



## Cronin's Key II

*N.R. Walker*

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# Cronin's Key II

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**Cronin's Key II** N.R. Walker

*History isn't always what it seems.*

With the battle of Egypt behind them, Alec and Cronin are enjoying the thrill of new love. Though fate doesn't wait long before throwing them back into the world of weird.

They know Alec's blood is special, though its true purpose still eludes them. And given Alec's inability to be changed into a vampire, Cronin is free to drink from him at will. But the ramifications of drinking such powerful blood starts a ripple effect.

With the help of Jorge, a disturbing vampire-child with the gift of foresight, Alec and Cronin face a new kind of war. This time their investigations lead them to the borders of China and Mongolia—but it's not what lies in the pits beneath that worries Alec.

It's the creator behind it all.

In the underground depths of China, amidst a war with the Terracotta Army, they will find out just what the Key is, and what Alec means to the vampire world.

## Cronin's Key II Details

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## From Reader Review Cronin's Key II for online ebook

I~♥?~Books says

★4.5 Stars★ ?

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**Barbara? says**

*Reread October 2018*

Another great reread of this series. I love these two so much. They are so swoony!

*Originally read June 2018*

Okay, so I probably sound like a broken record, but WHY IN THE HELL did I not read this series sooner???

It has everything I love about PNR.

And can I just say, a hot Scottish vampire....\*swoon\* Loved it. Oh, and that epilogue? PERFECTION!

On to book 3 straightaway....

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**Simone says**

\*\*\*3 - 3.5 Stars\*\*\*

Okay, I will be bald as Kojak anytime soon when the scratching of my head over the rating will go on...

On the one hand, it was better than the first book, on the other hand it was not. The beginning was not as slow as the first one and I got a bit better into it, so I didn't want to throw dice in order to decide if I should DNF it or not for half of the book.

BUT... (yes in capitals, because it's a big but!) somehow the story was repetitive, not to say... commutable(?) with the first one. Replace the Egyptian mummies with the Terracotta Army and Queen Keket with Genghis Khan and you almost know what will happen next...

That doesn't mean I didn't have fun with the story. I like Alec's humor and his movie references in particular and when he asked why nobody told him that Genghis Khan would look like Mr. Miyagi I got some funny looks from a fellow car driver at a red light when I burst out laughing with no one sitting beside me.

I'm still on the fence about the fated relationship between Alec and Cronin, but these two are undeniable cute as hell together and I would have been totally fine with the ending of this book being the end of the series because it was an utterly swoonworthy HEA.

Aaaaand... I actually got more used to Joel Leslie's voices for the characters and I can be very persistent if I

want to, so I will definitely listen to the third book because... come on, GARGOYLES????!!!! ;:-)

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**~Kristin~ says**

**4.5 Stars**

I am not usually a huge vampire fan...but this series was wonderful!! Cronin and his fated Alec kept it interesting and entertaining.

Happy Dance, I'm so excited!!

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**Renée says**

Amazing story line and writing as always. Sigh. This author just always manages to deliver for me. Wonderful sequel. A bit on the light side of the steam spectrum. And the scenes that were there were too short for my taste. But that was my only complaint. Very solid finish for Cronin and Alec. The world-building and mystery were top notch!

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**Heller says**

2.75

This concept and these characters didn't really grab me in the first book. I was curious enough about the story to see where the second book would go though, again, just not really feeling it. Nice guys, nice friends, decent chemistry and a story that wrapped up much quicker than the first book. Surprisingly fast end to the build up actually. I enjoyed it but found myself skimming a bit.

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**Gigi says**

Loved it. Now book 3.

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**Dalia says**

*"Rug mi ort, m'cridhe."  
I have you, my heart.*

Alec has special blood and he can't be changed into a vampire nor get his *forever* with Cronin until he fullfils his purpose as the Key.

This time Alec and Cronin have to fight a war with the Terracotta Army and find its creator. They also face

problems with Alec's powerful blood affecting not only Cronin, who is free to drink from his mate at will, but Alec as well. Alec and Cronin ask Jorge, a disturbing vampire-child with the gift of foresight, for help. He gives them a riddle they have to solve before it's too late.

I loved the history, action and the mystery in this story as much as I did in the first book. I didn't mind that there was a small amount of heat, even with all the sexual tension that was almost constantly going on.

Jorge was a creepy, yet such an adorable kid. I just wanted to pinch his cheeks.

The ending made me so happy. It was amazing!

**'When the red hand holds the key, forever is in the stones.'**

*2nd read: 30-08-2015*

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**◆\*Arianna◆\* says**

**4.5 Stars!!**

Alec and Cronin know Alec's blood is special and Cronin could bite Alex and not change him into a vampire. They have a new set of questions, but this fact also means that Cronin can feed only from Alec. But everything has consequences. Alec's blood is too powerful and starts to affect not only Cronin, but also Alec. On top of that they find out there's a new danger. This time they have to fight the Terracotta Army (a vampire army) and to try to figure out how to win the battle and also to find who is responsible for what happened in Egypt and what is about to happen now. Alec and Cronin must find the answers fast before it's too late.

I really enjoyed this one, but not as much as the first book in the series. The story was interesting, captivating with many twists and turns. I loved the suspense and the mystery. I have to say all the history was fascinating. I love this kind of history. The pace of the story was just perfect IMO.

Alec and Cronin were once again very enjoyable characters. I loved Alec's personality and Cronin's possessiveness. Their tenderness for each other was so sweet and their sexual tension was fantastically done, even if there are not too many sex scenes. Anyway, I loved the way they were with each other and also their need to be together. The story wasn't very steamy, but it was such a romantic read.

The secondary characters were once again great, interesting and can't wait to read more about them in the next book in the series. There's a new interesting secondary character Jorge, a vampire child who will 'help' Alec and Cronin.

Overall, a fantastic read!

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## Marte - Thunderella says

\*\*\* 3,5 stars \*\*\*

I didn't like this as much as I did the first. I was bored in the middle of the book, but it picked up towards the end. Never reaching the top, though. It felt a bit...rushed or too easy. The characters wasn't very deep, just on the surface. Cronin did a lot of growling and Eiji did a lot of laughing, which got repetitive.

And I would like to point out that if you have created a character from another country, like Jodis being Norwegian, do the courtesy of be sure to use the language correctly. Just typing a word into Google translate just doesn't cut it! A good old dictionary would have told the difference, I recon, or ask online.

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*It's a message from Jodis," he said, and Alec sighed in relief. "It says 'sikre'".*

*"Is that some kind of code?"*

*"Yes," Cronin said flatly. "It's Norwegian for secure. She's telling us it's safe to go back."*

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Translating "secure" into the Norwegian word "secure" isn't correct. There's a different use of it. As in:

"I'm going to secure the place." (Jeg skal sikre stedet)

"I'm securing the place". (Jeg sikrer stedet)

"The place is secure." (Stedet er sikkert.)

So Jodis should have said "sikkert" instead of "sikre". Just "sikre" doesn't make any sense, and I should know since I *am* Norwegian.

Release date BR with Elsbeth, Julie, Momo, Sonia, Marco and Paul.

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## Bo says

Loved it!! Can't wait for a reread already!!

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~☆~Danni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~☆~ says

~4.5~

Of course I jumped on this book like a drowning man on a life raft, and of course I loved it.

It's N.R. Walker.

It's vampires.

Enough said.

**This book has the same blend of magic, suspense, and mystery as the first book.**

This time, Cronin and Alec fight an army of Terracotta Vampires and the puppeteer who rules them all.

A child vampire who speaks in tongues predicts the future. But the future is a riddle.

Alec must solve the riddle or die. **The other choice is FOREVER.**

*It wasn't enough. It would never be enough. Never touch enough, never taste enough. They would never be close enough.*

Alec and Cronin's bond turns dangerous. Alec's blood is powerful; it's ancient; it's the KEY.

**I love Alec and Cronin and their ultimate Fated bond.**

Cronin growls a lot in this book. Seriously, he growls. ALL. THE. TIME.

I only wish this book had more steam. The first two scenes were fade to black, and even the wild fucking at the end was ... muted.

When I get two powerful men who are terribly in love and LUST, I want to see them EXPLODE on page. We don't get much of that here ... barely enough, I'd say.

But there is history and action, friendship and family. **The writing flows, and there's never a dull moment.**

Oh, and did I mention the ending?

NO, well damn, listen up:

(view spoiler)

Also: **KILTS**. Albeit briefly.

But still.

*P.S. Will there be a third book in the series? I'd gladly partake of another delicious dose of Alec and Cronin with more on-page steam, please.*

*But there are so many interesting secondary characters ... Kennard, Jacques ... the possibilities are endless.*

*Not that I'm hinting or anything. \*clears throat\**

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### **Janie says**

This series just gets better and better. No time for a review now, on to the 3rd book.

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### **Cristina T. says**

**BR with Kayl \*even though I was really late to the party—sorry, Kayl!—I'm still counting this as a BR ;-)\***

I don't even know where to begin, to be quite honest. I was already expecting this second installment to not be as good as the first book, since a lot of people have been disappointed by it. Well, sadly, so was I...

The thing that bothered me most was the repetitiveness. Cronin was growling and groaning every two pages and twice on a page. No one could get close to Alec without Cronin letting out a growl and wanting to rip their head off. And don't even get me started on Eiji's laughing/giggling/smiling/snorting/grinning and whatnot. I loved how upbeat Eiji was in the first book, but I felt like he took it too far here. He was like the friend you can never take seriously. And to top it all off, there was a lot—and I mean a LOT—of blushing and whining on Cronin's side. He came across as an inexperienced teenager, instead of the vampire who has lived for over a thousand years. Really annoying.

Something else which got on my nerves was how exaggerated the history references were this time around. I mean, I loved the Egypt stuff, but now we had Jack the Ripper as a neurotic vampire, the Great Wall of China as an attempt of humans to keep vampires away, and the cherry on top: that sensation you get when you think someone has called your name, yeah, that's supposedly a vampire. \*le gasp\* Seriously? All these things were too far-fetched for me to believe them to even be remotely possible.



I did like parts of it, though... It was awesome that we got a closer look into Alec's ancestors and the explanation for him being the key, and I liked the fact that Kole was very present and completely accepting of every weird thing that went on around him. I also liked Jorge, although I must admit that I was a little freaked out by him after his first scene with Cronin, Alec and Kennard (I loved Kennard, BTW!). But he was adorable and very helpful the rest of the time. And let's not forget my favorite scene with the lions of Tanzania, which was beautiful!

Will I read the third book? Meh. I don't think so. This book's ending was very good, actually, and I'm definitely satisfied with how things turned out. (view spoiler)

*"Rug mi ort, m'cridhe."*

*I have you, my heart.*

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**? Todd says**

**\*\* FREE \*\* All 3 books in the Kronin's Key series, 2016-11-01:**

<https://www.amazon.com/Cronins-Key-3-...>

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