

The Key

Peter Lerangis

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Discover the history behind the mystery of the *New York Times* bestselling Seven Wonders series in this original novella.

Follow the tale of Aliyah and Osman, twin treasure hunters pressed into a life of crime. For them, every day is another desperate death-defying adventure until they stumble upon the key that may lead to the greatest treasure ever. But to take home this magical orb, they must first battle their way out of the Tomb of Shadows.

With crucial historical details and plenty of backstory surprises, this is a perfect addition to the library of new and continuing fans of Seven Wonders, the epic adventure series by Peter Lerangis, author of three stories in the 39 Clues series.

The Key Details

Date : Published February 10th 2015 by HarperCollins (first published January 29th 2015)

ISBN: 9780062238924Author: Peter LerangisFormat: Paperback 96 pages

Genre: Fantasy, Young Adult, Adventure, Mythology, Fiction, Childrens, Middle Grade

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From Reader Review The Key for online ebook

Stanley T says

The Key is a novella that was fairly okay for me. The plot and the flow of the story was not bad but the delivery was however unfitting. If it was actually a diary of Aliyah, it should have been less descriptive, less narrative, and more emotional. That was what this book lacked. Also, I couldn't seem to find a clear connection of the book and Tomb of Shadows, especially the ending. The newspaper from Tomb of Shadows indicated the arrest of Khalid and the appearance of Bartu Bartevyan, an invented name by Aliyah from The Key for her brother, after the earthquake which occurred during the excavation when Aliyah touched a stone (which might have been the 7 relief). Another proof that this was after this earthquake was the sight of the loculus. However, in The Key, it was pretty clear that Khalid and Osman themselves died after the earthquake. So who was this Khalid and Bartu from the news after the foreshock? Were they Aliyah herself, as stated at the end that her family is within her? Was she trying to get her revenge from Gencer out of this, such that she pointed Gencer's crime from Khalid and the loculus from Bartu? If not, then what happened to Aliyah after the earthquake, and what was her connection in The Tomb of Shadows? Personally, my inference to these questions is that Khalid, from the news, must one of be the real Khalid's colleagues, while Bartu must have been Aliyah, trying to get her revenge.

Now that I have mentioned these questions, I could conclude that the book, all in all, was fairly okay but confusingly blurry. As in, very very blurry.

Cym says

Exciting and makes me want to read the Seven Wonders series.

Xyleen Qien says

not that the story was horrible or anything, but i was expecting the death of the twins Aliyah and Osman, because according to the newsclipping, this theif known only as Khalid "lost his two companion" and "no bodies had been found". this was what the cannon series said and yet the novella came up with a different ending?

some point in time has gone terribly wrong.

and even tho i see it coming, taking Osman away, it's still so very, ugh why.

and Artemisia. rattag queen with the name like Artemis the goddess of hunt. she lived up to that name very well. that witch.

Melissa says

I nice addition to the series. I really like these short ebooks that give you a bit of background.

Vishal Mehta says

Short! Raises more questions than answers! But then, that's what a teaser is meant to do!

Tessa Joy says

Ever since their mother died, Aliyah has watched her family fall apart. She lives in a hovel with her twin brother, Osman. Their treasure hunting father is rarely around, let alone sober. And since their mother's death, their father has been working for several shady men. When their father is commissioned to search the ruins of the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus for treasure, the twins decide to go with him. But their search turns into a nightmare when the twins and their father run into the zombie of Artemisia.

Lerangis creates an intriguing novella where readers follow the courageous, but desperate Aliyah as she tries to hold her family together through any challenge: alcoholism, criminals, treasure-seeking ferrets, backstabbing business partners, sibling stupidity, or crumbling zombies. Aliyah's character seems incredibly real and tangible from the words she writes in her diary. Lerangis proves he is a master writer in composing such an emotionally rich story in less than eighty pages. A great supplemental read to Seven Wonders Book 3: Tomb of Shadows.

(Found on Children's Compass Chronicle: childrenscompasschronicle.blogspot.com)

Jaden says

A great story on what happened to the loculi.

Xcess090 says

It's been a few years since I read the Tomb of Shadows, the third book in this series and this novella (technically 3.5 in the series) was read with the aim of rekindling my interest in it. Did it? Kind of, not to the extent I hoped though. There are two more books to go in the series which I have in my possession so hopefully I can get through them this year as well, I definitely want to see how the adventure for Jack & Co will end.

??????????????????

I love Tomb Raiders, I'm a huge fan of Lara Croft and reading something about a similar profession had me excited tbh, I've always wanted to read something on the same wavelength as the before mentioned series and even though it's not as good or on the same badass vibe, it had its moments. It's a pretty short novella but it took a while for me to read, not because it was totally boring because that's not true but because I don't

know these characters to actually care about what happens to them.

That reason is because of the nature of the Seven Wonders series, it's a story across eons so a lot of new characters can be included in various books and novellas without the story seeming out of the norm or anything of the sort. The characters, however aren't largely likable in the slightest to increase my interest, not the twins, not their father and definitely not his crew. Of course we can shove that into the "I didn't have the chance to get to know them in a bigger light to make a bigger impression" but since it's a novella I doubt I'll ever be meeting them again for that opinion to change or to actually see the aftermath of that promise our heroine made so yeah, kind of leaves a little more to be desired in that area.

However I did end up regaining a little bit of my interest in the series in the last 20 or so pages of this, so I don't consider it a complete a waste of time and again the last 20 pages are really interesting. I do have a feeling that the so called "Key" they found here will be returning in the main story, or at least I'll be seeing it once again and I definitely hope so since I'm curious to see what it will unlock assuming that it isn't just one of the Seven Loculi our Trio in the main series are supposed to find but that's spoiler territory so let's leave it here lol. I think I want to pick this up soon, not sure when exactly but very very soon.

Final rating: 3/5

Theresa says

Short journal/diary type story from the POV of a young girl whose father drags her and her twin brother around on failed archeology expeditions.

If you read and remember 'The Tomb of Shadows', Jack was told that someone had previously stolen the Mausoleum Loculus. Well, this is that story.

Footnote: I hated the ending.

Fave scenes: ten minutes later and entering the crack.

Caleb Hobbick says

Short story added to the Seven Wonders series.

Jenn says

So I have to say these journal novellas are all a great big bundle of depressing. As with the others they're interesting yes, but the idea of any of them being an HEA is laughable.

This novella tells the story of how the loculi of healing was taken from Artemisia and exactly what she took in return for it. The characters' lives take depressing to a new level, and all of the adults in their lives, their father included are horrible people.

The setting and action are interesting, but most of the story I just kept feeling sorry for those kids hoping things would get better for them and knowing because of the series that it wasn't going to happen.

Again it's really not necessary to the regular book series though it does offer some back story on things that have occurred in the main books. As long as you're not looking for a story that will make you smile these are decent reads, but if you're looking for an HEA I'd probably skip the journals all together.

Mariam says

its alright. not as great as the series seven wonders. good thing it was short.

Caleb Walsh says

Another good companion novella to the Seven Wonders series.

Susan says

Follow the tale of Aliyah and Osman, twin treasure hunters pressed into a life of crime. For them, every day is another desperate death-defying adventure until they stumble upon the key that may lead to the greatest treasure ever. But to take home this magical orb, they must first battle their way out of the Tomb of Shadows

Keith says

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