

Ransom

R.K. Ryals

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Vengeance is the path of the Damned. It is not a path taken lightly. For a Naphil, it could mean ransoming his soul.

~Bezaliel~

Dayton Blainey is caught between two worlds: Heaven and Hell. Bound to a Demon she's beginning to care about, she is thrown into an adventure she may not survive.

But she will try.

Separated from her friends, she is forced to use powers she just discovered she had while surviving the wrath of a Demon queen.

She will be tested.

And in the search for a ring that may unbind her from Marcas Craig, Dayton will discover that the bond between an Angel and a Demon goes much deeper than blood.

She will endure.

Ransom Details

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From Reader Review Ransom for online ebook

Ellen says

Ransom picks up where the first book in the series, Redemption leaves off. Dayton Blainey, is bound by blood to Marcas Craig, and they are now in search of the one thing that may unbind them, Solomon's ring. As they embark upon this quest, the danger that they face is unimaginable. The battle between good versus evil intensifies, as does the threat to Dayton and Marcas, as well as their feelings for each other.

We get to see many of the same characters we were introduced to and came to love in the Redemption in Ransom, and we are introduced to quite a few new characters as well. In their quest for the ring, Dayton and Marcas, along with the angel Sophia and the fallen angel Lucas, are forced into Hell to deal with the wrath of Lilith, Marcas' mother. Dayton more than proves herself while there. We begin to see and learn more about Marcas in this novel, and Dayton comes to realize her feelings for him, and he for her. An unlikely alliance has arisen to fight together against the demonic hoards that are seeking to destroy them, even drawing the attention of Lucifer himself, and then they face a surprise attack by the evil demon Damon.

This book was so awesome. I can't say enough how great this series is. I was completely enthralled from beginning to end. There is nonstop drama and action. The romance is hot, and the story line and characters are great. This is one series you won't want to miss.

(Quotes from book 2) - I sobbed as Marcas ended the vision abruptly, his lips suddenly crashing down onto mine. It was an odd moment for a kiss, and yet so right. An awful memory, a heartbreaking scene replaced by a forceful caress......He was giving me a part of himself, his lips almost violent as I sobbed against him, my kiss filled with all of the emotions I'd had pent up since we met.

"If you're trying to convince me he is evil, you failed. Everyone has the capacity for evil. But evil doesn't have the capacity to be merciful."

Kami says

This book was gifted to me by the author. Thank You!

The book begins with Marcas and Dayton on a flying carpet going on a quest to retrieve a magic ring so as to break their bond. Dayton is afraid of heights and is swearing and complaining for the entire trip. Marcus' ex, the angel Sophia shows up and Dayton gets a bit jealous. "It was like staring at a perfect piece of china, so beautiful, so flawless, that the only thing I wanted to do with it was throw it agaisnt a wall and watch it shatter." Things get really complicated on the quest for the ring. "Sophia wanted to protect the ring, Lucas wanted to take me to my father, Marcas wanted unbound, and I just wanted to go home." "Something told me mixing the word Hell with hound wasn't like mixing ice with cream."

I am liking Dayton more in this book. She is stronger. And she is so funny. While Dayton gets tougher, Marcas seems to soften a bit. "I may need instruction. I may even need rescuing here and there. But, I am not weak. And when I learn something new, I learn it. I don't forget it, Marcas. I may fear things, but I am one hell of a fighter. And I didn't inherit that from Angels. It didn't come from Bezaliel. No, I inherited that from my mother." All these forces stand in Dayton's way. Demons want her destroyed or they want to use her for

their own gain. Dayton insists on doing things the hard way and being complicated, because "it's more fun." Then she starts a forbidden love affair with Marcas. "I loved words. They gave meaning to life, explained feelings many couldn't express otherwise. It was a release. And if it was strange for me to like literature and poetry, then I rather liked being strange." Marcas is the only one without an agenda, the only one who doesn't want to use Dayton. Marcas wants to give Dayton the chance to choose her own fate. "Everyone has the capacity for evil. But evil doesn't have the capacity to be merciful."

I really like this book better than the first one. Dayton seems more mature and the writing is stronger. This book is really exciting too with all the battles going on and Dayton standing strong in the middle. I like the tough, surly, demon Marcas. He cares a lot for Dayton, though he is a man of few words, he is always there when she needs him. And when you are at war with Hell, and the mother of demons Lilith, it is a good idea to have a badass, warrior demon at your back. With all the pain and evil in the world, I do believe that good will triumph. I believe that love is stronger than horror. This book ends with a cliffhanger and now I must see how this trilogy will end because now I am really loving this story.

Kim says

3 and ¾ stars for the first book; 3 and ½ stars for the second of the trilogy (technically the series stands as a quad, but the story was resolved in the 3rd; the the author decided to add an unnecessary 4th and by all accounts, it's not worth reading). This review is going to stand for both the 1st and 2nd books in the series (I read them back-to-back, and was on vacation at the time, so didn't have the time/ability to write a review following the first book/prior to the second).

Warning: Spoilers

This is the story of Dayton, a teenage girl who lives with her sister and aunt in an abbey of a religious sect called The Order, following the death of her parents when she was 10-years-old. Things aren't quite right at the abbey, and Dayton – ever the strong-headed, rebellious one, has never fit it. Upon her 17th birthday, Dayton is betrayed by her Aunt and the abbey, being forced into a blood-bond with a demon, Marcus. Marcus, for his part, had been betrayed by his younger twin brother, and is bonded to Dayton against his will as well. It turns out that Dayton is half-Angel, half-mortal of a pure Sethian bloodline. Marcus is half-demon, half-immortal son of Cain. Damon's (Marcus' twin) theory is that if Dayton and Marcus are bonded and have a child, the child would somehow bring redemption to the line of Cain (this part I don't quite understand; it was not explained very well), and bring an end to the bloodlust that they experience (think pseudo-vampire-demon). But Heaven and Hell think that this joining could tip the balance of good and evil, causing a great war between Heaven and Hell on Earth. Each side seeks to kill Dayton to prevent this joining from happening; their only hope is to seek the Ring of Solomon to try to unbind themselves from each other. They are aided at times by friends on each side: demons, angels, witches, a gargoyle, Seers, and religious warriors. These secondary and tertiary characters have varying amounts of depth to them, but bring a bigger texture to the overall story. Through their adventures, Dayton and Marcus develop a respect and trust in and for each other; slowly even stronger feelings develop.

All-in-all, I did quite enjoy this story. I found Marcus to be intriguing: he's deep, has a long conflicting past, and despite being a demon, has an honorable heart. I enjoyed Dayton's character as well, though more so in the beginning than in the end of the the 2nd book. She was initially, and continues to be at times, goofy and obstinate; stubborn yet kind. As the story progressed, though, I found that she cried a little too often. There was also a LOT of introspection, and a shit-ton of recapping and reiteration, almost to the point of having a cyclic thought-process. She often assumed a passive role in her displays of magical 'badassery' – she didn't wield her powers; it lashed out of her without intention on her side, or her power was manipulated/wielded

by Marcus on her behalf. Not gonna lie – it kind of diminished her 'badassery'. I also thought that the climactic fight scenes were just a little too detached and vague at times. While I really like the storyline and the characters, I just feel like it could have been a little better than what it was. I'm looking forward to moving on to the final book of the originally intended series.

Mikila Marshall says

As Marcas and Dayton continue the dangerous adventure. Will they come out of it alive? First of all I would just love to say, Congrats to R.K. Ryals on her second amazing book in the Redemption Series. It was the perfect follow-on to the first book. It was so awesomely written and to change it just wouldn't be right. As they say You can't improve on perfection:)

Argh! I cannot believe I got to wait a month or two for the last instalment in the series: (But, if it is anything like Redemption and Ransom then I could wait 'til 2013:) Okay, I'm glad it isn't that long, but you know what I mean;) Again, the characters are adorable and the story amazing. The characters of Lilith and Lucifer are extremely intimidating and I ended up chewing most of my nails off (which took me years to grow, so thanks for that LOL). I want a dumdum. I'm guessing it's a lollipop. Whenever it came up in both books my mouth was watering. It just sounded divine. The kiss. Aw the kiss was absolutely perfect. I ended up filling up. Was kinda jealous too because I am absolutely in love with Marcas. :P Again, this book is so wonderfully written and a rollercoaster ride that you don't want to end. I saw everything in my mind. Including the light being pulled out of Dayton. We got to meet Sophia. Marcas' first and only love, who chose Heaven over Love. I was interested in her but I hated when she first appeared. I thought it would change Marcas. But her presence didn't falter him.

The trip to hell, wasn't like what I thought it would be at all. The pits were. But I loved the idea of Lilith's Hell. My skin was crawling because I hated the idea of her being thrown into a room alone. The hellhounds remind me of my dream I had a few weeks ago. A foaming huge rottweiler in the clouds. That is all I could imagine. I too am quite afraid of heights, so now and again I would hold in my breath whenever they were in the sky or even falling.

I seriously cannot wait for the next instalment. I am eagerly awaiting it, and am hoping my nails grow back by the time I get it:)

Again, I recommend this to anyone that doesn't mind a foul mouthed red-haired Angel :) A well deserving 5* :) :)

Ensley says

An amazing second book in the series. I absolutely loved it.

Anne (Angel Anne Reviews) Nelson says

Heave and Hell combined = Absolte power!!!

 \sim I was not prepared to have her involved in the ensuing battle. My choices have brought her to this. I will not be forbidden entry in her life... \sim Bezaliel

I received Ransom as a gift from author R.K. Ryals herself to read for my enjoyment and give my unbiased opinioned review. Once again I loved the way the phenomenal mind of Regina as she wrote Ransom, book II of The Redemption series.

The incredible journey continues right where it left off in Redemption, (I just love books that do that) as Dayton and Marcas seek the ring that is to unbind them... what will happen to Dayton? What will happen to Marcas, "Her" Demon?

I almost didn't want to know, because my mind has the bad habit of matching up "TEAMS" all on it's own, and from the very beginning of Redemption (book 1) it had picked team Dayton/Marcas. And it saying, oh man they better not break up my team.

In Ransom Dayton has come into her powers more quickly, and while she is still amazed at what she can actually do, she finds she is forced into using her new found powers against the evil demented Demon Queen (Marcas' mother) while trying to survive the wrath of both the Dark lord and the Demon Queen. (heck I sure wouldn't want to be in Dayton shoes)

Always being watched by both Heaven and Hell, both Dayton and Marcas are feared, they are different with a power never seen before. .. Hated by Lilth the most.

Lilth and the Dark lord, Satan himself want Marcas to be Satan's right hand man, his second in rank.. Marcas refuses; treason is a crime and punishable death for his refusal of taking the seat next to The Dark Lord. Angels who disobey God are thrown from Heaven, they become the Fallen. Demon's who disobey Satan die!!!!

~ In flesh, she is a weak creature. Most do not look beneath her human surface. This is their mistake. In spirit, she is magnificent ~ Bezaliel

Dayton's powers were/are strong and powerful, unmatched by any other. His powers were/are the strongest of all Demons, just below Lucifer himself. Combine them as one and it is Heaven and Hell combined!!! Wow, what a mix of combined power and skills. A light so magnificently strong, all will be effected, or nearly all....

Ransom is so full of romance, action packed scenes with a wickedly twisted and phenomenal story. Yes, I'm still in love with the way it is so well written as the storyline unfolds and continues so effortlessly for us as the reader to follow.

In most novels you will find one or two main characters that the story is usually built around, but that's not the case in the Redemption series, this series has the characters stand out on their own. Each for their own reasons, and as you come to a new characters part or even combined character parts, they seem to be writing a story of their own even though it's an extension of the current chapter that you are reading, That's what I mean when I say that they can stand on their own as strong individual characters. Yet are so smoothly blended together. It's not very often that you find a debut series that can pull this off right from the start, yet R.K. Ryals has done just that. Congratulations Regina on accomplishing this on the first try.. *HI 5*

You are going to feel like you have been ran through the gauntlet of emotions throughout this series, I know I sure in the heck did, but it a good and awesome way. You will feel sadness, funniness, love, confusion, hurt and elation... See I told you.. ;-) But in a great storyline that's the way it's suppose to be!!! Right? YES....

All I can say is that if you haven't started to read this series yet, I just don't understand the reasoning behind

your hesitating in latching onto this series.. It is a definite MUST READ series. I have yet to find nothing in this series that I don't like, I love it all.

I eagerly wait for Retribution to come into my hands in loving print format. Yes I still crave the old fashion method, the feel and smell of a new book or even an old one for that matter is never to be replaced in my eyes..

Thanks again Regina for this wonderfully addicting Redemption series.. *angel hugz*

Recommend: 17 and up Rating: 5/5 angel stars

Angel Anne Reviews

Lady Krishna says

What an amazing journey! Beautifully written! It was so perfect to me! I will write a more detailed review soon!

This review is originally posted on my blog Journey with Books

Updated Review:

Ransom started in where Redemption ended. It's really good! You know, I said before that Redemption is good then you must definitely read Ransom because it's even better! Everything has been upgraded! The romance, the action scenes, the interactions of the characters are just so fascinating.

I've decided to make a list of what I liked and disliked from this book. I wanted it to be clear for everyone to see.

What I liked:

- -- I loved the plot! The plot was amazingly executed! The battle between good and evil and everything in between them is so fascinating. Every scene and every action has a meaning. I appreciated how Ms. R.K. Ryals continued this book from the first one. It just becomes more exciting and intense as I turn another page!
- -- All the characters are amazing! Each one of them will make a mark on you. They are so real! You can see how they develop and mature. Especially Marcas and Dayton! They are the realest and most alive characters I've ever encountered. I think of them as if they are real. And the minor characters are also awesome! They have a purpose on why they were in this book. They weren't just put there to be a decor. I

think Ms. R.K. Ryals succeeded on making her characters alive which most authors failed in doing. You can feel the love of the author to the characters she created because she gave them a reason to be there.

- -- The conversations, lines and interactions between the characters are fascinatingly natural. The flow of the conversations and interactions are not forced. They are funny when they are meant to be funny. I felt the sadness and hurt when they were meant to be felt that way. I felt the giddiness when Marcas and Dayton are interacting in a way that would suggest romance. I felt anger when things are bad. That's what I meant when I said, it was all so natural. As a reader, you weren't forced to make yourself feel a certain way just because you wanted to feel something for the book you are reading. This book is so natural because it would make you feel all of these emotions because it's simply makes you feel that way. It tugs at your heart and it affects you.
- -- The love triangle was done in a tasteful way! In the first book, I said there was a hint of a love triangle in there. You know, I'm not good with love triangles maybe because I'm just so sick with them! (Probably why I gave up on YAs in the past) But Ms. R.K. Ryals created a triangle that is not annoying nor irritating. I think it came out that way because she let the relationships go its own way. It wasn't forced to be a love triangle, it just became that way because it makes sense that way. She let those feelings of the characters go into a natural direction. Marcas and Dayton's relationship blossomed into something more while Dayton's relationship with Connor became clearly just friendship. Feelings were viewed in a more realistic way. And I absolutely loved how Ms. R.K. Ryals resolved this triangle. I loved how she did it without over complicating things. It was tasteful and done right!
- -- The romance between Marcas and Dayton is so good! I liked how gradual the romance blossomed. I'm actually amazed at how they progress from enemies to frienimies to real friends to feeling something more and then to definitely being something more. I love how their emotions and confusions were clearly shown! They weren't magically together because they were thrown together. They went through a process together. Their relationship progressed up to that point because of the challenges and experiences they had together. It was something so fascinating to see in a YA book. The impossibility of the relationship because of WHO they are is something that even I as a reader muddles over. I guess that's why I wanted their love to win against everything. I root for them to be together because even I can't see how they can resolve the problem. I really feel for them.
- -- The relationship of Dayton with her friends is so heart warming to read. This is actually one of my favorite parts in this series. Dayton's relationship with Monroe and Connor is so good. I just loved reading their scenes together. I feel the friendship, the love and protectiveness that they have for each other. It was really nice because it makes you want to have them as your friends because they have each others backs. No matter how bad the situation is, they don't abandon their friends. I just love the friendship these three have! The action scenes makes your heart pound so loud! These scenes are so good because I see them inside my head like it's a movie! It was so good!
- -- The ending! I'm just going to say how much I love the ending. It was perfectly done! I'm not going to say how it ended, just that, it feels right to end it that way. Mind you, there is another book after Ransom. It's the conclusion of this series and I am eagerly waiting for that book which is hopefully coming on May.

What I didn't like:

-- None! I absolutely liked everything! Everything that happened inside that book is so natural and it all felt right, like it's supposed to happen that way and because of that there is absolutely nothing I didn't like.

Overall, reading Ransom is like seeing it inside your head like a movie. Every scene and every line

seems so natural that it could be seen inside your head and could be felt inside your heart which I think is why this book is so special because it has that ability to take you to a big adventure of self-discovery and make you experience a great heart-felt romance! If you want to experience everything that is written in this review then you have to hurry and read this series!

This review is originally posted on my blog Journey with Books

Pyxi says

Where do I start? First let me say that Ransom was every bit as good as Redemption and where Redemption hinted to the growing feelings between the bonded Naphil Dayton and Demon Marcus, Ransom revealed what we all knew to be true. *swoon*

Ransom starts right where we left off in Redemption, flying on the Carpet of Solomon in pursuit of the Ring of Solomon, a holy artifact that will release the blood bond between the two. With a deathly fear of heights, Dayton is just barely holding it together.

Everyone she has ever loved is fighting a battle against demons sent to destroy her by Marcus's mother, Lilith. A battle she just abandoned them to fight on their own so she can betray her only allies in order to find a solution to their bonding.

She's coming undone and with her new power growing by the day, she hasn't felt more lost in her own skin. The strength of her Light is a force to be reckoned with but her heart . . . her growing affection for her Demon is drowning her focus.

With a war approaching, both sides are scrambling to sway the pair for their own advantages. And the longer the two stay bonded, the more Heaven and Hell fear the outcome. And the longer Dayton stays by Marcus' side, the more she risks losing her soul. But it isn't her soul she fears losing the most; it is her heart.

What happens when a child of God and a product of Hell surrender to their desire to be together? With Satan after Marcus's obedience and Marcus's crazy brother thinking a joining between demon and nephilim will bring redemption to them all; will the two be able to fight for the right to decide for themselves?

Ransom is an incredible journey that will leave the reader desperate for more. R.K. Ryals is a master storyteller with the ability to create characters that you can't live without. I am forever hooked; whatever she decides to write, I will definitely buy without question.

1	Vow	on to	Retribution		
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Lita Acevedo says

The continuing saga of a half-human and half-angel bonded to a half-human half-demon. An exciting story told so well I can't seem to put the books down until they're done and then I want to start the next one. I love these characters and the author's way of weaving the story is so engrossing you're kidnapped and forced to read it. Really, I can't help myself.

Melissa says

I read this twice. I truly enjoyed the first book, Redemption, and all the characters and plot details, but Ransom is phenomenal.

One of my favorite things about the story is Dayton's relationship with Marcas, which has been stepped up a notch in this book. Ryals does a masterful job of forcing the two together in tension filled situations where little touches and looks lets the reader in on the bond between them before the characters even realize it. I wanted to squeal every time Dayton dug her nails into Marcas' leg because she's afraid of heights and I secretly hoped he kept pulling her to him because he wanted/needed to be near her, not because she was cold or needed protection.

All of my favorite characters make an appearance, as well as some great new ones. There are subtle hints of the storylines of Monroe and Luther, of Connor and his new charge, and I found myself filling in all the blanks during the hours I wasn't able to read. (yeah, I didn't get a lot of work done while reading this)

The plot is fantastic, good versus evil with tons of blurry lines, love, sacrifice, endless danger, and tangled, tricky relationships. The heroine is strong, but not so much she doesn't worry or is never afraid, a realistic strong. And then, when she's in the face of the worst, most terrifying thing, she shines.

Ransom has only made me want more of Dayton and Marcas's story, it will be agony waiting for book three (sigh). This book was solid action, perfectly balance with a little humor and romance. If I could give it more stars, I would.

karen gootee-tindle says

Very good

I enjoyed every book in this series I could not out it down. I love reading good story lines and this was a good one

Jodie says

Ohmigoodness. I didn't want to stop and write the review of Redemption (the first book) I just wanted to keep reading. When I finally got to start this book, I read it in one sitting. I went without food and sleep. I just needed to know if getting unbound really was the answer. If you haven't read REDEMPTION – the first in the series, what are you waiting for?! Stop reading this review and go do it!!

'I wanted to hate him. I even needed to hate him. And I hated even more that I couldn't hate him. My final conclusion: I needed therapy.'

I don't even know how I can begin to tell you what the next phase had in store for Marcas, Dayton, Monroe & Connor. We know that Marcas & Dayton are on a flying carpet (Aladdin anyone:)) with the mission of getting their hands on the coveted Ring of Solomon and it is guarded. By like warriors and, *gasp* angels. What we didn't know is that they would have to face so much on that journey. I'm trying not to tell you that they may or may not have found themselves trudging through a pyramid in Egypt, come face to face with jealousy, had to take a forced trip to hell, and the pits of fire, have to pull out the stops to escape Lillith, face indescribable trials to save their friends from being massacred by Lucifer – the ruler of the underworld, discover more about their binding and what that means for their powers as well as sharing THE MOST INTENSE KISS & the realization that they care. The decision that Dayton makes at the end will change the game for good.

'She was building suspense. An Angel who liked a scene. Imagine that. I, personally, thought the glow was enough.'

'Something told me mixing the word Hell with hound wasn't like mixing ice with cream'

'There is evil. And then there is Lucifer.'

Although Marcas is a man of very few words, (and I'm pretty sure he wished he never had to speak, or be spoken to), I fell in love with him. Hook, line & sinker. I get that demons are supposed to be selfish, but Marc, just isn't. He is silent & huffy, with all his eyebrow raising and jaw clenching, and holding his cards close to his chest, but mostly he is misunderstood. ***Sigh***

"If you're trying to convince me he is evil, you failed. Everyone has the capacity for evil. But evil doesn't have the capacity to be merciful."

RK Ryals has this knack with making you feel what the characters do. I felt fear & despair when Dayton did, I held my breath when the hellhounds were stinking up the place (eeeeeeek), I felt trust, passion and wonderment for Marcas and I felt the unconditional love flowing between Dayton, Connor & Monroe. All these moments had the power to give me goosebumps and get emotion all caught in my throat. Truly, RK Ryals, & Dayton have both made it to my favorites shelf.

I'm going straight onto Retribution and after this ending, I know that Dayton is going to have to dig deep to overcome one of her biggest enemies. A brilliant, action packed story that had me on the edge of my seat.

'Oftentimes, it is in moments when hope is lost that understanding is gained.'

Runningrabbit says

This is a fantastic series. Realistic characters, steaming hot bad boy demon, serious evil and nasty bad guys that you want to give a swift kick where you lose your foot in various orifices. And yeh, the jealous angel ex-girlfriend. Yep, we hate her. There's also some particularly crazy family action going on. Her aunt is the epitome of eviiiilll.

Some great action with plenty of diverse scenery and gripping atmosphere. Lots of new characters with steadily morphing backgrounds - keep on it, I've got the next book primed and ready for take off without imminent loss of control (oh those Russians - woops).

Elise Marion says

I read and gave book one in the series 5 stars! Now I wish I could give this one six, because that's just how good it is.

This book picks up right where the last one left off...with Dayton and Marcas searching for a way to become unbound while fighiting the fires of attraction that threaten to turn their relationship into something else entirely.

What I loved about this book is that Dayton really comes into her own. At the end of the first book she learns to use her powers. In this book we get to really see her put to the test, and boy does she deliver! As always, I love Marcas and his dark, brooding moods. I loved the intensity of their chemistry, which in this book, has reached a boiling point!

I loved the introduction of new characters and the re-emergence of old ones. The story was fresh and exciting and I loved all of the descriptions of hell, demons, fallen and angels, and my personal favorite, hell hounds!

If you read and loved the first book, then you MUST read this one too. You won't be able to put it down!

S.L. Wallace says

Ransom is the second book in a series. You absolutely must read Redemption first because this book picks up right where that one left off without much explanation of what came before. I prefer that in sequels because I believe books that are part of a series should be read in order and not really need to explain themselves. However, readers who read the first book long ago or who've never read it at all may feel a bit lost at times.

Ryals continues to strengthen and develop her characters throughout both books, effectively bringing them to life. By placing them in more intense situations, they are successfully pushed to their limits. The descriptions were well done too. In book one, I was able to picture and recognize many of the places described in the book partly because of my own experiences: a high school football game, a teenager's bedroom (even if it was in an abbey), a club, etc. In book two, I had to rely on the descriptions given, especially regarding places no mortal has ever been.

The fast paced story kept my interest. My favorite parts were the interactions between Dayton Blainey and Marcas Craig.