


Rook

Alex Jones

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When Chris gets laid off from his job as a librarian at NYU, he thinks life can't get any worse. His only consolation is in a night of drinking that unexpectedly leads him to Tory, a romantic, mysterious ex-military man with roguish charm Chris can't deny. Their budding relationship grows to something deeper, despite both men's fears that it was never meant to last.

Swallowing his pride, Chris finally applies to a hole-in-the-wall bookstore whose "Help Wanted" sign has been sitting out for months. At first, it seems like a normal shop, right down to the dispassionate teenage register clerk. But when the owner comes out to meet him, Chris is taken off guard – Hector is gorgeous, and has a Cheshire smile that sends Chris' imagination reeling.

Impressed with his resume, Hector hires Chris after a brief and unorthodox interview. Chris' life starts looking up. But the more he sees of Hector, the more he realizes—there's more to this man and his eccentric nephew than meets the eye. When the truth is revealed, it threatens to shatter the life Chris is trying so hard to build. Caught in the chaos and danger of a fey wilderness, he must choose between Hector's arcane secrets, and Tory's open arms—if he can survive long enough to have either.

Standalone or to read in series.

Rook Details

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Author : Alex Jones

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From Reader Review Book for online ebook

Julesmarie says

I was fascinated by the premise of a librarian/bookshop worker getting to travel to a fantasy world.

I enjoyed both worlds. The bookshop where Chris was hired to work by Hector was lovely, and the fantasy world they get taken to was fantastically well-described, and very fun to get to explore with them.

I have a hard time thinking of this as a romance, though, because Chris spends most of the book pushing Tory away, resenting him, distrusting him, and then lusting after Hector. In fact, after he'd been such a jerk for so much of the story, having it end with them together was almost a let-down.

So, 4.5 stars for the setting and world-building, 2 for the romance.

Favorite Quotes:

"People just don't work that way."

"You're right. People don't. But an individual..." Hector paused just long enough to swallow another shot.

"... Individuals do, when their lives turn inside out."

"You should not waste time worrying about death," Howie interjected happily. "It rots your brain and kills your appetite."

Sarah says

I'm disappointed because there was hardly any romance in this one at all but the story was decent. The first one was much better.
