



Just Another Judgement Day

Simon R. Green

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Just another success from the *New York Times* bestselling author

God's own enforcer, the righteous engine of destruction known as the Walking Man, has come to the Nightside. His sole purpose is the elimination of the wicked and the guilty, which means no one will be left in the Nightside once he gets started. So the Authorities have hired P.I. John Taylor to stop him. Legend has it that he can't be killed. Taylor is very much hoping that the legend isn't true.

Just Another Judgement Day Details

Date : Published January 6th 2009 by Ace (first published December 17th 2008)

ISBN : 9780441016747

Author : Simon R. Green

Format : Hardcover 272 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Urban Fantasy, Fiction, Paranormal, Horror



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From Reader Review Just Another Judgement Day for online ebook

Jaz Primo says

I just finished reading Simon Green's "Just Another Judgement Day", the ninth installment in his highly-popular Nightside urban fantasy series. I completely enjoyed this novel, and found the storyline to be both compelling and highly-informative concerning the burgeoning new group of Nightside power brokers, referred to as the Authorities, who have replaced their former holders as the guiding management for the Nightside. And yet, there's still even more to this storyline, such as the evolving relationship between Suzie Shooter and our enigmatic hero, John Taylor. Finally, the readers gain additional insight into the personal relationship between John Taylor and Walker, the Nightside's chief enforcer and oft-quasi-adversary to John.

Whew

Merely alluding to the additional quality content in this novel is a storyline in and of itself!

Of course, Just Another Judgement Day follows a highly engaging storyline thread involving God's arm of justice, the Walking Man, making an ominous appearance in the Nightside on his perpetual mission to smite evil-doers. However, the reader quickly discovers that, while feared and nearly invincible, the mysterious Walking Man harbors a dark agenda, key motivations, and compelling background all his own, which brings life to what may seem a straightforward mission. As is often the case, John Taylor is called upon by the new Authorities to stop the Walking Man before he wreaks havoc in the Nightside. Oh, and readers will be treated to a remarkable character, Chandra Singh, who enriches the storyline in his own unique and interesting manner.

All in all, this novel was simply amazing in its own right, as well as thoroughly satisfying at so many levels: excellent character development, compelling arc of impending threat, and juicy tidbits and insights into characters that we have all grown to love in the Nightside. This novel gets five stars, and A-plus, and my urgent recommendation to "read it now!"

Wow!

colleen the convivial curmudgeon says

Anyone who's gotten this far into the series knows that the stories are a little predictable. Green tends to repeat himself, not just from book to book, but even within books. If I read the line "He's the wrath of God on earth" again, I think I was gonna scream. And every time he uses his Gift and "then it was the easiest thing in the world..." my eye twitches a little.

That said, after the last book, which I was rather disappointed in, this one has some fresh life and fun again. Yes, it is sort of a filler book, but I also think I can see the threads for where the next arc is coming from. It was also an opportunity to introduce us to the several new characters and creations - and, really, that is Green's shining light, I think.

Aside from some of the new characters, we also got glimpses of some old faves, like Julien Advent and, my ultimate fave, Razor Eddie (though I would've liked to see more of him.) And Walker's even human...

Mixed in with the fun, the frenetic violence, and the the wry wit and snarky commentary, there was even some depth in the guise of the question of morality - of the infinite shades of grey vs. black and white, and how you can, arguably, do something 'evil' for the benefit of 'the greater good'.

The only problem, as I said before, is it gets repetitive. John and The Walking Man have the same circular argument about morality about three times, at least, not even counting John's own circular thoughts on the topic.

minor possible spoiler

It was interesting to see how the story was resolved, without access to the damn Gift, but it was also sort of anti-climactic. To be honest I really thought the Walking Man was going to go to St. Jude's and be confronted with the truth from his god... I would've liked to see him fall apart as he realized that he was just another crazy man thinking god was talking to him - ah well, can't have everything.

Brian Clapper says

I've read nine installments of this series so far, and I'll read the others. Like many books (Butcher's *Dresden* series, Hearne's *Iron Druid* series, and Kadrey's *Sandman Slim* series, to name just a few), these books are what I tend to call "Television Substitutes." They're enjoyable enough, and a slight notch above pulp fiction (usually), and, most of the time, I'd rather curl up with the dog and read something light than waste time in front of the TV. Slumming with television substitutes can be quite relaxing.

I can only give the *Nightside* books three stars, though, because of what I consider a few notable flaws. For one, they're a bit cartoonish. Nine books in, many of the characters still hardly manage two dimensions, let alone three. The protagonist, John Taylor, expands into 2½ dimensions, on occasion, but his love interest barely reaches comic book character status.

Second, there's a large amount of repetition, especially of stock phrases. It gets tiresome run up against yet another use of the phrase "... and it was the easiest thing in the world for me to ..." or read yet another description of how important it is for Taylor to exaggerate his reputation.

In this particular book (*Just Another Judgement Day*), Green tossed in a few references to his *Deathstalker* series, which I found jarring. I understand the temptation, but it tears down the third wall (to borrow a theater phrase).

I can't escape the feeling that the books could use a firmer editing hand.

As I said, I'll certainly read the remaining installments. The series is decent escapism. I just wish the characters had a bit more depth and that Green would dispense with overusing the stock phrases.

Tulipa says

Catherine Ford says

Amazing as always. Read these books friends!

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Just another judgements Day (Nightside, # 9), Simon R. Green (1955)

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Andrew says

And so the series goes on - and slowly its becoming more and additive it. I will have to say that after the Lilith war the stories have become more compact and as such now are limited to a single book. This makes the book both quicker to read - after all everything that is going to happen, will happen, has to happen in these pages, it also to a lesser extent mean that the story is shorted and more compact.

However the story here follows pretty much the same route and even though the dialogue and observations are just as snappy and cutting the main focus of the story does not quite cut it for me. His mission and his skills are impressive but his attitude, well lets say it some else does not sit him on his rear then I will gladly volunteer.

But this is the Nightside and the world of John Taylor so you know there will be a reckoning and not a pretty one.

However this book to me marks the change in the style of the writing. Now we see hints of something else brewing with both actions and revelations at the end of the book marking a shift in our accepted stations. Now I know that at the time Simon Green announced that there would be a finite run to this series and there would be an end - not necessarily a complete END just he wanted to move on to other projects, and you can start to get the feel such seeds of destructions are being sown even here.

Finally I want to point out or at least make an admission. I know that Simon Green has often said that he likes the idea of his characters from various series and universes to cross paths - if you like a combination of the tales of the eternal champion meeting the cast of Stephen Kings works meeting at the foot of the Dark Tower. I definitely get the feeling that this book is incredibly heavy on these names and how they were dropped. I just wonder once I have survived this series if I have the strength to search them out.

Timelord Iain (Eeyawn) says

[healing (hide spoiler)]

Shel says

It's nice to see that Simon R. Green is getting less predictable in his writing, which has been the unfortunate drawback to his last few novels. Rather, he has taken a fresh step in the Nightside series, which bodes well for the future books.

I think the strongest aspect of the book was the slow shift away from the pre-Lilith war characters by writing them into the background of the story. His more memorable characters are still present, however, not recurrent and in the forefront as they were in the previous novels. He also gives Susie Shooter unexpected depth in her brief presence in the novel and left me curious as to where the future novels are going.

Robin says

4 stars because after a couple disappointing books this one finally grabbed my attention. Although I find the child abuse story line extremely upsetting (not just suzie's in this one- there's more. It's not in-the-moment description, just aftermath, but still horrifying of course) I did appreciate what that did for suzie's character.

You get more of John & suzie's private life, info on the new authorities (that raises an interesting question about the future), bad news about Walker and even a little Eddie.

Definitely a better book than the last one.

Marcus Calvert says

Read every book in the Nightside series and you'll have read some ace-level sci-fi. Green's imagination is enviable and flat-out genius. His characters, concepts, lines . . . perfecto. He's a master of first-person sci-fi.

Take this book for example. Imagine the left hand of God came to town, with the purpose of inflicting Old-Testament-style wrath upon the Nightside, a town full of evils and vices. He's wreathed in God's might. He's indestructible. Cruel. Merciless.

How would you stop him?

[Whispering to you:] Read this book!

Christaaay - Christy Luis Reviews says

3.5 STARS

About : After killing a crowd of Springheeled Jacks who entered the Nightside through a Timeslip, John Taylor and Suzie Shooter decide to wind down in a Nightside bar. But they can't relax for long. Soon John's on-again-off-again friend and arch nemesis brings news of a different kind of monster: a righteous kind.

"The Walking Man, the wrath of God in the world of men, the most powerful and scariest agent of the Good, ever, has come at last to the Nightside to punish the guilty."

Problem is, if the Walking Man kills all the guilty in the Nightside, no one will be left. John Taylor steps up to challenge the Walking Man, but how can he defeat the unstoppable wrath of God? *Just Another Judgement Day* is adult UF written by NYT best-selling author Simon R. Green and published December 17th 2008.

So...how did I end up reading #9 of the Nightside series, you ask?

Storytime (You Can Skip Storytime, If You Want) : It's kind of funny story. My rural California library hosts several Dresden-addicts and every time they check out their next installment of the series or graphic novels, they ask me, "So did you start book 5 yet?" They get into conversations with each other at the front desk. They ask me how I liked the audiobooks.

I finally admitted to them that while I enjoyed the Dresden books, other series are taking priority at the moment.

So of course one of them took this as permission to hand sell some Dresden drones to me and he went out and *bought* me Simon Green's Just Another Judgement Day. This particular Dresden fan is also one of my very favorite library volunteers, and he does some tasks that I would have to do instead of working on fun things like book displays or the teen summer reading program.

So I thanked him profusely, brought the book home and stuffed it into my overflowing bookshelf. But after seeing the volunteer again (who very politely didn't ask me if I'd read his book, yet) and feeling super guilty, I decided to jump in that very weekend.

Thoughts (The Actual Review) : At first, Just Another Judgement Day appeared to be exactly what I expected from the Dresden-like cover, from John Taylor's trench coat to *his girlfriend named Suzie*, I mean, c'mon!

But I soon realized the error of my assumptions. Not only is John Taylor's trench coat a living thing ("I've always believed in having a coat that can look after itself," John casually explains), Suzie Shooter likes to trip Mary Sues and laugh at them as they nurse their bruises.

The opening scene hits noir tones as it kicks off a new story in the magical world of "The Nightside."

"In the Nightside we're great believers in letting everyone go to Hell in their own way."

You'll find more action in the single first macabre chapter than in whole novels of other series.

Literally, chapter one runs through a whole plot that I enjoyed immensely, though it has little to do with the rest of the novel. (It's similar to the Indiana Jones or James Bond stunt at the beginning of every Jones/Bond movie that sets the tone.) The large volume of wacky, fun adventures overwhelms any little considerations

about convenient happenstances that smooth the plot *WINK*

And beside the terrific speed and volume of the action, the worldbuilding surrounding it all is a magical, living thing. I haven't read anything that felt so effortlessly magical since I read Harry Potter when I was a kid. Breezy comments and whole scenes hint at great story possibilities for past and future books:

"A great painting of a strange alien jungle suddenly came alive and formed a window into that world."

Jumanji moment! I almost wish this volume had taken advantage of more of that—but that's that trouble with coming in at book 9. I'm sure the author has "gone there" in other books, but this very specific adventure deals instead with the shades of morality in the Nightside.

The other great thing about Just Another Judgement Day is John's first-person narration, which made me **literally laugh out loud**:

"It's not really my usual kind of case," I said.

'I'll pay you half a million pounds.'

'But clearly this is something that needs to be investigated. Leave it with me, Percy.'

I enjoyed the characters, although other reviewers (who have read more than book #9 haha) say they're very two-dimensional; from this I assume the characters don't undergo much series-level character change, and yet Suzie *does* change in this book. I love how her growth caps off the story. It's the perfect ending, imo. Though the plot climax is otherwise anti-climactic and suffers from some repetition and alittabitta moralizing, I enjoyed the rest of the book enormously and Suzie's revelation totally made it work for me.

Overall : Get ready for some serious fun, UF lovers. I think I'd have to be in the right mood to pick up this series again—I like a little more characterization in my average fare—but I would definitely not be opposed. That was fun!

Recommended To : Anyone looking especially for humor and warp-speed pacing in their Urban Fantasy.

Plot: 3 Stars

Characters: 4 Stars

Writing: 3.5 Stars

Worldbuilding: 5 Stars

If you liked this review, you can read more of my speculative fiction reviews on my blog

Alondra says

4 Stars

A good man with horrible powers.

Pride, is not one of them.

Are you doing what you do because its the right thing, or because you think you're right?? Are you being judgmental or merely giving an opinion?? Be careful what you say in the name of God.

Jason says

5 Stars

Just Another Judgement Day by Simon R. Green is book number 9 in the Nightside series. I really enjoyed this book and it reclaimed it's shine. The Nightside series is one of my favorite today and a perfect example of how good the Urban Fantasy genre can be. I would read about John Taylor everyday if I could.

These stories are classic noir like private eye mysteries in an urban fantasy setting. They are perfect for my interests today. I have been reading a lot of urban fantasy lately. Combine my new favorite genre with a detective noir like story and you have made me something special. I loved this book. I loved the writing of Green. I loved the world of Nightside. And I especially loved our main character (can't call him the good guy), John Taylor.

These marvelous urban fantasies have worked because of the amazing place, the scary and relatable hero John Taylor, and his equally interesting friends and associates. I love the humor, the action, and the writing...

A fun intimate story about John Taylor doing what he does best. Even though this one lacked the emotional punch, I could read these books all day every day. Thank you Simon R. Green for the amazing series and kick-ass, bad-ass, and simply cool hero in John Taylor.

Highest recommendations for the series.

The amazing world building combined with the fantastic writing of Simon Green make the Nightside series a favorite of mine.

Kati says

What a great book! I couldn't wait to see how John Taylor would stop The Walking Man. And I loved that John wasn't all gung-ho, that he wanted to stop the guy without killing him, if possible. I also really liked the developing relationship between John and Suzie, loved seeing their home. But I didn't expect the twist with Walker at the very end, that made me rather sad because I love the guy, he's such an arrogant bastard. But I guess that's where the series was headed since the beginning? Can't wait to get my hands on book #10!
