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Shadows: Nightlord, Book 2



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Synopsis

"I’ve awakened in a stone box about the size of a large coffin.... I’m filthy, everything aches, and, by the various so-called gods, I smell awful. I’ve woken up in worse places. Hmm. What does that say about my life choices?" (Eric, amateur magician, part-time vampire, and accidental king) It’s not easy being king. Especially when you’ve got an allergy to sunrise and sunset, a fire goddess for a mother-in-law, demonic adversaries, random assassins, and a basement full of insecurities to cope with. Add to that his daughter, the fire priestess/princess; a couple of lightly deranged professional magicians; a whole city full of wizards; and enough squabbling princes to resemble a kindergarten argument. It’s enough to make a man want to just go home. Luckily for Eric, he has the world’s fastest pet rock, a smart-mouthed sword, and a horse that not only understands him but likes him anyway.

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Customer Reviews

The second book in the series takes place almost exclusive in a high fantasy sword and sorcery environment. Our vastly overpowered vampire protagonist has to come to terms with nearly everyone he knows being long-deceased while he slept, and a continuing series of clever challengers who get the better of him, repeatedly. The sardonic sense of humor and excitable inventor personality combined with a contrast of extreme kindness and nearly conscienceless cruelty make this one of the most entertaining characters I’ve ever seen. I loved this book as much as the first one, and was overjoyed that it was just as satisfyingly long and detailed.Yes, that’s right -

you heard me correctly. People who want short books - shut up. Sit down. Some of us love LONG books. Some of us love reading about the mechanics of canal systems, and magical physics, especially when they're told with such enthusiasm. So there. :PThere's a lot of profound philosophy hidden away in these books. I love that, too.

This book ends in a cliffhanger. But more than that it's just not quite there as a story. There's a the bits and pieces to make it good and there were parts I liked but it didn't hold together.The book it mostly a base building story with a campaign stuck on the end (I like both so I should have been happy). But the campaign should have happened earlier. Why didn't it? Where's the logic? Where's the advisers? That part is poorly explained.I would have read the next if the ending was different. I felt like it was a big f-you to the readers. Killed the book and the series for me. I won't even read something else by this author in the future. There's lots out there to read. I'll take my money elsewhere.

I hate to say it but this book drags and drags mightily.. I like the first one but the second is not close.The plot seems lost with fillers taking the place of the actual story, almost like there was no overall plan and the storied developed from just what ever random event the author thought up. Lots of things made no sense he wakes from what seems a short time to him and doesn't rush to see his wife but rather stays with some other woman ?The book was also far more preachy than the first. UGH, Couldn't finish it gave it a good try and far more hours than it deserved

The second book not so much. It rambler on for so long that I couldn't stay focused on what was going on at many points in the story. The only reason it was not horrible is because the sarcasm & humor was great as in the first book. I'm not real sure what the author was trying to accomplish with this second book. Sigh

I am really enjoying the Nightlord series. The writing is both humorous and very detailed in outlining the way Eric's magical and vampiric powers work. I find it endlessly inventive and it really makes the book stand out in a kind of Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court kind of way. The supporting characters like Tort, Amber, and the three bodyguards aren't as well rounded as they might be, but they function well as mirrors for our main character to see himself. While it's a good thing that he isn't all powerful, he sometimes gets ambushed in ways where you would think he would have known better. That's the only reason why I don't give this 5 stars.

Good book. Very late and not in the same vein as the first book. Very predictable ending, the foreshadowing was just too thick. Spent too much text building, not enough doing. The final quarter of the book had the main character just flirting with the concept of finishing the story.

I really liked the first book in the series, and eagerly launched into this one after a cliff-hanger ending. This one was not as good, but you get so invested in the characters that you forge onward - like War and Peace except less classic and a lot less Russian. Eric/Halor has lots of great ideas for improving his kingdom and the author treats us with endless exposition of these ideas, and I mean endless. Tort is a bit irritating with all her "my angel" this and that. Also endless. I would be very tempted to smack anyone who consistently did that. On the positive side, the mythology is still inventive and engaging. Old enemies have been replaced with a new mystery adversary, and I must say that it is very much a surprise to find out who it is at the end with another of Whited's cliff-hangers. On to Book Three.

Interesting story and fun technomagic development. The MC started going out of character at then end and the end was a disappointment. The reader is left trusting that the MC will resolve his issues in the next book. This is turning into a bit of another girls rule, boys drool book.

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