



## Every Which Way But Dead

*Kim Harrison*

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There's no witch in Cincinnati tougher, sexier, or more screwed up than bounty hunter Rachel Morgan, who's already put her love life and soul in dire jeopardy through her determined efforts to bring criminal night creatures to justice.

Between "runs," she has her hands full fending off the attentions of her blood-drinking partner, keeping a deadly secret from her backup, and resisting a hot new vamp suitor.

Rachel must also take a stand in the war that's raging in the city's underworld, since she helped put away its former vampire kingpin - and made a deal with a powerful demon to do so that could cost her an eternity of pain, torment, and degradation.

And now her dark "master" is coming to collect his due.

## **Every Which Way But Dead Details**

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# **From Reader Review Every Which Way But Dead for online ebook**

## **Jonetta says**

Even though there's a lot going on in this story, there seemed to be quite a few lulls. Fortunately, the many revelations kept it moving.

One of the things I like about Rachel is her ability to think her way through situations, especially when she's figuring out how to balance her magic skills with what she knows about the rules of her world. She's pressed to her limits in this story and learns so much about herself and her gifts.

I've not liked or trusted Nick Sparagmos and he doesn't do anything to change my opinion. Rachel's relationships expand and/or change significantly with some familiar names and some new ones. The jury's still out on some of them but they're infusing life in the series and are intriguing.

There's a moment with Trent that provides insight about the past as it relates to Rachel's father. With each story we seem to be learning more about Rachel's past and the implications on the present, which I find fascinating.

Marguerite Gavin continues her superb narration and it makes all the difference for me in staying in the story. Her characters are distinctive and her pacing is off the charts. I'll never go back to the eBook format.

I enjoyed the story and the action, though at times I thought they were unnecessarily drawn out. My most favorite scenes are where Rachel and Algaliarept (Al) match wits. You can't ever predict who'll end up on top. I'm very much enjoying the series.

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## **Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says**

It's been a while since I last read a Hollows book, but it was good to be back. I like this world that Kim Harrison created. I like the mix of different species, and how complex their relationships are. I really like Rachel. She's down to earth, and flawed enough to be relatable. I like that she's self-conscious about her appearance, freckles and frizzy hair, and boyish figure. She seems like she'd be a nice person to know in real life. Although Rachel slips up in her inter-personal relationships with the people in her life, she is a good person who really does care about others, and that always shines through. I feel bad for her having been hurt by people she should be able to trust. It makes her gun-shy about committing to the new people who come into her life. Completely relatable. This aspect adds a realism to this urban fantasy novel that resonates with me.

I did have a big complaint: too much vampire storyline. The whole vamp pheromones and allure aspect gives me indigestion. In a way, it's pretty interesting. I really hate how these vamps try to control humans and others with their allure. It gets my goat. After all, there are plenty of willing victims, but they seem to prey on those who aren't interested, namely Rachel. I wish Ivy would get over her fixation with Rachel and being able to bite her and take her blood. She's way too predatory about Rachel. It gives me the creeps. It's not even mainly sexual. It's like it's killing her that Rachel won't share her blood. It's really too much for me. I'm not sure how I feel about Ivy. Sometimes I like her, sometimes I don't. She's not a comfortable character at all.

But, I do give Ms. Harrison props for creating such a complex female character. Let me just say this...I do not want Rachel and Ivy being a couple. That would not work for me. There are some heavy sexual tension vibes between them, all tied up with the vampire bloodlust, and a deeper affection. It's just messy. I think they'd be a lousy couple. I'm keeping my fingers crossed that the story **doesn't** go in that direction. A friend on here who's a big fan of this series told me the vamp storyline stops dominating. I hope so. This world is so intriguing with the mixes of fae and other species with witches, that I feel a lot more interesting plotlines could come to pass beyond the vamp thing. But that's just me.

I didn't like the 'resolution' with Nick. It seems like it sort of just faded away. I would prefer that they had it out and it was clear that it was over. Part of me thinks that this was done on purpose. Sometimes relationships ends like that. I guess I'm in the minority, but I liked Nick, although I don't like how he 'dumped' Rachel. I wanted to see what happened with his dabbling in black magic. That was a huge worry of mine. I've stayed mostly spoiler free, so I don't know if he will come back or not. If he does, I hope he doesn't end up turning bad. I'd rather he just be a jerky ex-boyfriend.

The whole Kisten storyline ended up winning me over. I didn't like him. He seemed sort of like a wannabe and a pretender. He still kind of has that aspect, but I see him deeper after this book. I started thawing at the scene in the dance club. I definitely started seeing his appeal, and he dances!!! I think that he was there for Rachel when she needed him, and they have good chemistry, so I think I'm okay with them being together. Kisten is okay--a nice beta with appeal that I ended up appreciating.

I love Ceri. I was so glad that Rachel was able to save her. She's very interesting, and I'm a sucker for fae/elvish storylines. I hope to see more of her. For some reason, when she was crying and Jenks' pixy daughters were trying to comfort her and were braiding her hair, I got all teary. Aww! It must be the faery fanatic in me. I perk up whenever that is a big part of a scene. Which leads me into another thing that makes this series stand out over a lot of other urban fantasy:

I love Jenks and his family. The pixies are such a rich aspect of this story. I want pixy roommates!!!! I'd happily allow them to plait my hair, and spread pixie dust all over the house. But, I guess I like my cold environment a little too much for them. I hope that Jenks gets over his anger at Rachel. I missed him and his family when he moved out.

The demon storyline...very twisted. Poor Rachel can't seem to stay out of trouble with those demons. Things got better, but possibly worse, since she owes two demons now. The images of the ever-after reminded me of the movie *Constantine*, when John would cross over to Hell, and it looked like Los Angeles, but much worse. Vivid, disturbing imagery there. Whenever the demons come around in this story, it gives me the shivers. But the Christian in me really feels uneasy with Rachel making deals with demons. It feels very wrong to me. However, it is fiction, so I leave it at that.

The bad guy and the story resolution. Ms. Harrison threw me for a loop here. I started getting this idea toward the end about who would end up being the Big Bad, and there you go. I liked how Rachel turned things around on him. Good for her. Rachel is interesting in her arrogance about her rep as a tracker, yet seems to doubt her confidence as a witch. I think she will come to realize how truly powerful she is as this series progresses.

Trent--I get this vibe that he has a thing for Rachel. That should be interesting. Rachel mostly hates him, but some part of her doesn't. As she said herself, she tends to go for the guys who tend to be bad. So who knows? He has an intriguing anti-hero vibe that appeals to me. What can I say? Maybe I'm like Rachel when it comes to characters???

To sum up my rambling: I liked this story, a lot. The progression toward the climax seemed to go kind of slowly, and I felt like it would take forever to get there. But it ended picking up. Some things I love about this book, some things, no so much. But, I'm in this series for the duration. It's too good to stop reading.

Overall rating: **4.25/5.0**. The vamp aspects are like eating a really rich, spicy meal and getting a stomach ache, so it detracted from my enjoyment, and it was a bit slow in parts. Otherwise, solid entertainment.

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## **Luffy says**

This is a paranormal urban fantasy that I can like. It wasn't always apparent. I have been reading this series because it has an end. That kept me going in this particular book. Then things got marginally, then noticeably better.

The thing is that I don't know how to review a book from this subgenre. I didn't gasp in rapture at the sex scenes and I didn't take sides in Nick vs Kisten. I read the books for the story and the dialog, sometimes.

The ending was like a cozy mystery; family and friends together in a celebration. But what I also liked was the revelations that the author has been giving us in small doses. It looks like everything has been told to us, but I wouldn't bet on it. New characters will always bring in new secrets. What a potent story in store for us!

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## **XX Sarah XX (former Nefarious Breeder of Murderous Crustaceans) says**

*[the murderous crustaceans shall very graciously refrain from commenting on this **slightly pathetic name** (hide spoiler)]*

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## **Jessica ❁ ⇨ Silverbow ⇨ ❁ Rabid Reads-no-more says**

### **Reviewed by: Rabid Reads**

You know how "they" say the things you hate in others are the things you like least about yourself?

When I was 21, after an extreme bout of poor decision-making, I decided to take a sabbatical from dating. In quick succession, I had dated a slightly-younger-than-me guy, a guy who was my age, and a *more-than-slightly-older-than-me* guy, and they were ALL great, big lamewads.

19 y.o. Mark, the 6'7" college basketball player and DRAMA QUEEN liked to wake up, drink milk, and then try to kiss me . . . I tried (really hard) to come up with a collection of letters that could accurately describe how completely disgusting that was, but failed utterly. Then there was 22 y.o. Ryan, who onlywantedonething. Then there was 29 y.o. Luke, who hated his job and was under-appreciated in his work. Even though he wasted many a morning shooting emails back and forth with me instead of, oh, I don't know, working.

I made it nearly a year, and it was fabulous. I would have made it longer, but I started working at the front desk of a local gym, and well . . . I'm only human. \*wink\*

Then right before I met my husband (who is, of course, perfect \*snorts\*), there was Ivan the hipster musician, who . . . played his own music in his car on our one and only date.

Oh yes. He did. Come on, guys, I can't make stuff like this up.

All of them had great, big WARNING signs flashing over their heads, and I chose to ignore every, single one of them. Then when things didn't work out, I (being the ridiculous female I was) wailed and lamented, "What's wrong with me? How did I manage to scare him off this time? Oh, what a world!"

\*rolls eyes\*

At the time, it didn't matter that these guys were all HEP-big losers . . . I liked them, damnit!

And all of that is why I (in equal parts) am completely exasperated with, love, and relate to Rachel Morgan.

Let's talk about Rachel's love interests thus far.

**Fair warning:** this is more of a commentary on Rachel's love life so far than a review. But come on . . . it's book 3. Either you've read it and know what I'm talking about, or, if this was a normal review, you'd be afraid I'd spoil you, so this is a new thing I'm trying. No spoilers this way, AND a chance to vent.

First up, we have Nick. Nick, whom she met in the ring of an illegal rat fight, b/c he had been turned into . . . well, a rat . . . in retribution for his sticky fingers. And not just any old case of sticky fingers either, nope, Nick got sticky-fingered with the belongings of a MASTER friggin' VAMPIRE.

So Nick has a loose moral code, AND is either too stupid to realize how stupid and dangerous it is to steal from a master vampire, *or* is so cocky he thought he could get away with it. Or both. Could definitely be both. But he *did* save Rachel's life, and he's awfully geek-sexy, and well, humans apparently have a bit more going on *down there* than male witches . . . He took a demon mark for her! Come on . . . doesn't he deserve a chance?

NO. No, he does *not*.

Then there's Kisten . . . ye gods . . . So many road blocks that should never have been ignored.

All you lovers-of-Kisten, CALM DOWN. I love him too. As a character. But as a potential boyfriend for Rachel . . . well, let's look at this rationally:

1. He's a VAMPIRE. Rachel refuses to ever be food for a vampire. IT'S A PROBLEM. Even if you want to argue that Kisten is a *living* vampire, and therefore technically doesn't *need* blood yet . . . YET. Kisten WILL die, and when that happens, Kisten will lose his SOUL, and he will NEED blood. Even if Rachel really does like Kisten-the-living-vampire, she will want absolutely nothing to do with Kisten-the-true-undead, and Rachel's not interested in casual that I can tell.

This relationship was DOOMED before it even got started.

2. Their very first "date" was a SHAM. That Kist would blindside her that way does NOT bode well. And then she gets all goo goo-eyed b/c he saved her . . . \*grinds teeth\* . . . if he hadn't asked her out under false pretenses, her life never would have been endangered in the first place<-----ALL of that would be in caps if I wasn't worried about annoying the hell out of you. But know that I am screaming in my head.

And Lee . . . Lee is more of a flirtation than a real romantic interest, but he is also a perfect example of Rachel's stupidity with men. Almost immediately after she lays eyes on him for the first time, she sees that he has a DEMON MARK, but still, after he teaches her how to gamble, she's disappointed that he leaves without asking her for her number.

I know I'm not the only one driven crazy by this kind of behavior, but I also know that I'm not the only one who feels this way due to flashbacks of "I am become that which I hate."

But relationship choices aside, EVERY WHICH WAY BUT DEAD continued the steady improvement of the THE HOLLOWES. More action, more new characters to love, more to love about old characters . . . and all of that is in addition to yet another definitive and unique plot with side-plots weaving through all the while, paving the way for new adventures. Seriously people . . . come and watch Rachel grow and learn from her mistakes with me. This is not a series to be missed.

#### **My other reviews for this series:**

**Dead Witch Walking (The Hollows #1)**

**The Good, the Bad, and the Undead (The Hollows #2)**

**A Fistful of Charms (The Hollows #4)**

**For a Few Demons More (The Hollows #5)**

**The Outlaw Demon Wails (The Hollows #6)**

**White Witch, Black Curse (The Hollows #7)**

**Black Magic Sanction (The Hollows #8)**

**Pale Demon (The Hollows #9)**

**The Undead Pool (The Hollows #12)**

**Into the Woods: Tales from the Hollows and Beyond**

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#### **Robin (Bridge Four) says**

Welcome to our **What Kind of Heroine are you Quiz**. Please select the option that best describes what you would do in the following situations:

You have recently started a business with a friend. Should you

A. Work as a team and solve mysteries and crime together playing off each other's strengths.

B. Go off on your own rarely telling your partner what you are working on and where you are going, with no indication on when you will return.

C Hedge your bets and have a few other people

/beings you are working with on the side for the same goal as your partner.

*Clearly the answer is **B** I can do this all on my own I don't need and help. I mean what could possibly go wrong and if I do get in a bind I guess I could still call someone to come rescue me later.*

Your boyfriend/significant other leaves town to get a handle on things after something extremely traumatic happens. The first thing you do is?

A. Accept a date with a guy you kissed recently while you still had said boyfriend/significant other.

B. Accept responsibility for part of the situation that the two of you are in *He did have a seizure and almost die because of you* and give him the time and space he needs to work it out.

C. Go kick some bad guy ass and trust that things will work out. You don't need a man to be validated and you are perfectly capable of entertaining yourself in the meantime.

*Well B sounds good but if Nick really loved me like he said he did he wouldn't have left town and Kistin is pretty hot. I'm sure Ivy won't mind if I go out with her Ex at all I mean it isn't like they are together anymore...right? So I think **A***

While out on a 'Plutonic' Date \*bullshit\* no such thing \*bullshit\* and meeting a handsome stranger in your date's absence....your gut instinct would tell you that....

A. Some stranger has just come to talk to you while you have been singled out. Warnings about what that person might want and who he really is jump through your head.

B. Wow...he is so nice and he has a Demon scar too. I'm so glad I'm not the only one. I should flirt with him and see if he wants to get me number and ???Call me maybe??.

C. I wonder if he knows anything about this place? I should covertly pump him for information find out who all the main players in the room are.

*Huh...he is cute and look we have so much in common all ready. **B** because my mom would probably love it if I brought a witch home for dinner.*



You have just defeated your nemesis in a battle during which he told a loved one you are as good as dead and can never be pulled back from where he is taking you. The first thing you do is....

- A. Drink some coffee and hope your head feels better soon because you have a big job that night and need to get a little rest before then.
- B. Call said person to let them know you are okay and that you have escaped a fate worse than death, they don't need to find a way to save you.
- C. Hang out with some people and wait for your loved one to find you since as soon as he knew you were in trouble nothing could keep him from tracking you down.

*This is easy...A* **coffee of course. I can't do anything until I get rid of this headache. Besides my semi-loved one left town so I bet a demon telling him I'm dead isn't going to matter much and I do have a big job to do tonight.**

You know that using a certain power or magic will be dangerous and could alert your enemies to your location and compromise you. When in trouble do you....

- A. Do everything in your power to never use that magic/power so that you can't be found by your enemies, unless it can be masked by other power around you.
- B. Jump the gun and use that power to intimidate your enemies and convince them you aren't worth the trouble.
- C. Forget in the heat of the moment at every possible instance and use that power accidentally.

*B* **Damn it...it only happened twice, who told you. I was trying not to use it but really my roomie can get a little handsy sometimes it really wasn't my fault. Anyone could have made the same mistake.**

The man you are thinking of starting an intimate relationship with confesses to you that he has killed multiple people and will try not to do it again but really won't make any promises. Your reasoning for why you can still be together is????

- A. **Is he Jericho Barrons?** *Because really if he is Jericho Fucking Barrons I'm totally okay with that. He is the best Anti-Hero EVER.*
- B. *I'm sure that every time he has killed anyone it is for the good of his family. He would never do anything like that without a reason and for protection of everyone he loves including me.*
- C. *Well it's not like he wants to kill people and he isn't a scion right now so the chances of him killing me on purpose aren't that big.*

***Kistin is really hot...and he is here. Nick sure isn't here right now. Sure he wants to be a scion again to the guy that wants me dead but he is soooo hot and he makes my scar tingle. That totally makes it okay I think. Definitely***

Would you say that your relationship with your father was...

- A. Really Good, my dad is the best.
- B. A Bit Complicated, My dad pushes me to be the best.
- C. Somewhat neglected...He missed a lot since he wasn't around.

*Well I'm sure that my dad would have been there for me if he could have been. It's not like he wanted to die or anything and really he was a good Dad. Sure the answer is **C** but that is only because our time was cut short since he was involved with something big. I'm gonna find out what really happened to my father.*

*Based on your responses we have assessed you to be Rachel Marianna Morgan - You often fly off on your own without thinking about the others around you who care for you. You rarely take personal responsibility for things that are your fault, but often take responsibility for things that really had nothing to do with you. You make horrible decisions, even knowing at the time they are really the worst possible decisions you could make. In relationships you either choose the wrong guy or completely forget to communicate with your partner in any way letting them know what is going on in your life. You are very prone to hasty and rash decisions that usually leave you off worse than where you started.*

The other possible solutions to the quiz were Kate Daniels or Makala Lane both more likable and savvy than you in this writer's opinion. Our suggestion is that you slow down, quit fawning over every cute guy you run across. Stop making deals with demons. *seriously though we thought this one was obvious.* Maybe sever one relationship before starting another. Quit keeping secrets from your business partners and lovers. Decide what kind of witch you really are and then learn something so you quit making stupid mistakes because you didn't have any information.

That said the world in this is what I'm sticking with the series for right now. I have been told it gets better by book 5 and I'm counting on that. The world building and secondary characters are the main draw for me at this time. The final battle was interesting and almost made me like Rachel again until she did that stupid thing so she is now in more trouble than she was before. Ceri was actually my favorite character in this book and I hope to see her again in future books. Holding on until book 5 to make final judgements.

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## Kat Kennedy says

I have to deduct stars from this for several reasons. All three books so far have suffered from a shit-poor editing job and my inner editor constantly screams while reading them.

Then there's the fact that Rachel Morgan is just unbelievably stupid. Painfully stupid. So stupid that she shouldn't be allowed to live. So stupid that I don't understand why she IS alive.

I WILL read the next book because there're a number of things that intrigue me. However, if the next book isn't markedly better then I doubt my curiosity will be able to maintain another sojourn into Harrison's literature.

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## La Mala 🖐️ says

*¿Alguien más que extraña a Buffy tanto como yo?*

Bien, no os preocupeis más....

...porque Buffy vive en ~~en~~ casi todas las novelas de fantasía urbana y THE HOLLOWES no es una excepción (por suerte)

*Y si no hay ganas de leer, Buffy está en Netflix ;)*

**ACLARACIÓN:** Aunque esta reseña tiene marcado 'spoilers' después de cada ítem, no suelo spoilear nada. Es decir, no escribo nada que arruine la trama principal. **(En caso de hacerlo, lo advierto previamente con una nueva marca de spoiler>!! O sea, te encajo un spoiler adentro del spoiler,** porque estoy muy jugada, y soy re heavy y re jodida.)

**¿De qué trata?** : Rachel Morgan, la bruja que se queja de todo y todos, tiene un nuevo del tema del cual quejarse y situaciones riegosas en dónde perder el tiempo quejándose. ¿De quién se quejará en conjunto en esta nueva entrega?

**Género:** Fantasía Urbana (a.k.a Fantasía influenciada por Anne Rice y/o Joss Whedon)

**La historia en cuestión, ¿Se adapta correctamente a su género ?** (view spoiler)

**Punto de vista** : (view spoiler)

**¿Es parte de una serie?** (view spoiler)

*En caso de serlo, ¿es necesario leer los libros que lo preceden?* (view spoiler)

**¿Hay romance?** (view spoiler)

*En caso de haberlo, ¿entorpece la trama?:* (view spoiler)

**Personajes:** *¿Están bien desarrollados? ¿Son creíbles?* (view spoiler)

**Personaje favorito:** (view spoiler)

**Personaje a jubilar:** (view spoiler)

**Narración:** *¿Está mal escrito?* (view spoiler)

**¿Presenta situaciones realistas?** (view spoiler)

**Clichés:** (view spoiler)

**Nivel de Originalidad** (view spoiler)

**Puede causar gracia** (sin intención del autor/a) (view spoiler)

**Urban Fantasy**

**¿Qué podemos esperar?** (view spoiler)

**¿Escenas hot?** (view spoiler)

**Posibles bajones** (puede variar según el lector) (view spoiler)

**Credibilidad del world-building:** Del 1 al 10 (view spoiler)

**¿Ofensas?** ( Ya sea el autor, quien narra la historia, o desde comentarios de personajes secundarios...)(view spoiler)

¿Me gustó? Sí. Más allá de las decepciones. El mundo de los Inderlanders sigue siendo atrapante. Cuando la autora se vuelca de lleno en la aventura, es insuperable.

¿Hay cosas peores? (view spoiler)

¿Libros peores? (view spoiler)

¿Libros mejores? En el género, supongo que sí. (¿*Kate Daniels*? No soy seguidora de esa serie, pero reconozco que es superior)

**TL;DR:** Si se bancan el cliché de (view spoiler) \*toma aire\*, si dejan de lado eso (que, desafortunadamente, en esta ocasión ocupa más espacio del que debería) la serie vale la pena, las escenas de acción y la trama de *The Hollows* (mucho bruja y mucho demonio, intrigas de *drug-lords* y los mundos del más allá-más acá) son interesantes y muy entretenidas.

**Lo recomendaría a quienes les gusta..** A cualquiera que le guste la fantasía urbana y lea a Ilona Andrews, Kelley Armstrong, etc.

Puntaje final: **3.5**

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## **Kribu says**

Hmm. I felt this one was a little weaker, overall, than the second book - possibly because there was a little less emphasis on plot and a little more on Rachel finding more or less every single guy hot.

It didn't *really* bother me - for which I need to give the author some props, because it so easily could have, and should have - but really, it was getting ever so slightly ridiculous how Rachel was basically drooling over every man she met. Kisten's hot. Trent's hot. David's hot. Lee's hot. Nick .. who? I have to admit, I was more intrigued by the guys Rachel *didn't* drool over but described in appreciative ways anyway, though - Quen, Takata and, well, yeah, Algaliarept. Can't help that. (Also, the other ones all just sound far too young for my taste.)

I do hope there's a little ... well, maybe she could just settle for drooling over no more than two guys a book, hmm? Although I don't really foresee that happen. Ah well.

I *do* hope the next books will eventually be, well, edited, though. So many things in this one made me wince - not just misspellings but there was one lengthy part in the middle of the book in particular where there was a horrid over-abundance of epithets. The distasteful man. The older elf. The overly tall man. The shorter but well-proportioned man. All for people whose names we (and Rachel) knew. Grgh. (Sorry, it's one of my pet peeves as far as writing goes.)

Anyway, all that aside, and in spite of the abundance of things I don't normally care for, there's something undeniably appealing about the series. I've warmed to Rachel enough and find both the general plot and the recurring characters intriguing enough to want to continue for certain.

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## **Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says**

I have a confession to make, I didn't love the first book in this series, in fact, I forced myself to finish it. And months later, decided to give the second a chance because some many people loved it.

And while I did like the second book, I still wasn't blown away by it and was still wondering, what all the fuss was about.

You see, it wasn't until book three, this book, that I finally got it. That something clicked and I understood what all the fuss was about.

Can I just say, I love Rachel, Ivy, and Jenks so very much? I mean, truly, I get it now, I really do.

This book was so much fun and I ended up reading late into the night to finish it and knew without hesitation, that I had to buy all the others. Thank goodness this series is over because now I get the privilege of being able to binge read the whole thing and it's summer so lots of late night readings for me!

So yeah, this series has everything I like in a good urban fantasy. Witches, demons, fairies, pixies, vamps, weres...the list could go on. Add in romance, action, adventure, danger, and Harrison truly did write something funtastic. I'm so excited to jump into book four.

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## **Emma says**

This one was excellent! A series that started well, got better in the second and has hit its stride in the third. I really enjoy the large cast. It reminds me of the Dresden files in that way, where each builds on the one before and the side characters develop along with the main protagonist and broaden the whole picture of the world created.

Recommended series. Book 4 here I come!

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## **Laz says**

I'm glad this hasn't reached a low point. And I sure as hell hope it won't because so far I'm loving every second of reading this series. It's fast-paced, the action is abundant and there are so many characters I just can't help but love.

As you must have assumed, Rachel finds herself in an impossible situation once again. As the shit hit the fan and everything goes to hell. Rachel must find a way to get herself out of the deal with Algaliarept without getting herself or her friends killed in the process.

In each book, it's apparent how much she grows to love her friends, Jenks & Ivy and that's admirable. In this book we don't see much of Jenks, which was the result of Rachel keeping things from him.

I love Ivy, she's so badass and at the same time so sensitive and so emotional and she has a heart of gold, even if she's a vampire. She wants Rachel's blood and that's her nature and I understand it wholeheartedly and I love how she respects Rachel's decision and doesn't act upon her instincts.

Rachel & Nick grow apart. Instead, there's a new love interest for Rachel, I'm sure you all know who that is. I'm talking of course about (view spoiler), he's total badass and while he's a complete different person than Nick, he can be just as sweet but I'll say, yes, more hot. He & Rachel have some pretty steamy, hot and heavy, moments where they undress each other with their eyes.

This book introduces a new character which I'm sure we'll see more of. I grew to love Trent who I simply found interesting in the previous books. He's amazing and I want more of him in the next books, he's a fucking genius and not as much of a villain as I thought he was.

The key word about this series is **action**. There's lots of it. There's action in the most unexpected moments, and it'll come right when you thought things would get boring and everything gets interesting. It's refreshing. Mrs. Harrison does a good job of keeping her readers on the edge.

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## **Carole (Carole's Random Life in Books) says**

This review can also be found at Carole's Random Life.

I liked this audiobook but it was bit of a disappointment after absolutely loving the first two books in the series. This was a re-read for me but I actually didn't remember anything about it from my initial read years ago. I am actually pretty sure that this is the book that I stopped on when I started the series the first time. It was a good book but it wasn't anywhere near as entertaining as the first two in the series were for me.

This book started out really strong with Rachel having to deal with Big Al. Things looked pretty bad for her and I had no idea how she was going to outsmart him. She ends up getting a bit of help from his familiar and a werewolf insurance agent. It was a close call for Rachel and while she is trying to recover a secret slips out and Jenks ends up mad...and leaves. I missed Jenks constant presence in this book.

This book really seemed a bit more focused on the character relationships. I can't say that I really liked all of the developments in this installment. Nick can't handle being near Rachel so he leaves town. Rachel starts dating Kisten and while they have chemistry it seemed to happen way too fast. Ivy is having her own struggles with Piscary and staying in control. Jenks needs some time away to cool down. This felt like more of a transitional book that may be laying the framework for future books.

I did enjoy the narration in this audiobook. Marguerite Gavin is really the perfect narrator for this series. She is Rachel in my mind but she also performs all of the different voices very well. I never have any trouble understanding who is speaking and her delivery really keeps my focus on the story.

I would recommend this book to others. This is the third book in the series and I really do think that this series needs to be read in order since everything builds from the earlier books. Readers who try to read this as a stand alone will most likely be quite lost. I am looking forward to starting the next audiobook in this series very soon!

## **Initial Thoughts**

I liked this one but not as much as I did the previous one in the series. It felt like more of a transitional book in some ways.

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### **Sara Kate says**

I loved this one, starting to really get into this series. Also.... I mean can we talk about Kisten?!?! I am so up for Rachel and Kisten as a couple. I feel kinda bad for Ivy though and her strong feelings toward Rachel and her not knowing what to do with them. I hope Ivy will find someone.

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### **John says**

This, third, book of Kim Harrison's Rachel Morgan series has the weakest plot so far. On the other hand, the character driven scenes kept me reading, and when the plot finally got rolling in the last 30% of the book, I was frothing.

The book starts out with two problems presented to Rachel: A demon that she owes favors to has come to collect, and a new crime boss in town is making life difficult for everyone. After that, we get a lot of character development and the plot fades away, showing up now and again to remind the reader it exists. When it returns for good, it was intense, and I stayed up late into the night turning pages.

From about the 10% to the 70% mark the book is mostly character driven. As a guy, it edged on getting a bit too soap operaish and girlish. However, even the one scene that should of had me nodding off, a date scene with lots of clothes talk, was so well written I kept right on going. Without spoiling anything, I will say Rachel's love life gets a lot more complicated in this book.

I do like a strong plot, and I can a problem with this protagonist. She's throws herself into situations without a plan, and reacts. So unless the antagonist is in her face, scene after scene, she looses focus, and Harrison fills up the pages with side issues. I like a little of that, it makes it feel more real, but I'm hoping for stronger plots in the rest of the series.

One theme that this book addresses is "Who are the Monsters?" Trent, the very evil antagonist from the first book is back, but is he really on the side of darkness? And what about what Rachel and Ivy are doing for a living? Are they crossing over to the dark side? Many shades of grey in this book.

Anyway, a fun read, with a bit too much soap opera in the middle. I would not recommend this as a stand alone book, you'll want to start with Dead Which Walking.

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