



Shadows Fall

J.K. Hogan

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For him, the whole world is a graveyard...

A gift—or curse—gives Titus McGinty the unwanted ability to talk to ghosts. When he starts seeing the same few apparitions repeatedly, appearing with similar gruesome injuries, he begins to wonder what they want from him.

Detective Charlie Hale has a serial killer on his hands. On the loose for weeks, the Queen City Slayer has left the police nothing to go on, no forensic evidence other than what he wants found. The city is running out of time.

The crisis brings Titus and Charlie together—Titus stumbles upon a body and finds himself a suspect. Their budding romance is tested as they are sucked into a web of underground laboratories, restive spirits, and religious fanaticism. They'll have to work together to find the identity of the killer before he takes his next victim...Titus.

Shadows Fall Details

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Author : J.K. Hogan

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Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Fantasy, Paranormal, Mystery, Ghosts, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Shadows Fall for online ebook

Jewel says

ARC of Shadows Fall provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review. This review has been cross-posted at Reviews by Jessewave.

4.5 Stars

Shadows Fall is the first book by J.K. Hogan that I've read - and I loved it! This is my kind of paranormal story. We've got 2 hot men (one of whom is a cop), some mystery involving ghosts, some romance, some smokin' hot sexy times... Yeah, sign me up! And Shadows Fall did not disappoint.

Titus McGinty is a Gypsy and he sees dead people. All around him, all the time and he does his best to drown them out, but for a few of the spirits, he is having more and more of a difficult time blocking them. He has no idea who they are, but it is unusual for ghosts to actually follow him, so he knows he needs help learning to control his "gift". He contacts his grandmother, asking for help. Being a ghost talker runs in his family, and the ones with the gift are both feared and revered. But Titus was cast out because he's gay and refused to marry a woman. And because of that, he's never learned to control his gift, at all.

Charlie Hale is a closeted detective working a serial killer investigation, and it's starting to get to him. They've got no leads and the killer isn't leaving any evidence of himself behind. With the bodies piling up, Charlie is at his wits end and desperate to find the killer before he strikes again. He met Titus at the coffee shop that Titus owns, and when Titus calls Charlie one night after he stumbled upon another dead body, things get sticky.

Titus can't exactly tell the cops how he really found the body and everything he manages to come up with just makes him look more and more like a suspect. What's a ghost talker to do?

Charlie and Titus are amazing together. Their chemistry runs hot and they make a really good team. Charlie knows he's gay, but he never acted on it before meeting Titus. And he cannot resist Titus. Charlie also finds that he can really let himself go with Titus. Titus loves Charlie's dominant nature. And, truth be told, so did I. It was hot!

Though the mystery does overtake the romance a bit, I was fine with that, since I was enjoying the story so much. I did have to suspend my disbelief, not only with the ghosts and paranormal, but also with the more every day activities, like the police work and things like them breaking into a secure medical research facility without getting caught. I didn't buy that for a New York minute. But I was still entertained, so I let it slide.

All in all, I found Shadows Fall to be an excellent read and it was left open enough for continuing the story line, which I am happy about. But don't worry, we're not left with a cliffhanger here.

Tracy~Bayou Book Junkie says

*copy provided to Bayou Book Junkie by author/publisher via Pride Promotions in exchange for an honest

review*

Detective Charlie Hale is investigating a string of murders, that he thinks have been committed by a serial killer. He meets Titus when he visits the coffee shop Titus owns. Titus is a chovihano, he sees the dead. Outcast from his family, of gypsy's at 17, when it was discovered he was gay, he has never learned how to properly use or control his abilities. He tries to ignore the spirits, but there are a few that have been hanging around that really want his attention. They are insistent he pay attention to them.

Charlie and Titus are attracted to one another, but Charlie is deep in the closet. After becoming a regular customer they eventually take the relationship further, but when a spirit leads Titus to stumble upon one of Charlie's victims, will he quickly become a suspect.

I loved this story. It moved at a good pace and kept me sitting on the edge of my seat. It contained all the things I love in a book. It had a mystery to solve, some sitting on the edge of your seat action and suspense, some laugh out loud moments, some sweetness and even some smoking hot sex scenes. The main characters had a good chemistry and the secondary characters were all well developed. Riot and Hester especially felt like a part of the story, and not just an afterthought or part of the background.

I honestly had a hard time putting this book down. This isn't a short book and I sped through in less than 24 hours. My only complaints are, some of the terminology for Titus' ability was hard to comprehend, and at times I felt lost. But I understood enough to know what was happening.

We get a HFN, ending, and some things are left unresolved, but the end has a question mark, so I am not removing any stars. I'm giving the author the benefit of the doubt, that things will be more properly wrapped up in a sequel. I look forward to more of Charlie and Titus in the future. This is my first book by this author, but I'll definitely be checking out more in the future!

Yvonne says

Reviewed for Hearts on Fire,

With its mix of mystery and romance and mediums and ghosts this story had a lot of the elements that I enjoyed.

I liked the premise which consisted of a character who's haunted by the fact that he can see dead people but not necessarily control how and when they appear.

Titus McGinty is a coffee shop owner living in North Carolina. He's a Romany which is a type of gypsy and he was born with the paranormal ability to see ghosts. However his family had kicked him out when he was 17 for being gay and he's never fully learned to control his gift and often feels overwhelmed and bombarded by the spirits. Titus tunes them out by listening to loud music when he's out in free spaces and spiritually cleansing the areas where he lives and works. This has worked out fairly well for him even though it's kept him isolated and unable to form long lasting relationships.

Things start looking up however, when handsome detective Charlie Hale walks into his coffee shop and into his life. But Titus has trouble getting the romance started as he's bedeviled by 5 very persistent ghosts. What's worse is they appear to have a connection to a serial killer case Charlie Hale's working on.

All this threatens to derail Titus's love life before it even gets started so he decides to call in the big guns, an estranged relative, Titus's granny Hester who may be the key to getting him to get control of his life once and for all. The bad news is that Hester is also a formidable hellish spitfire who may or may not dislike her grandson but absolutely dislikes people who are gay, police officers and aren't Romany which means three strikes for Charlie.

While trying to deal with quirky friends, annoying relatives and not to mention a murder mystery, Titus and Charlie try to find the time and space for a romance. They're sweet together even if they occasionally seem to veer into juvenile territory.

I really didn't see a 36 year police officer playing truth or dare no matter how sexy or getting into True Blood like teenagers. Added to that, I never did buy into Charlie's supposed sexual inexperience even years after he discovered his interest in men. A confident guy like that would have at least tried something. Nevertheless, while they may not leave you hot and bothered, the two of them manage to pull off a warm and gentle chemistry.

This is a fairly long story for one of this genre and there's a lot going on. The mystery isn't that difficult to solve once it gets going and you wonder why neither Charlie nor Titus pick up on the obvious clues. But the storyline made sense and even the technical parts were engrossing all leading to an intense and suspenseful climax.

The story turns out to have a nice blend of romance and suspense even with the creepy dead people running around. I'd say the romance sometimes took a back seat to the serial killer storyline but that was fine by me since I'm a mystery lover.

There's a darkness to the story but also humor and besides the leads there are a couple of interesting side characters like Charlie's partner Sonny and Titus's roommate Riot that we end up wanting to learn more about. I suspect we may get a chance as there were a couple of situations that were left open. Overall this was a good reading experience and I look forward to the inevitable sequel.

multitaskingmomma says

Original Blog Post: Blog Tour, eARC Review, Excerpt & #Giveaway: Shadows Fall by J.K. Hogan

Review by: multitaskingmomma

My Rating: (5 of 5 Stars) 5

(The Multiplier Rating Takes Effect)

Gold!

It seems like a lifetime since I got so engrossed in a story. It's been a while since I got to enjoy a story to the extent I caved and gave this the multiplier rating. This is better than good. This was fan-freaking-tasy-tastic!

I love supernatural stories especially when written well. I love mysteries when done to the extent where it keeps me guessing until the last page. This is a combination of both. A supernatural mystery thriller that

deals with a serial killing of women and girls in the most gruesome manner and the hunt for the elusive killer.

Titus is a coffee shop proprietor whose baristas and staff keep him entertained enough to drop his iPod. He needs the distraction the music using it to block off the sometimes annoying and bothersome ghosts who pop in and out of his vision. Seeing the dead walk through a veil may sound thrilling and exciting for moviegoers but living it is not.

Charlie goes to buy coffee from the Uptown Java and is fast becoming a regular. The spark of attraction is there but Titus felt it one sided. Charlie does feel it but does not show it. He is so deep into the closet as his job as a Detective may get affected should his sexual affiliation be discovered. How he can resist Titus is a tale all by itself. How he and Titus find themselves in the middle of a mystery and romance is irresistible to us readers. As for the elusive killer, this one is a great cross between Dexter and Nameless (a favorite serial killer of mine from another book).

For those who think the blurb may spell a deep mysterious read with no sign of romance in it, think again. This has all the elements right in their respective places. The character and plot developments were quite fast paced and complicated without sounding too technical. As for Titus himself, he remains a mystery to me but it only makes me love him even more.

One of the best reads I've had for this year, *Shadows Fall* by JK Hogan is a must read. Be ready. Be vigilant. You won't know what comes next until the very end.

Katrina Passick Lumsden says

I wanted to like this more than I did, but I figured out who the killer was halfway through and felt the characters were all a bit dense not figuring it out sooner. Hogan's writing has the occasional hiccup, as well;

"Hester nodded as if it were all part of the course,"

I think she maybe meant 'par for the course'. Little issues like that pop up here and there in Hogan's books. Ultimately, it was a fun book to read while I was in it, even if it was a bit too long, but it's not a book I'd bother listing as a favorite, recommending to someone, or perusing again.

Removed from Kindle

Riina Y.T. says

So much fun! Recommended :)

Meep says

This fic didn't work for me. The premise really appealed and I was excited to read it, the result was

disappointing and frustrating - therefore this could get bitchy, leave now if allergic!
It got to the point of reading bits aloud to my forbearing hubby and asking him why WHY the characters would be so stupid. He was almost tempted to read it and offered a second-hand reader rating of -1*.

There are so many inconsistencies, the characterisation doesn't make sense meaning they never seemed real to me. And the plot too, minus-zero detecting or even basic intelligence, if the ghosts hadn't decided to helpfully haunt our hero (for no obvious reason) and to do all the solving of their own deaths then there'd be no chance of solving whodunnit. This is more paranormal than mystery with the relationship inserted along the way.

I had it solved at 12%

Despite three victims dying the same way and being marked the same way the detective calls it a 'hunch' that they're connected. Despite no media involvement and no community concern it's suggested that there could be a copycat rather than a serial killer. But the body count rises to five and all are assigned the same two detectives who can't communicate, don't work together, don't have the experience, don't call in the FBI, don't request more people, can't add 1+1, and couldn't find their arse with GPS and a map (view spoiler) Detective Sonny basically appears to growl on occasion then go away again.

It takes the main detective Charlie until past 70% *with psychic intervention* to see what connects the victims, with still no clue as to why or any suspects **I repeat - I had it solved at 12% - Could tell you why them, who did it and why they did it - at 12%** And - I was right! Knowing who did it isn't a deal breaker if you can follow detectives de-tangle it, here a written confession would have needed translating. I was imagining the ghost lined up screaming 'he's behind you' I think the only reason they didn't was it would be a shorter book.

We even get the evil villain giving a wicked chuckle from the shadows.
Bwah hahaha ha

Rest under spoilers - probably more ranty than spoilery: (view spoiler)

In an effort to be positive - the Romany aspect had potential to be interesting, a little more time with granny maybe. There was potential here, it's a premise I enjoy - which is why I found it so frustrating, but it needed more work, some honest input from a mystery reader would not have gone amiss.

Lastly some battle quotes:

momentarily stunned as his skull broke his fall

before:

[redacted] brought his bony knee up and clipped Charlie hard in the dangly bits

at which understandably:

Chaos descended, and the world lost its light

bet he saw stars too!

And sanguine with anger it's not wrong exactly, I know sanguine can mean blood-red colour BUT it also means melancholy - perhaps that's a culture difference? I had to read that twice for it to make sense.

Mindy says

Caroline Brand says

REVIEWED FOR PRISM BOOK ALLIANCE

4.5 Stars

This is my first J K Hogan book and will certainly not be my last. From page 1 Titus and his odd group of friends pulled me into a fascinating story. I read a lot of paranormal but it usually involves shifters so the ghosts were also a new thing for me.

Poor Titus is a mass of contradictions. All he wants is a peaceful life but every time he goes outside he is followed by ghosts, or mule as he knows them. His solution to silencing their voices in his head is to go everywhere with his earphones plugged in but this doesn't make it easy to form friendships so Titus is quite a solitary character outside of his work and home. He has worked hard on the back of the rejection he faced from his family to build up his business, he is calm and gentle but overly fierce when it comes to his small group of friends.

Charlie is a deeply closeted detective who has taken to visiting a particular coffee shop frequently as the owner there has caught his eye. Too afraid to act on his attraction he is happy to sit there and pretend to work. His current case is wearing him down as it seems he has a serial killer in his sights and watching Titus is often the only time he relaxes during his long days.

There is more mystery than romance in Shadows Fall but the mystery pulls these two men together and the romance becomes almost inevitable. They are both pulled strongly towards each other and Charlie's inexperience alongside Titus's lust makes their relationship explosive.

The arrival of Titus's grandmother gives us much more background to his upbringing and subsequent shunning and she is quite the character. This could be any other closeted cop romance if not for the fact that Charlie's victims seem to be following Titus around town with cryptic messages. They have both unwittingly become involved with the same case and that can only spell danger as the killer starts to take more risks.

The tricky part of this story is how can Titus be honest about who he is and what he sees and what affect that will have on their relationship. Everything now relies on Charlie's reaction. That could have gone either way for them but when the truth is out there it incites the killer to make his next move and that could spell disaster for either one of them.

I really enjoyed the whole world J K Hogan built up alongside the friendships and the new relationship for Titus and Charlie and I hope we see more of them soon. I may be a little bit biased but Titus is one of my new favourite characters

Arch Bala says

I'm giving this one a rating of 3.5 stars. I loved Titus and Charlie together but find them lacking that extra oomph factor when it comes to their chemistry - I feel like the author should have explored that area more.

The one who turned out to be the culprit was conspicuous but NOWHERE near shocking. I'd love for the next book in the series (?) to explore more about the romance, Charlie's background, Titus' powers, the lovely riot and even the a-hole(y) partner of Charlie, Sonny.

Read my full review at [Paddylast Inc](#)

Brandon Witt says

I loved every minute of *Shadows Fall*. It got swept up in the writing, the characters, the supernatural, and the mystery. Great cast of characters and setting. Even had me looking over my shoulder when I read it at night a couple of times. LOVED it!!!!

QUEERcentric Books says

Reviewed by Jay Chase for **QUEERcentric Books**

Shadows Fall by J.K. Hogan is a delightful but intense supernatural experience.

The book features an extremely hot but in-the-closet police detective named Charlie Hale and Titus McGinty, an out and proud coffee shop owner. These two join forces to solve the case of the Queen City Slayer, but at what cost?

Charlie frequents Uptown Java because the owner has caught his eye. However, he is too afraid to act upon his attraction so he pretends to work on the Queen City Slayer case.

The time Charlie spends at Uptown Java working on the case is often his only break from his day job, but the time stirs emotions in him that have been suppressed for years...

Read Jay's full review at [Click QUEERcentric Books](#)

Suzy says

This was very different than the other JK Hogan books I've read before but it was really good. Fast paced murder mystery with a little paranormal thrown in.

Titus and Charlie worked well as a couple and I loved how their relationship progressed - Charlie was in the closet but mainly due to being a cop in the south, he was out to himself and his family but had never acted on being gay and I found Titus' gypsy background fascinating. Some of the Roma terms and descriptions were confusing and I had to re-read a couple of times to understand the meanings. There were some great supporting characters that I would like a little more of, mainly Granny, Riot and Charlie's cop partner Sonny (maybe we get more in another book??)

Overall a great read and it looked like there could be more to come from these guys - hope so!

Recommended!

Keveen says

4 STARS

This was a really good book! It kind of reminded me of PsyCop series and The Plumber's Mate series in a way. And that was very good but I loved both of those series. Anyway, this got me so hooked that it lifted my mood after the book I read before this. The story itself was well rounded. I loved the composition of it. The setting, the plot, the characters, and everything else.

The story had a dual POV. Titus had a first person POV while Charlie had his in third person. I was not used to that but I finally got into the groove of it. So Titus could see dead people. And Charlie's a detective. And then there was a mystery. I mean, that was an obvious thing, right? But even so, it was exciting! I loved this kind of plots.

Titus was just so hot and stunning. I loved how his background and story was told. Also, the mechanics of power, tribe, and whatever else. I loved the way he handled the ghost. His personality was really amazing. Charlie was so hot and stunning too. I loved him. And I have this thing where I loved guys that are closeted and when he experiences the first time being gay/coming out of the closet, they don't have a massive angst-y performance. And Charlie didn't have one. I loved how he handled himself accepting the situation.

I also loved how their relationship started and how it continued on to progress. It was slow and believable. And speaking of relationship, the sex? It was fucking hot. Their chemistry and sexual tension was UNFF.

The minor characters were amazing as well. Riot was a great friend. The mystery behind Chelsea and her fucked up boyfriend was still unsolve although I think that will be tackled on the next book too but still as a minor plot? The Dr. I forgot her name was a good addition. Sonny, Charlie's partner, was okay. Annoying at times but that was his role. Hester, Titus'grandma, was the star of the minor characters. She just slayed!

My small problems about this book: I need more explanation about the Romany's powers. I got the gist of it but I don't know the limits Titus has. Also, I wanted to know if Sonny and Charlie were okay.

Other than those it was an amazing read. Looking forward to the next book!

Ele says

Wow, I read this book months ago but forgot to rate. I don't remember all the details, but I did love it. At some point I was scared shitless because ghosts, but the paranormal aspect was just right.

I think I 've become a fan of this author, for the complex but fleshed out characters, the amazing chemistry between the MCs and the interesting storylines.

Please read Jewel's review for more.
