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Eidolon: Wraith Kings, Book 2



Synopsis

Eidolon is the sequel to Radiance and book two in the Wraith Kings series. In a bid for more power, the Shadow Queen of Haradis unleashes a malignant force into the world. Her son Brishen, younger prince of the Kai royal house, suddenly finds himself ruler of a kingdom blighted by a diseased darkness. His human wife Ildiko must decide if she will give up the man she loves in order to save his throne. Three kingdoms on the verge of war must unite to save each other, and a one-eyed, reluctant king will raise an army of the dead to challenge an army of the damned. A tale of alliance and sacrifice.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Just finished Eidolon and was just as impressed as I was with Radiance (Wraith Kings Book 1) although that first book was more of a romance and threats of a local type where this is a global "save the world" type plot. I have to keep comparing the 2 books because it is a continuing story line but they are much different in many ways. In addition to the global nature of the threat, this is not as much of a romance as Radiance was since our pair of protagonists are already very familiar with each other (obviously) but the story while revolving around this global threat also has as a major subplot, this continuing romance and it's trials and tribulations. This emphasis on the love and romance adds depth to the main plot and without it would just be another sword and sorcery novel, but this enables it to be filled with tragedy and triumph to grab you on an emotional level. While it has been over a year since I read Radiance, I remember it being a heartwarming story but Eidolon starts out with an extremely emotional beginning that will drive the whole book so don't plan to ease into

this story, it throws you right into some emotionally wrenching stuff. I should point out you REALLY should not be reading this without having read Radiance or you will not be able to appreciate so many things in this novel including the huge impact of this beginning. One of the things this novel will do is keep your stress level high (did for me) since the running theme for about the first half of the book seemed to be "This is a disaster" so many things are going wrong.

This is the sequel to Radiance, so I would highly recommend reading that first before Eidolon. While you won't be lost if you decide to read Eidolon first, you'll be able to see the relationship between Brishen and Ildiko as it flourishes from friendship to a much deeper bond and really allows you to get in touch with the main characters on a much deeper level. While I'm not giving away spoilers, I'd likely say you shouldn't read ahead just in case! In Eidolon, we see just how much in love these two are between their heated kisses, loving embraces, playful banter we love so much. When Brishen, a Prince of no value, becomes a King, the thought of losing the other is heart-wrenching. While the thought doesn't seem to cross Brishen's mind, Ildiko, who is very knowledgeable when it comes to politics and duty, is prepared to leave him if she must. Unable to produce an heir since Ildiko is human, she has become a target for assassination for those hungry for the throne. Their love is tested, and there is a sense of betrayal because of this for Brishen refuses to give up the wife he loves and wants to keep. And of course there is the galla, a horde of evil released by Brishen's mother that is feeding upon and killing the Kai. It comes down to Brishen (for a reason I will not mention as I don't want to spoil it) and those who ally themselves with him to close the portal. Brishen does what must be done to save his people, even if it costs him his life. To do so, they must become Wraith Kings. Grace also introduces a character you might know if you've read A Brush of Black Wings. The world building is phenomenal, as is the emotions that Grace evokes when you read this book. It's full of struggles, and a roller coaster for sure.

Eidolon is the second book in the Wraith King series by Grace Draven. The series is intended to be 6 books. If you haven't read the first book, Radiance, you absolutely must, so that Eidolon makes sense to you. Radiance is a 10 star read (yes, way above 's 5 star rating), so if you haven't read it, you are missing out on one of the all time great books. Eidolon picks up immediately where Radiance left off. The demons have been released by the Shadow Queen, mother to Brishen in an attempt to have more and more dark power. Brashin, who was a distant heir to the throne, suddenly finds himself King of the Kai. At the time of Brishen's marriage to Ildiko, it meant nothing that she

was literally another species and could never have his child. All of a sudden, that fact is very important politically and for the future of the realm. What's worse is the demons cannot be killed by sword or axe, but can only be banished by men who wield tremendous magic. First of all, the Prologue to this book is like Grace Draven meets Stephen King. It was bone-chilling, horrifying, heart-wrenching and full of sorrow. That chapter alone showed the brilliance of Draven's imagination and writing. As the book went on so many scenes happened to make the reader shout with a huge woo-hoo or to stop and think over something that had been said. I thoroughly enjoyed the read, and I can't recommend it enough. My reason for four stars is the character of Ildiko. In Radiance, we were shown a humorous, pragmatic beauty who offered unwavering support to her husband, even though he was so different from her. In Eidolon, I found her reactions at times to be disappointing as Ildiko became a Queen first and THEN a wife, when it should have been the other way around.

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