



Dark Calling

Darren Shan

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The Disciples are being manipulated by beings older than time. Only Kernel Fleck knows that something is wrong. But he is in the grip of a creature who cares nothing for the fate of humanity. Voices are calling to him from the darkness and he's powerless to resist. Kernel has already been to hell and back, now he's about to go further.

Dark Calling Details

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Author : Darren Shan

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From Reader Review Dark Calling for online ebook

Taoc says

The book *Dark Calling* by Darren Shan is an interesting story set in a fictional future where demons are overrunning the universe. I chose this book out of pure chance when I went to the library. This book starts off with the main character fighting to protect his home and friends from demons. This book puts magicians and demons against each other. The main conflict in the story is trying to survive against the demons. Another overarching problem is whether or not to give in. In the story, the demons are severely outnumbering the humans in strength and population, and eventually all life in the universe will be overrun. One of the main problems that the main character faces is whether or not to just give in. This book is part of a larger series so it ends with a transition into the next book. My favorite part is when she has to choose between spending the rest of his life running, or to fight and possibly die. This is my favorite part because it highlights the importance or morals. When I picked up this book, I had no idea what was in store for me. After reading this book, I was impressed with the overall story line. I would recommend this book to anyone who just wants a good story to pass time.

Dani Jade says

Another good addition to the saga, with now just one book remaining things are really heating up.

This book focuses on Kernel this time and, again, a little over half of it takes place during round-about the same time period as the last two books - *Death's Shadow* and *Wolf Island* - as the three narrators (Grubbs, Kernel and Bec) were separated for a time.

So for the first half or so we see what Kernel was up to while Bec was on the ship and Grubbs was hanging with wolves - and it was some *trippy* shit, seriously - and for the rest of it, the timeline finally begins to progress again, rather intensely actually.

While Grubbs will always be my fave, I do have a soft spot for Kernel and enjoy reading his story. We also get a lot of answers and explanations for things in this book.

1 to go...

Laura-Elizabeth Howes says

Dark Calling isn't the fastest paced or most action packed book in the *Demonata* series, but boy does it still manage to pack a punch.

This is the book where Kernel (and then everyone else) learns... well... basically everything. The history of this world is SO unbelievably complex and clever and original - I mean if you can name me one other author who managed to build an entire universe within the boundaries of a chess board, and have it actually make sense, then I will literally eat my entire Darren Shan collection - and it's just mesmerising.

Darren Shan is an absolute genius.

We also learn all about The Shadow, the true threat it poses and how it is believed that the final battle will end.

The weight of all of that information is so heavy and is overall very depressing and bleak and hopeless but SO damn exciting. The tension Darren has been able to build up leading to the 10th and final book is just incredible and, unless you're like me and you've read the books before, it's highly unlikely that you'll know/be able to predict exactly what the final outcome will be.

Jason says

4 Stars

Dark Calling, the 9th book of Darren Shans amazing The Demonata series is the second last in the series and unfortunately not one of the best. That does not mean that this is not a good one, as it is. I enjoyed every minute of it. Dark Calling had the near impossible task of trying to better the previous book Wolf Island (one of the best books in the series).

This book did some bold things. First, with the end near, it actually introduces and spends quite a bit of time with a set of new characters. I am not sure that this really worked when looked at through the scope of the whole series. Couple this with the fact that some of our dearly loved friends might not make it to the end of this book and you can see why Dark Calling might not receive full marks.

For fans or those that have not read this awesome series here is a quote that showcases Shan's writing:

The Kah-Gash:

““There are three parts of the Kah-Gash,” Raz says. “The trigger, memory, and eyes. The trigger is the commanding force. The memory stores all that happens. The eyes see the hidden strings which bind the universes in place.”

“WE find ourselves on the deck of a massive ship, close to a swimming pool. Deck chairs are strewn about the place. Bodies everywhere, ripped to pieces, stomachs carved open, heads and limbs torn loose. Puddles of blood merge and spread slowly, seeping into the cracks between the planks. The water of the swimming pool is a deep, dead red. Beranabus ignores the corpses. He's seen worse in his time. I have too...”

I absolutely love this series and cannot give it enough praise. I really hope that more people will find these books and become a fan of this great author. I am going to finish my journey in The Demonata now. Highly recommended!

Anna C says

2.5 stars

This book is officially my least favorite in the series. Unfortunately I couldn't skip this book, as I had to finish it before I could read the last book in the series.

It's boring to the max. The 17 of 23 chapters, to be exact. And it didn't help with Kernel as the storyteller in charge this time. It's like listening to a weather reporter. Half of the book.

And the more I read this book, the more I felt that the plot in this book was becoming more absurd... To suddenly jumped into sci-fi world from demon world itself after 8 books about demon was a risky job there. Moreover, not everyone love sci-fi genre... Even though I myself love sci-fi genre...but not after 8 books about demon and magic...I can accept it if the author put sci-fi genre in book 3 or 4, 5, 6 or 7...but not in book 9...the penultimate in this series.

And then, the author just had to made the plot becoming weirder, what with Atlantis is an alien and then their offsprings are giant slugs in the far future *wow, that's one crazy big leap of evolution*, or a theory that this universe actually was like chessboard, and a modern noah the ark (complete with aliens in animal looks) to save the universe, or Death were angry and grown its consciousness because Bec cheated her own death and Death thought its job (harvesting souls) was too hard and overload... *rolling my eyes here*

It was so ludicrous and far-fetched, especially the Death and the Atlantis' part. The idea Death has its own consciouness was acceptable, but the reasons behind it? preposterous... It just made the plot like some stupid gag. I don't know if the Atlantis' part will play the important part in the last book or what, but from what I gathered in this book, I don't think the Atlantis will have bigger part than its purpose as a memorable marker for some path. And the author just mentioned it in one part, maybe to resolve another world's mysteries or what, but it seemed pointless to me (for now).

I was disappointed with this book, especially after the 8th book, my (currently) most favorite book in this series. However, knowing Darren Shan's style in his other work, I'm still hoping the last book will be an epic finale.

❄️? Propertea Of Frostea ❄️? Bitter SnoBerry ❄️ says

Brief review for now...

Grubbs, what is wrong with you? You're not the same?! :(
Bec, girl!? What did that Beranabus tell you to do?! :(
Kernel, are you sure you know what you're thinking?! :(
Dervish, Meera, :((((
Lord Loss.. -_-
Death... -_-

On a lighter note.. KIRILLI!? What the fudge are you? I wish Shark and Timas were here :/

On to next now... HELL'S HEROES. O_O

Erin *Proud Book Hoarder* says

I did a weird thing and reviewed these out of order, and then waited too long to review it. Oh well.

Anyway, Dark Calling isn't the best of the Demonata books, even though it is still creative with its storyline and where its aiming to go. Kernel is on his own a lot in this one, outside the human world and the creepy Demonata lands. I'm still deciding if I liked that weird development and probably will be undecided until I die. It ties into the big bang end of the series and wraps up a lot of plot lines, but it almost feels too large in scope for my taste.

Dark Calling just kind of lags. We have this fantastical element introduced of other worlds and leading space aliens and The Old Ones or whatever, which should be sort of interesting in itself, but it got a little boring. I feel awful for Kernel with his eyes too - this story doesn't shy away from brutalizing its characters.

It's expected that through the horrors and trials that Grubbs would become hard and jaded, but he's a little more one-dimensional now and I can't bond as much with him. Kernel is still a favorite but I feel frustrated when he's on page - kind of wish he could one-up Grubbs for a second. Bec is sort of just there as part of the powerful Kah-Gash, until a twisted end surprise with her that I actually enjoyed and appreciated.

Lord Loss is still creepy to a degree, but the story and villain have been wearing down for some time. It didn't feel like the same sense of suspenseful tension or emotional oomph as the others. Dark Calling is more of a filler book that exists to lead into the ending.

Ariya says

I'm being emotionally wrecked right now and in denial of everything.

WHAT DID I JUST READ??? The half past of the book is my top-most favorite scene in the series for universe explanation, shortly cut through all kinds of Matrix mythology and mind-blowing universe building that I'm so much in love with it. But then all is fucked up. I practically scream in Grubb's last act. I can't believe this is close to the end due to nothing has a signifying conclusion, OR I just missed out something while screaming and yelling at Grubb's idiocy. I don't know man, get me the fuck out of this mess. :((((

Alley Kat says

The biggest thing I remember from the earlier books in this series is my hate for Demon Thief, the second book, because it was narrated by Kernel. Now, I don't hate Kernel as a character, but his narration areas are dry, whiny, and boring. This book built the plot with elements completely out of left field (aliens? really?) and the first half took place during the events of the previous book. This confused me and put me off the

beginning of the book.

I ended up liking the way this book went after Kernel returned to Earth, but I found it odd that here was a three day period where all of a sudden Kernel's eyes weren't melting out of his sockets on Earth? What happened there? The ending was a wonderfully brutal scene that sent me back to the days of the early Demonata books with highly detailed gore that the rest of this book seemed to be lacking.

Dan says

Dark Calling is by far probably the weakest book in the series.

It just couldn't grab my interest. Demonata has always had its appeal to me. The one thing I loved is how weak the characters are in comparison to the foes that they face. Nearly most of the fights that they have, none of them come out unscathed. They'll be missing an arm, lose a friend, and moan about how strong their enemy is and how hopeless the fight is.

Its a brilliant story tactic and it adds to the horror element of the story. How can the heroes defeat such powerful foes with such small power?

I enjoyed Wolf's Island. It was probably one of my favorite books in the series so far. The pacing and the action was intense, with characters unexpectedly dying left and right.

But Dark Calling is BORING.

I was disappointed by how Darren Shan explained the mystery of The Old Ones and introduced the space aliens. It totally ruined the premise of the books.

I wanted it to be simple. Demons and Humans. Struggling. I didn't want universes and suddenly this horror series turned into a dark and melancholic star wars.

The ending was abrupt and did not satisfy me, as a faithful demonata series lover. I wanted the usual horror story ending, but this ending simply didn't even keep me on a hook.

The gore was unnecessary and by this end of the series is now pale and overused. Lord Loss is no longer a frightening foe as he was in the beginning of the series, but a voiceless annoyance now that our Characters are in possession of the ultimate weapon, the Kah-Gash.

You don't even feel threatened by the new foe, Death. There is no evil in his character established in the book other than him being death.

There are no twists or surprising character development in the book, with Kernel being flavorless, Bec being a monotone speaker, and Grubbs, who has always been the humorous and most human commentator on the events of the book, turned into a jackass werewolf killer. He's lost his charm.

Dark Calling did not satisfy me in the way that the usual series did. It provided some epic grand scale of a war, but the detail was so broad, the plot so unclear, and the characters so unengaging...

Its a big drop of Wolf's Island.

Emma says

I've decided to read a few horror books in honour of Halloween. First on my list was the 9th book in the Demonata series by Darren Shan. I read the majority of the series when I was still in school and mostly liked them.

This novel is from Kernal's perspective. We last heard from him in *Demon Thief*, which is my favourite novel in the series by far, so I had high hopes going in. This is the penultimate book in the series and suffers a little for that. It seems to exist solely to set up the finale.

The novel has two main flaws. Firstly, nothing seems to happen for large stretches of the book, and indeed it starts by recapping events we've already seen in other novels.(view spoiler)

Celine says

Where most of the Demonata books are fast-paced and gruesome, *Dark Calling* is kind of an odd ducky. Most of it is set outside of our normal human/Demonata worlds, and for half of the book Kernel is on his own, on some kind of mysterious special journey. *Dark Calling* felt very much like an in-between book, filled with info-dump. The lore is interesting, but there wasn't enough action in the first part to keep me truly engaged. In the last half we return to regular programming, but by then there isn't enough page time to make a lasting impression.

Siobhan says

This is yet another great book in the series, getting you ready for the ending.

Focusing upon Kernel's point of view, the story continues to move forwards, bringing about much more information about the universe and the powers that exist. Filled with twists and deceit, this book keeps you as entertained as the rest in the series, ready to read the final book, curious as to how it all ends.

Henry Lim says

Before you open a book or read about something about the book, you will usually look at the cover of the book. If you see that the cover of the book looks boring, you will probably just put it down, but if you find it interesting, you will try to find the summary of the book. Well, the same will apply for the book called *Dark Calling*. When I first picked it up, I looked at the cover, the cover had a man with no eyes and fire was behind him, and I thought that this will be a great book. So, I read the summary and I turned out to like it. *Dark Calling* is a fantastic book because of the way it describes all the details, the way this book is funny at

the same time, and the way the character's personality that the author creates.

In many books, authors usually only describe the important parts of the details. They don't describe the little parts of the detail. But, *Dark Calling* is different; the author of this book describes everything perfectly, from the most important to least important detail. The author of this book describes the scene of the place so well that I feel like I'm there myself. When there is an action scene, the author doesn't just state what the character did, but the author stated what the character was thinking too.

Dark Calling had many action involved and many parts of the story that will scare you. But, the author of this book also made this book funny. Even though this story has many scenes that will scare an ordinary child, the author puts humor inside too. While they are fighting, the author would put something that is funny in the character's thought while they are fighting. Another way that the author puts humor in this story is putting funny movements on how the character acts.

The author of Dark Calling makes great characters with extraordinary powers and action. There are three characters in the book who are BEC, Grubbs, and Kernel. BEC, is a person who has the ability to absorb other people's memories, who uses these memories as an advantage. Grubbs, a character in the book who can transfer into a werewolf, he is one of the most powerful of all as he is a great leader and is very strong. Kernel, the main character of the story who has the ability to make windows which lead to the demon world in a few minutes while others have to take a very long time just to make one.

Overall, the book that you would want to read is Dark Calling. Dark Calling is filled with great because of the details described, the humorous parts of the books, and the unique characters in the book. Dark Calling is really the book that you would want to read and watch out because anytime you will be laughing out loud.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Dark Calling (The Demonata #9), Darren Shan

Dark Calling is a book by Darren Shan in The Demonata series. It is the ninth book released of the series. The narrator is Kernel Fleck. know it's ridiculous. Lights can't whisper. But I swear I heard a voice calling to me. It sounded like static to begin with, but then it came into focus, a single word repeated over and over. Softly, slyly, seductively, insistently.

"Come..."

The Disciples are being manipulated by beings older than time. Only Kernel Fleck knows that something is wrong. But he is in the grip of a creature who cares nothing for the fate of humanity. Voices are calling to him from the darkness and he's powerless to resist.

Kernel has already been to hell and back. Now he's about to go further...

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