



REVIEWS FOR BOOK THREE

Forms of Things Unknown is based on an actual event which occurred in June of 1876 in Chicago. It is the third standalone book in the Backstage Mystery Series and as with the previous two, it is an absolutely wonderful read. One thing I've noticed with Ireland's writing is that the history is spot on and you instantly feel transported to that time. I love this book.

~ **Babydolls and razorblades**

<https://babydollsandrazorblades.wordpress.com/2019/06/07/book-review-the-backstage-mysteries-book-three-forms-of-things-to-come-by-elizabeth-ireland/>

Intrigue, murder, mystery, suspense and ghostly goings-on are deliciously and delightfully intertwined in Elizabeth Ireland's third Backstage Mystery novel, *Forms of Things Unknown*. Based on an actual event, *Forms of Things Unknown* is a fascinating and compelling novel which is a beguiling and enchanting blend of history, drama and the stage... A fabulous installment in the Backstage Mysteries Series that should not be missed, *Forms of Things Unknown* is another triumph for Elizabeth Ireland.

~ **Bookish Jottings** <https://bookishjottings.wordpress.com/2019/06/04/forms-of-things-unknown-by-elizabeth-ireland-blog-tour/>

I've read all three of these Backstage Mysteries to date now, and I've really enjoyed each of them...Once again, fact is woven in with fiction, to create a real page-turner, and I found myself racing through to get to the heart of things. The theatre is a great world for mysteries, with everyone being so skilled at hiding who they really are, and I would highly recommend the series to anyone who likes a well-written mystery, in an interesting setting.

~ **Historical Fiction with Spirit**

<https://jennifercwilsonwriter.wordpress.com/2019/06/03/book-review-elizabeth-ireland-form-of-things-unknown/>

I was really excited to be back in Lillian's world, after reading the first two books I was definitely happy that I got to continue with Lillian on her journey. Just like the others, this is told as a memoir, as we are transported back to 1876. What I have really loved about this book series is that not only does it really make it feel like it has taken you back in time it also pulls you in and fully engrosses you within the story. As a bonus feature, it throws in tales of the theatre with a few Shakespeare quotes as well. Once again I loved not only the characters but the storytelling and fantasy aspect. If you are a

fan of historical fiction/theatre or an added bit of fantasy I definitely recommend this book series for you! ~ FNM

<https://nzfnmblog.wordpress.com/2019/06/02/book-review-forms-of-things-unknown-by-elizabeth-ireland-rararesources/>

I had the best time with this book, a historical fiction/fantasy book that made the history of the times so fresh and real; readers, you are there with our heroine, actress Lillian Nolan. We learn about two intense weeks in Lillian's life as told by the 96-year-old Lillian, who is writing her memoirs. From a vantage point of about 70 years, Lillian writes with a confident, clear, factual style.

~ **JenaBooks** <https://www.jenabooks.com/sharing-a-new-book-5/>

I loved the little factual elements to this story, mentions of a patent for the telephone, popular fiction of the time and the general lifestyle, which just brought the story to life... An absolute charming, cosy mystery with a haunting feel. Marvellously engaging writing as always by Elizabeth Ireland.

~ **The Bookwormery** <https://orlando-books.blog/2019/06/05/forms-of-things-unknown-by-elizabeth-ireland-book-review/>

I'm really getting into the historical fiction genre this year, and a lot of that has to do with Elizabeth Ireland's Backstage Mysteries Series. I love that this is written in memoir style. It is such a unique way to tell the story and I was glued to the pages. As the third in the series, there is still a ton happening to Lillian and for her to solve. The characters are interesting, and Chicago and the theater during 1876 is fascinating. This could definitely be read as a standalone, but the rest of the series is so good, I'm recommending you read them all.

~ **Jessica Belmont** <https://jessicabelmont.wordpress.com/2019/06/06/9358/>

To round up, *Forms of Things Unknown* is a period drama, set in the glitzy world of theatre, with strong willed female characters, twists and turns which take a real-life event and put it on its head, and will be satisfying for fans of the unexpected. I haven't even touched the plot in this review, as I feel that's something you must experience in real time, but I hope I've given you enough to decide if this story is one to add to your TBR. I know I'll be checking out the rest of the series with earnest, and hope if you do read this, you'll come back and let me know.

~ **Radzy Writes** <http://www.vainradical.co.uk/blogs/forms-of-things-unknown-blog-tour/>

Lillian Nolan returns to her memoirs, the stage and investigating murders in this third installment of the Backstage Mystery Series. The story reads perfectly easily as a standalone, but reading the previous books first will give you more of a sense of the character development, and particularly Lillian's challenges with her family and her

'gifts'...This is a great cosy mystery series for fans of theatre and the supernatural and I look forward to seeing where Lillian's adventures take her next.

~ **Bookshine and Readbows**

<https://bookshineandreadbows.wordpress.com/2019/06/05/blog-blitz-forms-of-things-unknown-backstage-mysteries-3-elizabeth-ireland/>

I am thoroughly enjoying the Backstage Mystery Series and although *Forms of Things Unknown* could easily be enjoyed as a standalone, I'm pleased I've read the books in order to truly appreciate not just how Lillian has changed but also how the other recurring characters respond and adapt to both her experiences and their own over the course of time. The authentic sense of time and place is once again a real highlight of the novel, particularly in the scenes set in the theatre and the captivating combination of the historical and paranormal together with the ongoing personal developments mean that I'm intrigued to know more and look forward to the next book in this absorbing series.

~ **Hair Past A Freckle** <https://hairpastafreckle72.blogspot.com/2019/06/forms-of-things-unknown-by-elizabeth.html>

The series just keeps getting better... I found this third book in The Backstage Mystery Series my favourite of the three. As I mentioned earlier, each book in the series reads perfectly well as a standalone, but reading them together is just a treat. You really see Lillian develop – as a person, a spiritualist and as an actress – throughout the books...In true historical fiction fashion, the backdrop of Chicago could be a character in itself. The city comes to life in this book and the sprinkling of actual historical figures and events gives this book a realistic touch that makes you almost suspend belief that it's a work of fiction.

~ **book frolic** <https://www.bookfrolic.com/book-reviews/forms-of-things-unknown-by-elizabeth-ireland-blog-tour/>

Elizabeth Ireland has shown admirable adroitness in creating the difference between the experienced and philosophical voice of 96 year old Lillian Nolan and the youthful and gullible voice of 22 year old Lillian. The transitions between these two voices could easily have been abrupt or shaky but the author kept it in control throughout *Forms of Things Unknown*...The Backstage Mystery Series is truly an enjoyable series that you need not read one after the other. Each book can absolutely be read as stand alone but I have relished following along with the series.

~ **Trails of Tails** <https://trailsoftales620253622.wordpress.com/2019/06/07/blog-tour-forms-of-things-unknown-by-elizabeth-ireland/>

As Lillian had accepted her supernatural gift, there was a more supernatural feel to this story as Lillian honed her gifts to help solve the case. It was also interesting to read the historical events. At the end of the book there is a write up of the actual event that

helped form this story which happened in 1876...If you like a gentler murder series with a supernatural historical feel than this is the series for you. ~ **Terror Tree**
<http://terror-tree.co.uk/2019/06/forms-of-things-unknown-by-elizabeth-ireland/>

Ireland weaves a clear love for theatre and acting into this series. It gives the characters and scenes much more depth, because it feels alive and personal. The pleasure derived from entertaining others and experiencing the joy of acting. It plays a pivotal part in this series, which may seem like an obvious thing to say considering what the series is called, but backstage doesn't necessarily mean you can capture the magic. ~ **Cheryl's M-M Book Blog** <https://mmcheryl.wordpress.com/>