



The Key

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In the thrilling, final installment of the Guardians of Time trilogy, tentative guard members Matt and Rochelle have emerged as crucial players in fulfilling the prophecy of the Named. Matt has learned that he is the son of an immortal, while Rochelle is struggling with her newfound powers and her fear that the group doesn't trust her. In fact, their leader is certain that someone in the close-knit circle is a traitor-but who? As suspicions mount, friction threatens to tear apart the Guard. Will the members of the Named be able to overcome their fears and unite the Guardians of Time in their last stand against evil and chaos?

The Key Details

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Sandra Gallegos says

AVISO: HAY SPOILERS DE TODA LA TRILOGÍA.

Sin duda alguna, este ha sido el peor final de saga que he leído en lo que va de año. A medida que leía, todo era una sucesión de "WTF???" que a veces me dejaban a cuadros, otras veces confusa, pero, sobre todo, terminaban provocando que me carcajeara por la cantidad de cosas sin sentido y al azar que pasan en este libro. Es que es todo tan by the face...

Sé que muchísima gente adora esta saga, y a mí hasta ahora me estaba gustando, pero creo que debería haberla leído con doce, trece, quizá catorce o quince años para que me hubiera encandilado tanto. Creo que, precisamente, fue más o menos con esa edad cuando leí El círculo de fuego (Old magic), de la misma autora, que sí que me encantó y que me sigue encantando hoy día, pero me temo que no puedo decir lo mismo de la trilogía Los Guardianes del Tiempo. Y voy a explicar por qué, aunque lo haré con spoilers de la saga entera, y lo aviso desde ya para que no haya ningún tipo de confusión.

Para empezar, algo que me ha fallado muchísimo es el modo en que están narrados los tres libros. Es que, a ver, primero tenemos de personajes principales a Ethan e Isabel, que son los que narran la acción, pero en el segundo libro, Ethan le pasa el relevo a Arkarian, el cual, sin embargo, tampoco es que tenga demasiado que contar debido a lo que le pasa, a él en concreto, en el segundo libro. Pero lo del tercero ya es que me parece casi de cachondeo: de repente, Matt, el hermano sobreprotector de Isabel, el que nunca había dado muestras de tener poderes, se convierte no sólo en el narrador masculino del último libro, sino en el hijo de un Inmortal, uno al que, por cierto, la autora se sacó del mangote, pero hablaré de eso más adelante. Porque lo de la narradora femenina es que también tiene tela: es ni más ni menos que Rochelle, alguien a quien apenas hemos conocido nada más que por encima desde el primer libro. La autora los elige a ellos igual que podría haber elegido, yo qué sé, al señor Carter, a Jimmy o incluso a Dillon, el pesao que no hacía sino caerme peor cada vez que aparecía en escena. Es que no le encuentro lógica al que en cada libro cambie de narradores. ¡No tiene sentido! Es totalmente random.

Igual que me pareció totalmente random lo del padre de Matt. En el segundo libro ya descubrimos que sólo es hermano de Isabel por parte de madre, pero lo que sí que fue un WTF en toda regla fue el que, de repente, resultara que Lorian y Lathenia, los dioses que encarnan el bien y el mal respectivamente, tuvieran otro hermano que, supuestamente, murió, pero que, en realidad, está escondido en vete a saber dónde, alguna especie de universo paralelo al que mandan a Matt para que sus poderes aparezcan de una vez. Y, encima, pretenden hacerme creer que, en unos pocos capítulos, justo después de haber conocido a su padre y sin ser capaz apenas de mantener la concentración, de repente Matt ya sea todo un experto, el más poderoso de los Elegidos, el líder, el que puede hacer prácticamente cualquier cosa que se le antoje. Y todo porque Dartemis, el hermano de Lorian y Lathenia, sigue vivo y a salvo en un recóndito rincón del universo al que la Diosa del Caos (Lathenia) no tiene acceso. Ven-ga-ya. Es que no, a ver, no me puedo creer algo así. El cambio de Matt es que es repentino, y lo de Dartemis bien podría considerarse un Deus ex machina en toda regla.

Y Rochelle, bueno, la chica no me caía mal y desde luego comprendemos su actitud, su recelo, el que se sienta siempre apartada por eso de ser considerada una traidora... Y sus poderes molan, aunque he de decir que no paraba de recordarme a Elsa, la de Frozen, por eso de tener que llevar guantes todo el rato para no dañar sin querer a nadie con los poderes de sus manos. Eso sí: eso de que solamente le dolieran cuando los demás le preguntaban, pues tampoco es creíble. A ella es que jamás la oímos quejarse; solamente cuando

alguien le pregunta directamente si le duelen, ella primero piensa: "Muchísimo, cada vez más", y luego responde que no. Cosa que me parece bastante tonta teniendo en cuenta que ahí todo el mundo puede leer los pensamientos de los demás (a excepción de unos cuantos de los Elegidos). Algo muy cansino, by the way.

Lo que no me cuadró de Rochelle fue que no se supiera nada de dónde vive ni nada. Vemos dónde vive Neriah, la hija de Marduke; vemos dónde viven Matt e Isabel con Jimmy y la madre de los dos chicos; vemos dónde viven Ethan y Shaun, vemos dónde viven Arkarian y hasta los miembros del Tribunal... Pero no sabemos dónde vive Rochelle. Adónde va, ni con quién, cuando no se la requiere en la Guardia, o dónde duerme mientras su alma acude en una misión al pasado. En fin, solamente sabemos que tiene un padre violento que está en la cárcel, pero, que yo recuerde, jamás se indica si Rochelle vive sola, con su madre, con algún otro familiar... Nada.

Y, bueno, lo de su muerte es que ya fue el mayor WTF del mundo, junto con el final en sí del libro. Osea, la pobre chica se pasa la vida pasándolo mal, con un padre que le pegaba, con amigos que la daban de lado, luego la marginan en la Guardia porque todavía la consideran una traidora por haber estado a las órdenes de Marduke... Y, justo cuando parece que la pobrecita va a tener algo de felicidad, va Marduke y se la carga utilizando la flecha de Ethan. Es que, de verdad... yo es que no me lo creía. Es que me pareció todavía más random que todo el resto del libro, y mira que lo de después, el final en sí (Marduke convirtiéndose en piedra y, hala, ya no se sabe nada más de nada ni nadie), es de lo más cutre que hay, pero lo de Rochelle... Precisamente por eso de que la Profecía casi la señalaba a ella como uno de los Elegidos que moriría, pues tú llegas a pensar que la autora se guarda un as en la manga, que pasará algo, que se salvará, que Isabel la curará, o que directamente lo que Isabel vio no se cumplirá. Pero qué va. Es todo tal como te lo van diciendo a lo largo del libro, y tú dices: "¿Pa qué?" A ver, es que yo en estos casos me espero una vuelta de hoja, quizás algo que haga que todo cambie, no que todo se cumpla tal y como te lo van diciendo en todo el libro. Es casi como si la autora se spoileara a sí misma, y se pierde el elemento sorpresa. Aparte, eso de cortar la historia justo ahí, tras la muerte de Rochelle, con todos traumatizados, Ethan destrozado, Marduke convertido en piedra... pues me pareció como que faltaba algo. No sé, una manera precipitada y cutre de cerrar una historia, por otro lado, larga, enrevesada y a ratos confusa.

Oh, y no nos olvidemos de lo de que Marduke y Carter son hermanos. Eso ya es que me hizo carcajearme a mandíbula batiente XD Sobre todo cuando simplemente te lo dicen, que no te explican ni nada el que esos dos realmente puedan ser hermanos. ¿Cómo, a ver? Se supone que esos dos jamás se han visto y, sin embargo, ahí los tienes, hermanos y trabajando juntos al servicio de Lathenia. Pero la autora no se digna a explicar nada acerca de ellos, más allá de su parentesco. Es que casi me recordó a Once upon a time, donde todos son parientes de todos. Ya es que hasta me da la risa XD

Sobre el argumento en sí, lo cierto es que me gustaron mucho más los de los dos primeros libros. Los viajes al pasado, los Elegidos descubriendo sus poderes, la incursión al Inframundo... A ver, no es que me pareciera lo más novedoso y chachi del mundo mundial, pero eran unas buenas historias, me gustaban las tramas y subtramas, me encantó que Isabel fuera la narradora (un personaje con muchísima fuerza) y me encantó Ethan (por eso lamenté que se convirtiera en un mero secundario a partir del segundo libro). También me gustaba el misterio en torno a Arkarian, me intrigaba el potencial que parecía tener Matt, me sorprendía cada vez que se revelaba que tal o cual personaje también pertenecía a la Guardia... Y creo que es por eso precisamente por lo que este último libro me ha parecido, con perdón, una cagada monumental. Para mí, es como si la autora se hubiera cargado todo el trabajo y todo lo chachi que había en los dos primeros libros.

Esto se ve muy claramente con el tema del traidor. Todo el libro se lo pasan diciendo que si hay un traidor, que si es fulanito, que si es menganito... Le dan tantísimas vueltas y los personajes cambian de opinión tantísimas veces en apenas dos líneas, que es que parece que la autora quisiera sorprender, confundir al lector, pero no supiera cómo hacerlo. Matt, por ejemplo, sospecha de medio mundo, pero en cuanto dice:

"Creo que él/ella es el traidor", viene otro, le rebate los argumentos y a las dos o tres líneas Matt está en plan: "Tiene razón, ¿pero cómo puedo haber pensado que él/ella sería el traidor?" Dos líneas, tres como mucho, ¿eh? No exagero. Demostrado. Dos malditas líneas son lo que Matt necesita para cambiar de opinión. Y tú, mientras, con cara de WTF.

(El traidor, por cierto, es el señor Carter, quien, como he dicho, resulta ser hermano de Marduke. No se sabe cómo, pero así es, así que Carter está de su lado.)

¿Y lo de la Atlántida? Ay, mamma mía... A ver, sé que esto es una historia de fantasía y tal, pero eso de que la autora venga y me diga que, en el año 9695 antes de Cristo, existiera una civilización con tecnología mucho, muchísimo más avanzada que la que tenemos en la actualidad, más de diez mil años después, es que eso sí que NO ME LO CREO. Coño, ¿cómo va a ser eso posible? Un poquito de lógica, seriedad y verosimilitud, por favor. POR FAVOR. Es que ni de coña. No. No me trago que hace más de diez siglos existiera una tecnología más avanzada que la nuestra. Que me dicen que va a existir en el futuro, dentro de diez siglos, pues sí, mira, me cuadra más. Pero ¿antes de Cristo? ¿Antes de Troya? ¿Antes del Imperio Romano e, incluso, casi a la par que el Imperio Egipcio? (Claro que esto último, depende, you know, los Imperios duraron muchos años y tal, pero you know what I mean.) Es que no, leches, QUE NO. De verdad que cuando llegué a esa parte estaba por tirar el libro por la puñetera ventana de la sarta de tonterías y cosas sin lógica alguna que estaba leyendo. Creo que ha sido la mayor patada a la Historia que he leído nunca. Y tampoco es que yo sea una experta en Historia ni muchísimo menos, pero, coño... Hay ciertas cosas que, es que, vaya telita...

En fin, creo que poco más me queda por comentar, y menos mal, porque a lo tonto me ha quedado una señora crítica la mar de larga xD Espero que los fans de esta trilogía entiendan mi punto de vista y mi opinión, porque, al fin y al cabo, esto no es más que lo que yo pienso de este libro, nada más. No pretendo con esto pisotear la opinión de nadie, ni hacerle cambiar de idea, ni que sea mi opinión la que se imponga; ni muchísimo menos. Tan sólo digo lo que yo pienso acerca de esta saga, y realmente me da pena que todo haya sido tan WTF, porque ya digo que los dos primeros libros me gustaron bastante (al menos mucho más que este último), y creo que muchos de los personajes son redondos e increíbles (en especial Ethan, Isabel y Rochelle, junto con Neriah, que me ha sorprendido para bien). Pero una cosa es que yo quiera que algo me guste, y otra, que me guste de verdad.

Loren says

The series begins and ends with Ethan.

The narrators may switch repeatedly for a greater perspective but it always comes back to this boy. His life riddled with despair, every chance for happiness ripped away just at the moment where he might begin to heal. Sera's departure, Rochelle's death... I can't bear to think how damaged Ethan would be after these events. I wonder if Curley even knew, she didn't write it, after all. In the first book, I mourned his potential romance with Isabel as she began to look to Arkarian. In the second, I watched him, distraught, as he sought to save his mother from her seemingly inevitable death. In the last, as he struggled with his emotions for a girl he thought he could never love... and sadly, it came to be.

Thwarted love. Lady Arabella loses her soulmate and in his final moments The Immortal was still apparently unaware of her affections. There is nothing sadder than this.

Matt, presented as overprotective and obnoxious in the first book grows into a strong and ultimately beloved

character over the course of this final chapter. For me this simply meant that I didn't resent him for taking what I believed to be Ethan's rightful slot as narrator. I'm glad that he, at least, survived to covet his blossoming relationship with Neriah.

Rochelle. I think it's fair to say that this heroine is given the bulk of the book to speak her mind; perhaps two thirds of the narrative is hers. As such, her desperate need to be accepted, to be forgiven, to be loved by Ethan comes across with a poignancy I've rarely experienced. It all goes to sweeten the bitterness of her sacrifice.

Her *final* act of redemption.

Liz says

I have never hated a final book in a series as much as I hated this one. I was truly loving this light, romantic, and adventurous, multi-award winning fantasy trilogy. Finally I was onto book three, the last one. It was heartwrenching, main characters die all over the place, the romance is piling up, the blood is every-freakin'-where...it's beyond fabulous! It is soap opera galore, you have no clue what is going to happen next. You have hunches but damnit if the book doesn't stab you in the ass and throw the complete opposite of what you suspected in your face. Love it.

And then the ending. Now I won't give anything away but....wow. I flipped the page to see if there was more but the next page was simply the author's acknowledgements.

I kid you not that I really and truly thought that there were pages missing. I located another copy of the book from another library to see if that honestly was the ending. Turns out it was. The author stopped. Her mind went on 'empty' and she suddenly decided to just say 'fuck it!' and not actually complete the novel. This is the excuse I am saying to myself because I am so dismally unhappy. I start looking up reviews for this final book in the trilogy to see what others think because this ending is so obviously flawed that I cannot be the only one to think this. I am not truly satisfied until I see what others think.

Many love the final installment, they rave about it. Clearly they are off their rockers and their taste is flawed so I dismiss them. But there are so many that enjoyed this book. I am now deeply perplexed. Praise the sexy lord I found people that were on the same page as me.

The ending truly does suck. An extra chapter. That's all it needed. It ruined everything else that happened in the book. Left me completely unsatisfied.

Filip says

Na téhle knize jsem si jasn? ukázal, jak moc jsem se za ty dva roky zm?nil. Vyvoleného jsem p?e?etl v roce 2012, když jsem toho nep?e?etl moc a ?íkal si, jak je první díl série úpln? dokonalý. Jenže než se mi poda?ilo dostat se k dílu t?etímu, ub?hla pom?rn? dlouhá doba a m? pod rukama prošlo n?kolik epických, ale taky pr?m?rných knih. A potom jsem za?al ?íst Klí? a uv?domil si, že jsem asi vážn? od té doby dosp?l. To, co mi p?išlo zajímavé a dokonalé, se stalo pr?m?rné a ni?ím nezajímavé. ?tení mi d?lalo problémy a dokonce se mi

ani po?ádn? nepoda?ilo si užít konec trilogie tak, jak jsem cht?l. V t?ch t?ináci/?trnácti to bylo dokonalé. Ale dnes jsem na to už asi vážn? starý a vážn? to pro m? není.

Özde says

kitab?n sonundan nefret ettim hala kendime geledim. böyle hayal gücü olmaz ola. isyan ediyorum yazara. 1 y?ld?z vericem son 20 sayfa yüzünden... k?yma kitaba özde diyorum. çok sürükleyici bir seri ama böyle bitice?ini bilseydim son kitab? yada son sayfalar? okumazd?m. bütün hayallerimi y?kt?n Marianne isyan ediyorum sana

Courtney Robeson says

NOOOOOOOOOO! WHAT IS THIS ENDING?!?! IT CAN'T END LIKE THAT!

Krista (I remember you, Min) (Critical) says

Okay, so based on the ending, I'd love to give this book one star, because I can't possibly think of a worse ending. Firt of all, I didn't really like getting Matt and Rochelle's perspectives...Ethan and Isabel's and even Arkarians POV's were much more interesting. I also felt like Isabel and Ethan's parts in this last book were too small, and Matt's transition from a clueless no one to the leader who knew everything and had every power in the world..was way over the top.

The story in itself was entertaining and full of action, but I despise this book with all my heart because of the ending.

Ethan is my absolute favorite character, and he is the only one without a happy ending. Isabel and Arkarian will be together forever. Matt and Neriah will be together forever. Ethan will die alone. How is that not disgusting? After all he'd been through, it just isn't right for it to have worked out like that for him. Rochelle dying--no, not working for me.

On top of that, the ending was so abrupt, it was if there WAS no ending, and Curley just randomly stopped writing. There was no closure whatsoever, and I am appalled that a trilogy could possibly end like this--without an ending, and with the most most amazing of characters--Ethan--in a suicidal stupor? Really? THERE WAS NO ENDING!!

Sydney says

This book is actually more like 3-3.5 stars, however I docked a star because

1) Lorian's gender neutrality is treated horribly. The pronoun used for Lorian is always always "he" and about five to seven times, it is said that there is no way for Lorian to have romantic feelings for a woman without being male. As someone who identifies mainly as gender neutral, it is painful to read this sentiment over and over again

2) Dillon's misogyny, while briefly addressed, isn't really called out more. Not only does he feel like he has

the right to Neriah, demanding that because he "claimed" her first then Matt can't express feelings for her and she can't choose Matt, but it doesn't come to anything. There is no point to the entire plotline of Dillon being ridiculously and stupidly jealous. His entire character is basically useless

I love this series. I've always loved this series since I was a kid, but the first point was painful to read and the second was annoying, so I tragically have to rate this book low

Allison says

This was an entertaining end to the trilogy. The two POVs offered in this book are Matt and Rochelle. They aren't my favorite narrators out of the lot. I kind of missed the characters from the two previous books, but I can see why the focus shifted to these two.

There's not a lot of time travel since the conflict comes to a head in the present. I didn't really miss it that much, though, since this series has never really spent much time on the actual time travel.

I tried not to get hung up on a couple of things - insta-love abounds in this one even more than the second book, and the big question of who the traitor is gets out of hand. I felt like the various suspicions, while creating suspense and drama, were also unrealistic and caused a lot of unnecessary grief. All they would have had to do was remember the actual prophecy to help them narrow the field... just saying. But I suppose you have to have a story, right? And it did keep me guessing.

Just a quick heads-up for those of you who think you're on a lighthearted adventure where all ends well. This ended up being more tragic than I expected - not everyone survives. But I was ok with the ending for the most part, probably because the POV shift made me not care so much. There was plenty of suspense and danger throughout, and it was a lot of fun to read.

LeNa says

I enjoyed reading the series. Although I felt there was some sadness associated in the end and even though in every book there was a different POV (and it might be confusing sometimes because u need to remind yourself who is talking and thinking right now) you got to know every character (well at least 5) pretty close.

I had a bitter taste regarding Ethan after finishing the books. He was this sweet boy, who was suffering his whole life from the effects of what happened to his family, especially to his sister. And despite all this he had such strength and confidence at what he was doing. His loyalty to the guard never seemed to fade no matter what.

Sadly I felt his character kinda got lost in "The key" I didn't mind reading from Matts and Rochelles POV but I would have loved to learn more about Ethan. It was such a cruel ending for him finding and losing Rochelle at the same time. Also he was the only one left (except Dillon) not having the gift being immortal

Nicole says

*****BIG SPOILER ALERT!!!!*****

I wish with all my heart that I could give this a 5 but I just can't. If this didn't have one of the most abrupt endings in all of the books I've ever read in my life, than this would definitely be 5 stars.

This third and final installment had the fast-paced action from the second book along with the romance from the second book, but after I finished the last sentence, I literally said outloud "what the f---?!" There was definitely a last chapter missing somehow... there had to be because you can't just end a thrilling and exciting series that way!

Here's what I would have put in the last chapter:

- The funeral: The whole chapter would have taken place in Athens where they bury the immortals (and Rochelle). Dartemis, the third of the immortal twins, would finally come out of hiding for this.

- Matt and Neriah: not much to complain about here. Just that maybe there would be more instances being together and their cuteness.

- Isabel and Arakarian AND Matt: This whole thing between them would be resolved. Matt would apologize for being an overprotective jerk and tell Arkarian that he trusts his sister with him, meaning they make up and can move on blah blah blah.

- Matt: He is promised to have a seat among the Tribunal after he has perfected the full potential of his powers, likely with more training with his real father, Dartemis.

- Ethan: There's really not much you can do with Ethan in this last chapter. Maybe a conversation between him and Isabel or him and Matt and what he's feeling.

- Everyone is gathered together at a grand feast at the very end, finally able to laugh a little and rest.

Is this so much to ask for? I guess so because Curley completely leaves you hanging without the promise of another book. Everything just felt completely unfinished. If the whole book had been about Ethan's revenge, then I can understand why it would have been that ending, but it was nothing like and that's why I was disappointed how this series ended. When I first started reading this last book, I had my reserves because I flipped through it and saw that every chapter was through the POV of Rochelle or Matt and I didn't really care about either one at first. I wanted to know more about Arkarian and Isabel, but about halfway through I realized that it had to be through new people because more things needed to be settled and we as the readers needed to witness their maturity in the first person. But like I said it was hard to accept right away.

Dillon was the most annoying character of the whole book. Even though I somehow knew he wasn't the traitor, there were many times where I wanted him to be. His attraction to Neriah was so unnatural that I couldn't really understand why he was infatuated with her... in fact I still don't get it but I suppose it's not really important in the long-run. I can't believe Mr. Carter was the traitor! I mean I expected it because Ethan always had a weird feeling about him and I knew it couldn't be Lady Arabella, but it was still a shock. Speaking of Lady Arabella, I was so sad when her and Lorian were unable to be together and never got the chance after he was killed by his power-hungry sister. Thank god her and Marduke died; both of them got what they deserved. It's just too bad Lorian had to die along with them.

I really loved this book all the way up until the end where there has to be a missing chapter. If anyone finds said chapter, please inform me because it has to be out there somewhere...

Cri (PaperbacksandPizza) says

First of all, I have to say I am not a native english speaker so, please, I prefer to not be attacked, if I made any mistakes. Instead of do that, it would be nice if you corrected me, thank you :)

Here we go with **the final installment of The Guardians of Time series!** Don't know if you guys know this, but Marianne Curley said she was writing another book to this series, still untitled and still with no release date. But hey, **we will have an another book!** We can only hope for the best and keep fingers crossed.

Anyway, let's proceed with the review, shall we? As I said before, The Key is, unluckily, the final book of this underrated but great series. Our heroes have to find this key that will open a box that contains useful weapons to fight the war against The Order. Because we are finally brought to the last battle! Betrayal, blood and journeys to the past included.

- **The peculiarity of this series is that in every book points of view change and we can know more extensively characters** that are, for example, in the first book not talked about as they deserve to be. In the first book we have Ethan and Isabel, in the second Arkarian and Isabel and in the third **Rochelle and Matt**. Besides it is a clever writing choice itself, I am glad the author decided to put these characters' points of view. All we know about Rochelle is that she pretended to love Matt, was part of The Order, then betrayed Marduke and ran away. From all of this, we could assume she is no trusty worthy and certainly not a good person. The reader, like I did, don't surely love Rochelle, but this book will change all readers' minds mind. **Rochelle is an emotional, strong but also delicate girl who will, chapter by chapter, be part of your heart.** Is shocking how an incomplete knowledge of a person can influence your judgment about him or her and make it so wrong and unfair. That is what happened to me when I read Richelle's chapters, I was completely surprised by her, I changed my opinion about this girl.

- **The other main character is Matt**, Isabel's big brother, that we know only as an overprotective and impulsive guy. The author let we know more about this character too and **I found him more interesting** than I did in the first two books. He still isn't one of my favourite, but now I see him in an another light.

- **The Key is sadly my least favourite book of this series** because I was expecting plot twists, since it's a Marianne Curley book, but I found few ones. **I wanted to feel more shocked**, that's all. I am not saying there are none, there are, but not a lot as I predicted.

- **Another thing I found myself disliking, actually the thing is a person, was Dillon.** Ethan and Matt's friend, he previously joined The Order and then, like Rochelle, betrayed it and took part in The Guard. The thing that irritated me the most was his beviour, *rude and irrational*. (view spoiler)

In conclusion: this book wasn't as action packed and plot twists included as I expected, but it was a good book. It made me change my mind about certain characters in positive and also negative ways. Don't know why this series isn't as considered as it *deserves* by readers.

scuba says

Of ya! Of, of, of!

Hiç böyle bir dilekte bulunmazdım ama, bir bölümçük daha? Hiç mi? Lütfen? Tamam. Peki.

Kendimi toparlayamıyorum şu an. Odada yalnız değilim ve sanırım bu şekilde olmasam, tek başıma olsaydım; emin olun hüngür hüngür ağlardım. BÖYLE BİR MÜKEMMELİK YOK, GERÇEKTEN. Deliricem ya, gerçekten. Kalbim parçalanıyor, kalbim!

İlk iki kitaptan çok çok çok daha güzel olduğunu söylemem gerek. Direkt bu kitaba ben 5 puan verdim ki elimde olsa daha fazla yıldız verme de bir an bile tereddüt etmezdim.

Anılan ve Karanlık'nın bazı yerlerinde sıkıldım mı? söylemiştım. Bu kitapta da öyle bir iki yer oldu. Ama bu tamamen benden kaynaklı. Kitabı okuduğum için, her şeyi biliyor olduğum biraz kötü oldu. Keşke hafızam kaybetsem de seriyi tekrardan okuyabilsem.

Anahtar'da olaylar bence çok daha iyi geliyordu. Matt'in liderliği özellikle seriyi sevmemdeki başlıca nedenlerden. İlk iki kitaba göre çok daha aksiyonluydu, hiç boş olay, sahne yoktu. Kitap gayet duruydu, yalındı ve akıcıydı.

Öyle de bir şey söylemem gerekiyor ki, kitabın ve serinin sonunu çok beğendim. Her ne kadar psikopatça manyak bir şey olsa da ben sonunu çok beğendim. Sanırım bu cins sonları seviyorum, beni çok etkiliyorlar.

Ve yazar, kitapları yazarken olayları anlatan iki bakış açısı karakterini öyle güzel seçiyor ki, hayran kalıyorsunuz. En azından ben kaldım. Nihayetinde, öyle farklı 6 karakterler seçmiş ki her 3 kitapta; olayları neredeyse her şekilde anlayabiliyorsunuz. Anlatamam mı olabilirim ama bir olay iki farklı karakter tarafından anlatılıyor ki kitapta, yazılanlarla çok daha iyi bütünleştirebiliyorsunuz. Birinin bittiği yerde diğeri başlıyor ki bu da olayları algılamayı çok daha etkili bir hale getiriyor.

Fantatikseverler, zaman yolculuğu severler, EĞER BU SERİYİ OKUMADIYSANIZ, ÇOK AMA ÇOK ŞEY KAÇIRIYORSUNUZ!

Gemma ? Books_McCoy says

God even after all this time, the ending always destroys my soul.

You would think, having read it a dozen times and being well aware of what's coming, I would be prepared. But no. No, no. The pain is real.

Imagine my sheer fucking delight that after ten years there is a book four. Yes, I'm sure it will break my heart to start but maybe, just maybe, it will put it back together again!

Zooms away

Mindy says

I'd actually like to give this book at 3.5. I didn't like it as much as the first two and I HATED the ending. But, all in all it was an enjoyable series.

I want to start with the things I really liked about this book as well as the other two. They are totally action packed. And not in a way that sacrifices character development for action scenes (see the *Midnighter* series by Scott Westerfeld). Curley manages to weave in depth to her characters in a way that isn't bogged down with over detailed monologues (see *The Inheritance* books by Christopher Paolini). She's a very skilled writer giving away character plot points via natural flowing story line and dialogue.

Now, that being said, the twist at the end was a little predictable. Mr. Carter was and always had been the obvious choice for the traitor and the somewhat annoying framing of Lady Arrabella felt forced.

I also hated what became of Matt. Really he changed and began to speak exactly like Arkarian or one of the Tribunal - in old fashioned tones. I realize he changed through his training, but to the point of practically being a whole new character was a bit of a leap for me to make. I would have liked it if he had been a little more of himself before the training.

And to the final point - I really feel like Curley let me down with Rochelle. Her character had so much potential just to die in the end. Also, for all the things Ethan did, how truly good he was, to be cheated in the end with Rochelle's death was just irritating. Everyone BUT Ethan gets a happy ending. And why didn't anyone EVER make an attempt to befriend Rochelle earlier? The ending also felt forced to me. Like Curley had to go that route to fulfill her own prophecy that the group is so tied to. Not that I think everyone should have a happy ending and that having Arkarian with Isabel, Matt with Neriah AND Ethan with Rochelle would have likely been a little *too* happy - I just wish it had ended a *little* happier.

I may read her other book *Old Magic*, but I've got so many other books to read, it may be a while.

While this series will definitely be interesting and identifiable for teens, I kinda wished that the characters had been older and this was an adult book. I think the concepts are interesting and would have been a great adult series.
