It looked interesting and so I snagged it. Every time I would try to read it, I never got through the first few chapters, and it sat on my book shelf for years. Eventually I decided to pick it up and read the darn thing. I was whisked away on an adventure of a life time.

Now in 2017, I finally decided to sit down and finish the second book in the series, and I can say the same. The book is wonderfully written. Eldon tells the story in such an elegant way that the words are pleasant to hear.

The book is a tome at over 700 pages, but those 700 pages are pages that draw you in, and make you linger in the world. You draw close to the characters, and start to relate to their own thoughts. It truly feels like you are traveling with the main characters, and by books end you really don't want to leave. This book deserves the attention.

I have to give this one 4.5/5
Highly recommended.

Nicole says

A great follow-up to the Crimson Sword. All three of the main characters do a lot of growing throughout the course of this book and all of the new characters that are introduced are great as well. Finished it yesterday, but still don't quite know what to think about the ending. In the spirit of not spoiling, I'll just say that the ending is making me somewhat hesitant about book 3, though I'll be sure to read that one as well.

Nic says

Read about 100 pages and stopped. Super boring and it reminded of another story. Basically, if Book 1 was "Wizard's First Rule", This book is "Stone of Tears". However, this author is about 100 times worse than Goodkind.

The hero's actions in book 1 caused the problems for book 2...blah blah blah

Every Body says

I loved this book simply because it is so much different than Normal Series Of super hero's and continues villains This is a twist on the average Fantasy Series and is really worth reading

Theresa Ortiz says

loved the detail and thought process the author gives this series...."a must read if you like old world fantasy" T_Money705
