



Vikramaditya Veergatha Book 3 - The Vengeance of Indra

Shatrujeet Nath

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Vengeance is a Cage. Forgiveness is Freedom.

In their greed to possess the deadly Halahala, the devas and the asuras have employed every dirty trick against Vikramaditya and his Council of Nine. But the humans are still standing, bloodied but unbowed.

When the wily Shukracharya discovers the secret to breaking the Council's unity and strength, he forges an unlikely alliance with his arch-enemy, Indra, to set a deceitful plan in motion.

As cracks emerge between the councilors and their king, ghosts from the past threaten to ruin Vikramaditya and Kalidasa's friendship, signaling the beginning of an eclipse that will cast a long shadow over all that Vikramaditya holds dear. And into this shadow steps Indra, bearing an old grudge – and a devastating new weapon.

How much longer before the Guardians of the Halahala finally fall apart?

SHATRUJEET NATH is the creator of the runaway national bestseller series Vikramaditya Veergatha, a four-book mytho-fantasy arc which includes The Guardians of the Halahala, The Conspiracy at Meru and The Vengeance of Indra. Described as “a new face to Indian mythology” by DNA, Shatrujeet writes for movies and web shows as well. He is also the author of The Karachi Deception, an Indo-Pak spy thriller.

Vikramaditya Veergatha Book 3 - The Vengeance of Indra Details

Date : Published January 19th 2018

ISBN :

Author : Shatrujeet Nath

Format : Kindle Edition 333 pages

Genre : Fiction, Fantasy

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Shatrujeet Nath

From Reader Review Vikramaditya Veergatha Book 3 - The Vengeance of Indra for online ebook

Kavita Singh says

No matter how long you train, you never know you are brave until the things happen!

The third book of the Vikramaditya Veergatha series is again a delightfully engaging read as the previous ones. How do the Guardians of the Halahala fare when Indra keeps up with his strategies and then with Shukracharya reigning in with his black magic forces. Do the Gods not spare the humans with their vengeance? How does Vikramaditya hold himself against all odds? All this and more aspects form the narration for this book.

Won't be revealing much, however the book is definitely an engrossing read, page after page. So what do we do?

Keep reading the series! Being a mythofiction book it is astonishing to see how Shatrujeet Nath has kept up his tempo with the story narration. The only drawback is to wait for the next book to come out soon!

As these lines say....

“?? ??, ?????? ?? ?? ??,
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? Ramdhari Singh ‘Dinkar’

This is somewhat the summation of what you can expect out of this book in this series.

kartik narayanan says

The Vengeance of Indra comes as a letdown after the breakneck pacing of 'The Conspiracy of Meru'.

My friends, colleagues & I are huge fans of this series. In fact, I got this specific book as a going away gift for a colleague & friend at work. And we have talked this series up to whoever listens (and whoever doesn't). I usually point to the seamless blending and reimagining of Indian history & mythology with action and politicking which is machiavellian (or should I say 'Chanakyan') as its strong points. The characters & the action are the stand-out portions of the series. But, this book fails at both - the characters are dispirited & there is no action. And now, you can see, why I gave this book 3 stars. THERE IS NO ACTION!!!! And most of the main characters behave like the angst ridden whiny teenagers from Young Adult novels. Why has the focus shifted so much to the humans from the devas and asuras?

That said, the book ends at an intriguing point. But, I wonder if Shatrujeet Nath has left too much to do in the final book in this series. But that is for a different review. We can only hope that Book 4 will hopefully tie up all the threads and leave us satisfied.

Pankaj Goyal says

"The Vengeance of Indra" by Shatrujeet Nath is the third book of the series called "Vikramaditya Veergatha". After thoroughly enjoying the first two books of this series, I picked up this book with a lot of anticipation. At the same time, there was a certain apprehension too. In every follow-up book of any series, there always lies a potential pitfall of disappointing the readers. However, I was assured that the author will not fail me. And, you know what, this book proved me right. In this third installment of the series too, Shatrujeet shines by offering an exciting plot.

This book is not like the first two books of the series. While the first two books of the series were filled with action-packed drama in the form of a number of thrilling war scenes, this book was centered more on the development of characters and sub-plots. But, do not worry. The lack of war scenes does not alter the pace of the book. The plot moves ahead at an amazing speed. Shatrujeet has a knack of making anything sound exciting and thrilling. He knows the art of hooking readers into his writing. He does not force his writing on his readers. On the other hand, the plot in his books grows naturally. This results in making the action in his books such that keep readers guessing until almost the very end. The plot in this book is filled with suspense, thrill, action, magic, bravery, loyalty, conspiracy, cat and mouse games, backstabbing, and many things more. The description of places, characters, and situations has been done in such a way that you can visualize them as you read.

Almost all of the characters have been given their individual voices in this series and this is where this book scores the marks too. Though the presence of a large number of characters may clutter and confuse the plot-line, it could be a masterstroke if executed with brilliance. And, this is what we find in this book – a brilliant execution of multiple points of views. We get to know these characters closely as we peel away the layers of their lives. In other words, we get to the heart of these characters and discover the truth behind their lives, and this is what makes these characters memorable.

As is generally the case with Shatrujeet's books, from the very first page, the beauty of this book is evident. The book radiates authenticity and not only charms like the first two installments but also takes it to the next level. The author has done really well on almost every front. While some readers might find it short of expectations (mainly due to lack of action-packed scenes), a majority of readers will appreciate the way the book has been executed. Sadly this entertaining and captivating book is finished. The author has beautifully played with my psychology and left me wanting more. Now, I will have to again wait for a long time to get my hands on the next installment of this series.

If there is one fantasy series you want to read this year, make it Vikramaditya Veergatha series. This series is worthy of your time.

Note: The review was originally posted on:
<https://pgalmora.wordpress.com/2018/0...>

Kavitha Sivakumar says

For some reason, I thought this is the final book in this series. It is not and I am slightly disappointed. Too

many characters to keep track of and too many in-fightings and backstabbing to my taste.

In the first book, a drop of halahala stolen by asura Veeshada and saved in his dagger is currently in possession of Lord Shiva. He (couldn't understand the reason) gave it to Vikramaditya for safe keeping. He in turn give it to Betaal to keep it safe in borderworld. Through out the three books, asuras and devas play all tricks to get that dagger, however failed so far. Vikramaditya's wife Vishaka met with horse accident and lost her memory.

There are more than 10 kingdoms including Avanti, Vikramaditya's kingdom. He is samrat, so he has allies and enemies in these small kingdoms. Besides these kingdoms, Hunas and Sakas are considered barbarian tribes who wage stealth war against Avanti.

Vikramaditya has eight counsellors and these nine form nine pearls and together is formidable power which is not known to them. Their individual powers are revealed fighting war against asuras and devas. So shukracharya tried to separate them. In this book, it is revealed that Vikramaditya is actually grandson of Indra and so he is a deva. Vikramaditya refused to acknowledge it.

Parwati Singari says

The Hero's Trails begin.

The vengeance of Indra

Book 3 Vikramaditya Veeragatha.

Author Shatrujeet Nath

Pub

ISBN

Like I mentioned before book 2 and book 3 came together. The books were so absorbing that I read it one goes without bothering to make notes for blog. The only reigning thought was that it was to be a trilogy, however to put the entire story across he would need at least two more books. Well Shatrujeet promises a four book series. Though my own assessment he will require to make it a veeragatha with six volumes.

“The Hellfire and the Halahala two things that the Asura and devas have always hankered after, but to no avail. How it must gall them to see both in the possession of the human being. I am not in the least bit surprised that Shukra Acharya and Indra set aside their differences to plot Vikramaditya's downfall.”

The 2nd book ends with

- Kalidasa leaving Avanti.
- Yaksha's targeting Vishaka.
- Shukra Acharya and the Deva's put their differences aside to face the common enemy Vikramaditya and his nine pearls, not to mention the powerful, abundant federation of Sindhavarta.

The book reveals the various challenges in the space of Samrat Vikramaditya. For Shukra Acharya the preceptor of the Asura's has found a way to break the council of nine that safe guard the Halahala. The devas and asura's have worked a truce to fight the Guardians of Halahala. Then there are subplots of Vikramaditya's sister scheming to have her son crowned King, she seeks the Samrat's approval for it. Her son Ghatakarapara however has been kidnapped. Then there is Vararuchi who is dealing with constant rejection from Queen Mother Upashruti. The nine pearls fall out for various reasons.

There are some allusions that come across like the story of Vararuchi being belittled by the Queen mother is

very similar to the story of Dhruva, the introduction of Urvashi as Pralopi's maid seems like a hint towards the more famous episode of Vikramorvashi. Vikramorvashiyam was a play written by Kalidasa on the Romance of Vikramaditya and Urvashi.

As the book progresses the nine pearls accept their uniqueness this kind of strengthens it.

The author makes some very interesting observations

- When is refereeing to the skill of Ghatakarpara create stuff, he refers to the ability to visualize to precision before creating something.
- He talks of the Huns entering the Sindhuvartha since they were facing drought and Sindhuvartha was the land of plenty
- The mother oracle talks of the Danavas in the danka-aranya who were ousted by asuras.

As the book ends, the mother oracle warns that the sun is on the wane and great eclipse is on its way to devour the sun. The Huns are out to get the ghoulish master who is also the keeper of the Halahala. Indra the King of Devas reveals a secret that is devastating to Queen Mother Upashruthi and Vikramaditya.

The series are really interesting, and am looking forward for the next book. I only hope Shatrujeet will not succumb to the temptation of overloading the book 4.

Vishnu Chevli says

"Vikramaditya Veergatha is slowly taking over the place of "Shiva Trilogy" by Amish Tripathi in my personal Indian mythological fictional 1st position. Shatrujeet can see many such fans having the same opinion. The way Avanti & neighboring states are being portrayed, I can feel that India has its own version of "The Game of The Throne". I think Indian director should grab the opportunity otherwise some foreign entity will milk it.

Talking about the story, after the defeat of Ahi, under the cunning guidance of Shukracharya, devas took the road of "Divide & Conquer" to break down Vikramaditya's & his council of Nine. Kalidasa was allowed to leave Sinduvrata unharmed by Samrat and Kalidasa went to Hunas. This has started creating voices in council & allies of Avanti. On top of that Indra's interference have made situation worst for Vikrama. On the border, Ghatakarpara was kidnapped by Shakas On and all in this volume Vikramaditya's life became burning hell from troublesome. The only hope for Samrat is an unknown may-be ally from Dandaka for which they started exploration & powers of councilors.

Talking about action thriller series, this volume is more about building a bigger battlefield for upcoming wars & clashes. Just like Harry Potter where story reached towards wizard politics in 5th part, this volume has a bigger role to play in upcoming volumes. With more than 4 fronts to fight back with little/thin layered ally will be a bigger challenge for the Samrat in coming challenges.

With pace reduced compared to last two parts & too many characters & plot to get aligned I think the author may have to add one more volume in series. Well for "Vikramaditya fan" like me, it will be a treat.

Detailed Review Link - <http://chevusread.blogspot.in/2018/03...>

Devika Ramadoss says

"The wait is over" that's what I felt when I started to read the book as this book was my much awaited book of the year. But I have to wait at least an year again for the final part. Well it's obvious.

Book 3 stands best among the other books in my opinion. I actually enjoyed and got very much involved with the story. And that's because of Samrat Vikramaditya character development. Slowly his character emerged interestingly and hid all other characters from my eyes.

Surprisingly I felt the language was easy and light, May be I got used to author's strong yet beautiful narration.

You could see only very few characters when compared to other two as the story involves politics and plot of Indra and Sukracharya more to it. There were no action sequence but still the book holds you with interesting twist and turns.

What does Kalidasa have in his mind? Author very cleverly developed the kalidasa portion to confuse us whether to doubt him or not. Nine Councillor's are in different direction now.

Usually I take time to complete the mythology genre as I tend to grasp the fictional epic to mind but this book 3 made me to hang on with the story with Samrat charmness and maturity. The ultimate courage of one is to face the hurdle. And Samrat possess that courage flawlessly. There were many scenes in this book which will give goosebumps with that sort. Another powerful character in this series would be Shankubala, a splendid women character to remember all along.

Overall "The Vengeance Of Indra" travelled steadily with the pace and author definitely hooked the readers with his spellbound narration and finishes off with perfect "It's Not The End".

Sahil Pradhan says

"vengeance is a cage, while forgiveness is freedom."

for the bloody and powerful halahala, the devas and asuras have made the sky and earth one to search it. the humans who protect are continuously under their anger and torture, still, they stand bloodied yet unbowed. if you feel around you the power of these words, I am sure you have made yourself a "Vikramaditya fan." after trying a lot of times to get the book- in which I failed every time- finally the author contacted with me and replied my message with a positive note. to be frank, the first day when I received the book, I just spent two words seeing and engaging myself in the beautiful cover and read the blurb at least 12 times. still, the beauty of these words never died down.

the book is the third book of the Vikramaditya veergatha series and a perfect gripping sequel to the previous book, the conspiracy at meru.

the book has got a number of five-star reviews and is among the national bestselling series and I must say, it deserves it.

talking about the story, Vikramaditya, the king of Avanti has been given the veesadha's dagger- which contains the halahala- to safeguard by the omniscient one. while the devas and asuras, know of this they join in an alliance to defeat the human king and get the dagger from him. under the guidance of shukracharya, Indra follows the path of divide and rule and on the verge destroy the friendship and loyalty of Kalidasa- who later on joins his native tribes, enemies of the Samrat and even crush the friendship of Vikram's brother with him. all this breaks down the self-morale of Vikram and even brings out a lot of betrayals and tales. the author has made the book such a "masterpiece" that there is not even a single dull moment in the whole book. when you start the book, I am sure you would find the narration gripping and the plot mesmerising. the action-thriller style of narrating a tale based on a historical king and the fantasy of gods and weapons is even another perk of the book.

the characters are even very-well etched out. the character of Kalidasa is portrayed not as a valiant and loyal warrior as in book 1 and 2, but as a wild and revengeful cunning player of war and politics. characters like of ghatakarpara and shankubala are even etched to the perfection.

overall the book is a perfect tapestry of thriller and fantasy, which would leave you spellbound after you read it. the book has occupied a special place in my heart and i title it as a " legendary tour-de-force". would recommend the book to all fiction lovers.

if you read the book, it's totally your loss, go and grab a copy of the tale of the new Indian version of "King Arthur".

imaginative. intense. intrigue.

i would like to thank the author to send me a copy of his work and to provide me with an opportunity to review it.

Aditya says

Rare gem in the fantasy genre...

The Vengeance of Indra is the third book in the VikramAditya Veergatha series...highly anticipated since last book had ended on a cliffhanger...

This book does justice with the sub plots that the author has sowed so delicately in the first two parts...the simmering tension between VikramAditya and his councillors comes forth and is handled superbly by the author...The book is high on content and inter rivalries and low on action...But its tone is dark and grim and more realistic something slightly lacking in the earlier books and very effectively sets the stage for the finale ..The confrontation scene between the protagonist and antagonist is superbly written and is stuff to die for...Its very rare that an author writes a part like this book in an action packed series...As usual he sets stage for a rollercoaster action packed 4th part...

Only one grudge is Indra has very few portions in this part...All in all my favorite fantasy series...Watch out for the author folks

Bookish Indulgences with b00k r3vi3ws says

Shatrujeet Nath returns with the third book in the series after a gap of almost a year and a half. (***) Still grumbling about the wait (***) But boy does he return with a bang! He doesn't wait to get right into it and the Prologue is a hook that is sure to get any reader's attention.

The book picks up from soon after where 'The Conspiracy of Meru' left off. The kingdom is still reeling from the after effects of the attacks. There's a restlessness growing among its people while Vikramaditya is faced with questions at every end. The effect of Kalidasa's action has left a mark on Vikramaditya and his councilors; especially on Vararuchi and Shanku. Ghatakapara has some troubles of his own. Shoorasena's plotting continues as King Harihara tries to face up to his dilemma and Chandravardhan tries to come to a decision. There is a lot happening in the human realms, but the unscrupulous scheming on the part of the Devas and the Asuras continue as well...

The stage is now set for the finale in "The Wrath of Hellfires" and I am so ready for it. I can feel how epic it is going to be from the way the story has built up so far.

To round up my review, I would like to recommend this series to every mytho-fiction and fantasy lovers out there. I really cannot say it enough – if you haven't read this series yet, you are missing out on a LOT.

Read the full review on Bookish Indulgences with book reviews

Rituranjan Gogoi says

A strong continuation to the Vikramaditya series. 'The Vengeance of Indra' scores on every aspect of the story. It is neatly plotted, and, the mythological background is etched into the story with a subtle depth. The narrative never loses focus, and all threads are connected at the right moments precisely. And, as usual Shatrujeet's writing is elegant that sustains the flow and mood of the story without any digressions.

This book is tightly centred upon the characters, and, the roles they will play in the upcoming conflict. The rift in Vikramaditya's council, the Machiavellian manipulation of the Devas and the Asuras, the unstable political atmosphere of Sindhuvrata is methodically told. However, the most notable aspect is the characters and the way the author has chosen to develop them. The flaws of the heroes, their fears, and uncertainty are explored with a harsh realism.

This book has very little action unlike the previous two books, where we see our heroes in action. This story is infact a chessboard - all the pieces has been gathered, the weaknesses of the opposition is exploited, plans are laid, and the game of war is about to begin. The author has succeeded in keeping the tension and atmosphere of suspense throughout the story. The politics of the kingdoms is also brought into the midst to aggravate the situation further, which lends a keen air of anticipation to the readers.

This book also has a quite surprising twists that adds to the thrill. The readers will be awed, I guarantee. The confrontation between Indra and Vikramaditya was hell of a scene to read. The epicness of the first two novels is subdued here. I longed to see more of the godly and supernatural power-play, but, that wasn't the case. Mind not, it is still a solid story that will land a few punches in your gut. I get the feeling that, not all is going to get well in the end. This story hints at losses and tragedy, of love and bitterness, and, of the choices we make however powerful and well-minded we are.

'The Vengeance of Indra' is a book that has set up the stage for the battle of epic proportions that is to begin. Throughout the obstacles Vikramaditya shines as a beacon of courage and fortitude. The author has created a great character that will endure forever in the hearts of the mytho-fantasy readers. I can't wait more for the concluding book of this great saga.

Kiruthika Nithynandan says

The problem with reading a good book is that you want to finish the book but you don't want to finish it.

Even though I preordered this book, I took my own sweet time in finishing it, savouring each and every page, because I know I would have to wait impatiently for another year when this is over.

The book is every bit as enthralling as I expected it to be. Even though it is not as fast paced as the second book, this book has interesting intricate sub plots that play out beautifully. The narration and language is wonderful and even throughout the book.

The characters are equally interesting and relatable. The reader can feel all the subtle emotions- Vikrama's pain, Vararuchi's indignation, Kalidasa's anger and Shanku's heartbreak.

If you ask me which among the three books is the best, I would be at loss to give an answer. I hope the fourth book puts me in even more of a dilemma.

Geeta Nair says

The magical touch of Author Shatrujeet Nath continues to hold the reader spellbound right through the third book of the Vikramaditya Veergatha Series too. While the first two books saw some truly captivating war scenes take away my breath, this one saw a crafty Indra wreak a vengeance shattering, without as much as a war cry. While the first two books in the series saw an Avanti strong and resilient thanks to the unity within its governing council, the faith of its people and its strong allies, this one sees a country riddled with fear for the future, one smarting under the blow handed down by Indra and tension simmering within its governing council. Will Vikramaditya fail? Will Sindhuvartha fall into the evil hands of its enemies? Will Indra be successful in calling the shots or will the wily Shukracharya succeed in his devious game plan? To know this we will have to wait for the final book in the series. And I must say that once you finish reading 'The Vengeance of Indra' you will hate the wait.

The book is a bag of emotions. There is hate, deceit, fear, determination, hope and much more. One can't help but empathize with Varuchi, grind the teeth on seeing Kalidasa switching sides and feel proud of the metamorphosis of Shanku from a simple lasso to a strong and determined warrior. One also can't help but feel a bit disillusioned with Vikramaditya at times especially with respect to his attitude towards Varuchi.

There are twists that will leave you pondering and turns that will make you sit up and wonder what's coming next.

The language is as usual simple, crisp and lucid with the power to bring forth the scene of action live before one's eyes. The style of narration and the pace are perfect. Characterization has always been the author's strong point and this one is no exception.

Read the full review at <https://geetaavij.wordpress.com/2018/...>

Roshan says

Where the first two books showed us the action sequences that broke the characters on both sides physically, author Shatrujeet Nath takes a different route herein The Vengeance of Indra, plunging the knife into our characters friendships and alliances and thus, breaking them apart from within.

Vikramaditya may be the Guardian of the Halahala but there are doubts aplenty in the eyes of the people he rules over in the kingdom now. Kalidasa's actions (and Vikramaditya's choices regarding that) raise many a

question in their eyes and it does not help that friends like Ghatakpara have their own troubles to deal with.

But have no doubt, there is more at work here than meets the eye. Book Three once more finds the Devas and the Asuras forming an unholy alliance as they seek a new way to defeat Vikramaditya and his Council from within in their quest to gain the Halahala. Where they had lost earlier in the battlefield, Indra and Shukracharya turn out to be far more devastating this time around with their scheming ways.

As it has been with all his books from the first Indo-Pak spy thriller, *The Karachi Deception*, Shatrujeet Nath's prose is crisp and error-free, engaging you and taking you deeper into the world he builds without letting go. These are worlds that definitely deserve a movie trilogy of their own though I doubt Bollywood is equipped for it even today.

Characters are well-fleshed out and you can feel the angst within you as you turn the page, wondering how those you care about will deal with what has happened as well as the aftermath of some dubious choices they made.

The creativity of the author from the first two books remains but I love how he offers something new with this book and sets up a thrilling last act to follow. As far as world building and thrilling action sequences go, I still feel Shatrujeet Nath is the most underrated of Indian authors. Right from his first book, he stood apart from so many others who have joined the Indian literary field since.

Like everyone else who read this book, I too eagerly await the conclusion to this epic storyline in 'The Wrath of the Hellfires' (How cool a name is that, eh ?!)

Anupam Kushwaha says

This is a very nice book. I feel *Conspiracy at Meru* was better than this one. But that is just because in every good written series, second book is always most popular and favorite of the readers. As most of the characters are introduced in the first book. The adventure and mysterious part begins in second book. It is also famous by the time it published, if readers liked the first one. And hence the popularity.
