



The Unyielding

Shelly Laurenston

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Stieg Engstrom, Angriest Viking Ever, has got big problems. The human Viking Clans of earth are in danger of being obliterated—along with the rest of the world—and the only one who may be able to save them is a super pain-in-the-ass Crow. Most people annoy Stieg, but this is the one woman he really can't stand...

Erin Amsel loves being a Crow! Why wouldn't she when the other Viking Clans are so hilariously arrogant and humorless? She's not about to let all that come to an end! She just didn't expect to be shoulder to shoulder in battle with Stieg. Then again, he's so easy to torment—and also kind of cute.

With the future of the world riding on them, Stieg knows he'll have to put aside his desperate need to kiss the smirk right off Erin's face. Wait. What? He didn't mean that—did he? No! They have one goal: To conquer the idiots. Because nothing bugs Stieg more than when idiots win. If only he can keep himself from suddenly acting like one....

The Unyielding Details

Date : Published March 28th 2017 by Kensington

ISBN :

Author : Shelly Laurenston

Format : Kindle Edition 400 pages

Genre : Romance, Paranormal Romance, Fantasy, Paranormal, Urban Fantasy, Mythology

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From Reader Review The Unyielding for online ebook

Yodamom says

This is the story of Erin and Stieg, Jackie the Man, the stripper, rotting corpses, naughty elves, upperclass dragons, snobby shifters and most importantly Ragnarök. Filled with non stop action, humor, horrific things, guffawing moments, adventure, chunky love and distant shores.

Erin is the gentle, giving, quiet redhead crow that everyone loves and adores. She has charmed the world with her wit and kindness. hahahahahahahahaha, Okay she is the most disliked, CURVY, untrusted crow, the snarliest, snarky foul mouthed, in your face, thorn twisting in your side, crazy flaming, man using, spiky, infuriating, nut job you'll meet and you'll love her. I adore her, I'm sorry about throwing curvy in there. Read the book you'll understand.

Stieg, the Raven, is quiet, serene, a babe in the woods, until Erin. Okay he's a big Viking, a big grumpy, ah angry beast of a man. He is also loyal, sexy, strong, and laugh out loud funny in that quiet honest way that makes my knees wobble.

There where two beasties that were brought front and center in the story that I loved. Who doesn't love a goat ? Hilda, will charm the goat hater out of you. I think she may be the funniest goat character I've read. I may want a goat now.

Nidhogg, was my favorite new beastie. He is the big bad horrible nasty stinky dragon who made me want to get a "I love Nidhogg" T-shirt and fan button from the Norse bookstore. The twist the author gave him when he spoke had me chuckling and hearing a TV personality in my head. No, I don't want a Nidhogg.

This is the third book in the series and I think the best so far. Each new book just seems to one up the fun factor for this reader. I loved every page, every chapter I highlighted like crazy. I will re-read it in audiobook format along with the first 2 while I wait for book 4 !

Thank you NetGalley and Publishers for the ARC

"<http://i.giphy.com/IinTOC3WIDjDW.gif&...>

KatieV says

I like this series, but I'm not sure if it's the content or the narrator that keeps it from 'love it' territory. I think it's a little of both, so a 3 it is.

The narrator's voice continues to grate on me, YMMV.

As far as content. I don't feel like there is a great depth of emotion going on here, which is important for me in a romance. The books are fun and imaginative, the heroes are adorable, but the angst factor is pretty non-existent.

Cece ❀Rants, Raves &Reviews❀ says

Apparently this book isn't meant to be read as a stand alone...**only my sass and stubbornness made me see it through** (But now i gotta go back& figure out who the hell everyone is)

But if I know anything its that I love Erin and Stieg, mostly Erin!!

"I don't understand why you're so uptight. My God, man, loosen up."

"He shot you in the head. I'd think you'd be a little angrier."

Amsel shrugged. "I don't let the little things bother me."

"He shot you in the head," the man repeated. "How is that a little thing? And then he did it again!"

So we got the whole cliché end of the world and of course... **ERIN AMSEL IS OUR ONE AND ONLY CHANCE**, AND TO BE PERFECTLY HONEST- SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WITH THE GUTS TO DO IT!!

"Sweetie," Rada said, leaning forward, "that's 'cause she's insane."

And guys she is, haha she totally is.

And now lets meet our main-squeeze/love interest, the Raven Stieg. And its love at first sight

"She'd never met anyone so young who seemed so bitter. Something about him just radiated "old man ordering kids off his lawn."

NOTTTTTTTTT!!! Not so much as a slow burn but at first they can't stand each other then they gotta then they work together then its love/hate.

In general **Erin struggles with..hmm whats the word...Order. Rules. Logic.** Any of those would work.

Stieg finds out she was selected to do this likely death resulting mission and he kidnaps her. And she is so fucking chill about it

"He refused to stop or even turn around at the sisters yelling at him to stop. Erin settled back into the seat."

"You're not going to complain?" he asked.

"Nope. I can tell."

"Tell what?"

"That you're madly in love with me."

"Oh, shut up."

AND THEN WE MEET AN **EVIL GRANDMA** WHO KNOWS THE HARBINGERS OF DEATH OH COME ON THATS SOME CLASSIC AWESOME SHIT RIGHT THERE GUYS!!!

"While he consumed the burger, he used his free hand to reach over and picked up the napkin, frowning at Erin's artwork. "Jace's grandmother does not have horns. Or a crown. Or seven heads."

"Are we sure?" Erin asked skeptically."

And to be honest there seemed like some hilarious charactes **that i could tell i was suppose to know but didn't**...but guys it was so fucking funny going in blind.

"I don't know." Bear put his hand over his heart. "I just feel that something horrible has happened to a book somewhere that has my ancestors crying out in horror and pure pain."

Ski lowered his hand and stepped back. "Seriously?"

"Yes, seriously!"

"My god, brother. We need to get you a dog."

In the end Erin and Streig gotta go through the 9(?) Relms and meet the greatset dwarf couple in the world

"Then what are you doing here?"

"It's complicated."

The dwarf pulled a chair over and sat in front of Stieg. "All right," he said, "who fucked up and started Ragnarok again?"

And then it just ends. Seriously this is the fucking ending:

(view spoiler)

THATS IT!?!?! What am i suppose to do with that?? I want to keep reading and **finds out what happens** but i always wanna **go back** so i understand who is who. #book struggle #definitely recommend!

boogenhagen says

I wanna be Erin when I grow up, she is totally my hero. Stieg and his goat, awww!

This was fall down laughing hysterical. I love this series, there hasn't been a bad one yet. Hurray!

Marta Cox says

Four and a half

This book finally closes the arc that sees a Goddess trying to start Ragnarok and finish off the world as we know it. Now you just know that this has to be the ending to surpass all expectations and with the heroine chosen here it's a glorious, inspired and yes ever so slightly insane choice. The most irritating, snarky and downright infuriating Erin is about to show everyone just why she loves being a Crow so much. Previously we've seen her vexing and bothering just about everyone but her almost manic desire for trouble simply knows no bounds and yet her loyalty is never in question.

Stig isn't sure what it is about Erin that grabs him but she clearly needs watching, hmm maybe a bodyguard wouldn't be such a bad idea or then again perhaps a psychiatrist is what she needs? Still the more time he spends around her the more he starts to almost understand what drives her. So when it's clear that only someone with Erin's special talents can retrieve something that just might help solve the problem of Gullveig he's alpha enough to step back and let Erin do what she does best and that's definitely raise hell ! But oops in the world of the Nine Clans there's always going to be someone who likes to meddle!

Ok I sincerely hope that I've expressed just how maddening Erin is because SHE IS! Totally unapologetic about it and yet she just gets things done. The romance with Stig is there but it's not exactly front and centre but a slow build as they each get under each other's skin. Now I did enjoy their interactions but for this reader the quest was the highlight of the book and I'm sorry but it was far too short ! So much action and adventure takes place with amazing descriptions and wow the creatures introduced were simply fantastic but yep you just know Erin hasn't finished grating on everyone and there's a rather large foe who learns just how annoying she can be!

If you love over the top and downright crazy characters then this series has them in spades. The humour is pretty near the knuckle at times too with outrageous comments that are anything but PC so you have been warned. This author goes where few others would dare and frankly I was shocked a couple of times with references to a society that changed our history but then again these characters don't take any prisoners . What impresses me the most though is the authors ability to take a character who most want to punch (really hard!) and make her so likeable . If my reference to closing the arc about Gullveig worries you fear not because at the very end there's a new player in town and I'm guessing that person won't go quietly . Let battle

commence !

A copy of this was provided for me with no requirement for a review and I have voluntarily read it and these comments are my honest opinion

Corina BookTwinsReviews says

Shelly Laurenston is known for her witty dialogues, diverse characters, and hilarious and funny situations. I've loved her Pride series and Dragon Kin series under her pseudonym G.A. Aiken.

When she announced that she was done with her Pride series I was crushed!!!

But I shouldn't have worried.

Call of Crows was born.

This series is COMPLEX!!!

So many characters from different mythologies are all wrapped up in one book.

Norse mythology has many different gods. Add their followers and the end result is complex and layered. Some of those followers had special powers, other were shifters. Norse Gods loved to cause trouble as entertainment. Groups of supporters like the Crows and the Ravens served different gods but were friendly enough not to kill each other on sight.

The series had a continuous arc, so jumping in by picking up this book might not be a good idea. Grab book 1 instead and enjoy the ride from the beginning!!!

At the beginning of the book Erin and Stieg had nothing in common. Erin was a Crow and Stieg a viking, part of the Raven clan. When it all started out, hundreds of years ago, their groups killed each other, maybe not that long ago, because they were all still very much interested in killing people. But at that time long ago everyone pretty much killed everyone else. And since many of the Norse Gods followers were immortal in this realm, they came back to do it again – YAY!!!

That's what Erin found out first hand, she was killed with a bullet to the head. Since that didn't kill her, the guy who did the shooting in the first place was now after her to finish the job.

Unbeknownst to her she was the only one that could save the world.

But Erin, was known for being in the middle of chaos, not only that – she often instigated chaos. To keep her alive poor Stieg had to play babysitter – which of course didn't go down smoothly.

Even so Erin was a thorn in Stieg's life, he decided that with all the chaos she attracted it might be better if he kept an eye on her. Erin a snarky and witty spitfire of a woman turned Stieg's orderly life upside down.

It was very funny to see those two interact.

Erin and Stieg were quite the opposites, but the saying 'opposites attract' pretty much was coined for this

couple. Chaos loving Erin and the more shy and quite Stieg were drawn to each other if they liked it or not.

All the other characters from book 1 and 2 were present as well. The story unfolded in quick succession, with interludes from gods, and other leaders that kept my head spinning.

Erin and Stieg didn't seem to have chemistry at all at the beginning, instead it slowly and steady grew throughout the book. Somehow those two made it work.

The Unyielding was highly entertaining, with a complex cast and intriguing plot.

I would say it was a great addition to an already great series.

4 stars

ARC generously provided in exchange for an honest review.

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Douglas Meeks says

What can you say about these books? They are pure insanity with a plot that is equally insane but pulls you in for an engaging story that requires you to give up any semblance of reality.

Erin and Stieg make a great couple since they can't decide if they hate each other or just can't stand to be away from each other for the majority of this book which leads to some really great dialog and some really weird situations (like the goat).

I can keep this short , if you enjoy the DragonKin books you will love it, if you can be entertained by insanity taken to the extreme, this is your book. If anything resembling normal and reality is a requirement, then you might want to move on. As for myself I was loving it and it gave me a very enjoyable couple of days reading.

4 Stars

Lady Heather says

"A copy of this ARC has been provided by the publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review"

I have to start off by saying that the dialogue in this book is so incredibly sarcastic and funny.

So many times I was laughing out loud because of how outrageous the dialogue was.

Erin is a dick.

She goes out of her way to irritate and piss people off.

It's just who she is, and she does it because *"they usually start it."*

I really liked Stieg's character as well.

He's only one "mean" enough (He is a Viking Warrior) to handle Erin.

Great story, wonderful writing, and colorful characters. Combine all of these elements and you get an entertaining and engaging story.

I highly recommend this story!

Sabrina says

NOW LIVE!

Amazon * B&N * Kobo

The third in Shelly Laurenston's Call of Crows series *The Unyielding* brings us the story of Erin and Stieg. Erin is a the Crow that loves causing chaos everywhere she goes and apologizes for nothing. Stieg can't stand the pain in the ass Crow and doesn't want to be around her more than he's forced to be, so he hates his new orders of having to watch over her. Erin is the only one that can save the world from crumbling down around them, which means Stieg needs to make sure the people she pisses off with her personality don't actually succeed in killing her.

Erin is kind of the bitch out of this group of girls, but that's why I loved her! She was so unapologetic about her personality and she never tried to change who she was for others. I really liked that she was such a strong character and didn't give in to social-norms. I can't lie and say there weren't times that she got a little annoying, but that was the beauty of her character - you'll love to hate her.

Stieg was the quiet Viking and there were times that he came off a little shy but I think that was just because Erin's character was such a powerful one that he took a seat in the background sometimes. But I mean all of this in a good way because the two of them worked really well together and seeing the difference between them endeared me to Stieg even more. On the outside everyone thought he was the angry one, but we got to see a different side to him and I really liked that.

This is a series that I will highly recommend for anyone that likes a good Paranormal and other-worldly story. Ms. Laurenston perfectly brings you into a world that has Gods and Goddesses and leaves you no room to doubt that all of these creatures are real. Her writing has always been able to captivate me and I know it will

continue to do so in the future so I can't wait to read more from this series.

The Unyielding Playlist:</u>
Hunger - Frankie & The Heartstrings
Mooncalf - Active Bird Community
Gone - JR JR
What's Real - WATERS
Morocco - Moon Taxi
Atomic Man - Portugal, The Man
Come Home - CHAPPO

ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review.

Mindy Lou's Book Review says

This is one of the top most entertaining books I've read to date and Shelly Laurenston has just gained a new fan! I don't know what I was expecting, but it wasn't what I got. I adored this book. It had such a crazy and wonderfully, entertaining storyline with so many characters. I was afraid I wouldn't be able to keep up and learn who was who but I think I was just so drawn into the characters it really wasn't an issue.

The balance of creating a serious storyline and being able to mix humor throughout can't be an easy accomplishment, yet it was spot on. I can't tell you how many times this book had me laughing out loud. The humor was great and I never felt it was over the top. I can't do this story justice if I tried to explain it. Just know there are the 9 clans, humans, Gods, shifters, a dragon and even a goat plays a part. It's bloody and full of gore while they are all trying to save the world but I can guarantee you laugh just as much as there is fighting. I can't wait to go back and read the first two books in the series.

ARC provided by NetGalley.

Aisling Zena says

4.5 stars

This started off a bit slow but it kept steadily building up! I had missed the Crows and their shenanigans! SL is a master of multiple POVs. On every POV I wanted more. Every time, SL left me wishing it was just a bit longer.

This book even with it's multiple POVs centers around Erin Amsel. The irritating, pain in the ass Crow that you can't decide if you love or hate. In the first book, Erin got on my nerves big time. Then on the second book I started to see more of how she ticked. And in this one I can't say I fell head over heels in love with her but I was certainly entertained by her. Erin's mission in life is to irritate the living hell out of everyone around her. She finds it hilarious to piss off other people. In this book, I found it funny too. In the other two books it was 50/50 for me. Even though she can be irritatingly funny, Erin is also loyal, persevering, and

willing to sacrifice herself for others without a second thought. She is also brilliantly brutal in battle like her sister Crows.

Her romance with the ever angry (mostly in appearance) Stieg Engstrom didn't go off with a bang. It was much more of a slow build relationship for me. Their connection and trust didn't just appear but it was built up. Their adventures forged the way and their compatibility became more and more apparent as the book progressed. I was quite skeptic about them in the beginning and felt like the book wouldn't rate over 3.5 stars but slowly SL wound her magic all around me and as the plot progressed the more engrossed and bewitched I became.

Our Nine Clans finally unite, not without grumbling, to defeat their enemy and stop Ragnarok. Gullveig is determined to squish humanity under her gold Prada booties. (She is a Vanir Goddess of healing obsessed with gold.) She is unstoppable and so far no God or human has managed to kill her and make it stick. Our Clans are desperately searching for something to help them defeat her. But with Gullveig teaming up with Hel (Loki's daughter), it doesn't look that great for anyone in our world.

With the situation coming to a head Erin is left with no choice but to go to extremes. (view spoiler)

This was definitely another fantastic addition to the series. I cannot wait to see where Shelly Laurenston will take this next.

Counting down the months!

Nope, still too far away!

Annie (Under the Covers Book Blog) says

I was totally unprepared for this book. I've been reading Shelly Laurenston for years and feel like I've come to expect what her books are going to be like but I feel like Laurenston has taken her writing and has amped everything up a thousand degrees in this book. Most of the complex worldbuilding is in her Dragonkin series under her G.A. Aiken series so I was pleasantly surprised to see this method of storytelling in this series.

In addition to the better worldbuilding, Laurenston also has these two outrageous characters that completely

took me by surprise. Now I've heard pretty much all of Laurenston's books so I'm familiar with her crazy-ass characters but the heroine in particular is a definite woot. Erin is so funny that I really want to become her friend now. Not only is she crazy but she almost has this sadistic side to her as well. I think if you're easily offended or rely on logic a lot then you probably won't like this book but that's also what I love about this series. Laurenston doesn't play by the rules. In fact, there are no rules at all. These characters do what they want whenever they want and Erin is completely unapologetic about her actions. It was refreshing and I have to say, very entertaining.

I think the biggest complaint that this series has from its readers is that there isn't actually much Romance. There's the hero and heroine and they spend a lot of time bantering but some people have said that they want more concrete romance that builds like every other book. Yeah. I can see their point, but at the same time, I kind of like that this book is so different to other PNR out there. I LIKE the emphasis on the jokes and the humor because that is Shelly Laurenston! That's what she's known for. So if you're expecting an emotional romance that will bring tears to your eyes, this series isn't for you. But I have cried from laughing too much while reading these books and I think that's just as good.

A definite favorite of mine this year, THE UNYIELDING doesn't hold anything back and Shelly Laurenston has completely impressed me by this book.

Jilly says

"All right. Who fucked up and started Ragnarok again?"

I've developed a love for Norse Mythology in the last couple of years. It is crazy, super complicated, bloody, and very funny. Much like this series. It is the bloodiest, and yet funniest, smutty romance I have ever read. I absolutely love the insanity.

And, every single character is insane. It's refreshing, really.

Yes, there IS a crazy squirrel who keeps starting shit.

This is book three in the series, and I have to warn anyone coming in that you will be totally lost if you haven't read the first two. It was even a little tough to remember enough details to not be confused at first when I did read them all. The author doesn't do any recapping. And, honestly, I appreciate that. There are certain series that do so much recapping in their later books that I feel like I want to stab someone in the eyeball to make it stop. Remember that vampire series about Ethan and Merit (Merrick?... whatever)? By the end, more than 75% of each book was recapping. If someone hasn't read any of the books, are they really going to start the series at book 10? If so, they deserve to be lost.

It's like when my hubs tells me not to bother hitting the pause button while he pops into the kitchen, but then cooks a ten-course meal or something and misses an hour of the movie, and comes back and says "what happened?" Who is that guy?" Why is she mad?"

I have them on speed-dial.

And speaking of gouging out eyeballs.. there seems to be an inordinate number of eyeball-stabbings in this book. I have to say, I approve of this. There aren't nearly enough eyeball-related injuries in your average book, and from what my parents always told me, it's very easy to lose an eye. I guess with Odin being their god and all, they understand the eyeball vulnerability problem better than most.

"No, really. I can't tell at all. It looks totally natural!"

So, Ragnarok is coming (that's the end of the world/apocalypse - Norse Style), and the only way to stop it is to send a crazy girl out to another world to defeat a dragon to get the enchanted sword to kill the angry goddess. No problem.

Erin is our girl. She is one of those girls who makes trouble and then laughs her ass off at the results. She takes nothing seriously and has the ability to piss people off to the point of wanting to kill her soon after she meets them. I like her. She's my spirit-animal.

She also has a tendency to get shot in the head a lot. It's lucky for her that it doesn't kill her.

It's just a flesh wound.

Stieg is our guy who is lucky enough to get Erin as his love-interest. She annoys the crap out of him.

"It amazes me that more people haven't shot you in the head."

"That's mean! People love me."

"Imaginary people?"

Erin is a hard-core smartass, so she should have a love-interest who loves to laugh and who cracks up at her jokes, right?

Um, no. Here is Erin's friends describing Steig:

"He always looks like he's working the customer service desk at the DMV."

"I always thought he looked like a postal worker who's about one write-up away from losing it completely."

That's some serious Resting Bitch Face! On a man!

But, they make an adorable couple who are heading out to their own certain deaths to try and stop a coming apocalypse that is totally unstoppable.

This series is great fun and I'm really glad that the author was able to put a little tease at the end to show us that even if this storyline is over, there is more to come.

Julia's Book Haven says

I absolutely loved this book. I don't say this often because frankly it usually doesn't end up going well but god I wish they would make this series into a TV show. The world Shelly Laurenston has created it just so detailed and her writing is amazing, especially the battle scenes. You get such a clear picture about what is happening and it is truly a pleasure to read anything she writes. You'll get nonstop action with hilarious unique characters and to top it all off some steamy love action.

I LOVED Erin she is literally the best. Such a huge freaking dick and so unapologetic about it. Something that I truthfully love in a character. She was also just straight up funny and really really brave. I have to say though the surprise for me was Stieg, there was a lot more to him then I first assumed. Yes he is very much an angry, grouchy Raven but he was also really sweet and devoted. He accepted Erin for who she was without trying to change her. He had her back from the start and I was impressed with how even though he would at times protect Erin (even from herself) he always trusted her and never got in the way of her mission. He is basically an alpha male who knows how to take care of his alpha female without crushing her spirit and I loved that.

Now anyone thinking about reading this book I'll give you the lowdown here. This is not a standalone series, please read them in order otherwise you'll miss stuff even though each book is about different MC's. Also these books are very story heavy, meaning yes they are romances but that is woven into the main story and not so much the focus of the book. Like this one had I think four steamy scenes and they aren't horribly long (to be fair they are trying to stop the end of the world so they don't have a lot of time to be fooling around lol) But I don't feel like the romantic story suffers simply because of how good a writer Shelly Laurenston is, she connects you to these characters from page one and doesn't let you go. And lastly, these books are heavy, and I mean HEAVY on POV changes. In the first book I found it a bit jarring and wasn't sure about it, but now I'm used to it. I think for the action packed story it works best because there is so much going on. And I pretty much love all of the characters in this series so I don't mind hanging out with them for a few pages or a chapter, but I know some people don't like changing POV's so just giving you a heads up this one probably won't be for you.

I do highly recommend this one to everyone really. The writing is great, the storyline is super interesting and you'll be laughing out loud from start to finish.

Now bring on LOKI!!!!

ARC Provided By NetGalley For An Honest Review

Talltree says

4.25 stars!
