



The Bride Wore Black Leather

Simon R. Green

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John Taylor is marrying the love of his life, Suzie Shooter, the Nightside's most fearsome bounty hunter. But before he can walk down the aisle he has one more case to solve as a private eye — a case that has him on the run from friends and enemies both, with his bride-to-be looking to collect the bounty on his head...

The Bride Wore Black Leather Details

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Author : Simon R. Green

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From Reader Review The Bride Wore Black Leather for online ebook

Shelly Schulz says

Talk books with me, and within moments, Simon R. Green will come out of my mouth--namely his Nightside series. Part noir, part satire, part snark driven plot I fell quickly in love with the series and sometimes protagonist John Taylor. Taylor is a PI who has a 'gift'--the ability to find anything, anywhere. It's more badass than it sounds. Throughout the series he goes against all sorts of baddies, and creatures of myth and horror, all the while maintaining a snappy dialogue that would make any sitcom writer's head explode.

In this book, the last of the Nightside series, Green does a lot of wrapping up. There are loose ends that get tied up sometimes not so neatly. You're reunited with characters that floated in other books, and others that you haven't seen since a particular book. Characters are mentioned and you're given little updates about some of them. He also ties in Drinking Midnight Wine with the reappearance of Leo and of course the Droods of his Secret Histories series. But that's one of the things I like about Green's work, is characters aren't ever really gone. And I have the feeling we'll see John, or Suzie again in someone's sandbox. Razor Eddie is also heavily present in this book, and as an Eddie fangirl, I was so excited to see something happen that had been hinted at during the entire series.

Overall, it's a bittersweet end to an amazing series--a fitting end.

colleen the convivial curmudgeon says

Like most of the Nightside books, this one starts off with a smaller case which then segues into another, larger case. In this book, though, the smaller case is John's last case as a PI, and the big one is his first as Walker - and it is something of a doozy.

It's also, for those who don't know, the last book in the series. At least the last staring John Taylor. It's a pretty decent entry, though not my favorite. I was kinda hoping for a bit more of a bang, but ah well.

As with many finales, we get visits from many of our favorite characters from past books - at least the ones who are still alive. It was perhaps a bit twee, bordering on almost maudlin at the end, but we can forgive that. It's hard to say good-bye, after all.

The case itself was interesting enough, but a bit on the predictable side. My biggest issue, though, is just the repetition of formula. I mean, these books have always been formulaic and pulpy - but this one just didn't have those glimmers of unique insanity which made some of the other books so much fun. It was almost like "well, let's have one last grand adventure, but let's not try too hard".

And if I hear the phrase "... and then it was the easiest thing in the world to...", I think I might develop a permanent twitch.

Along those same lines, I can't decide if his references to his other series, drawing everything into one big universe, is cool or annoying. Sometimes it feels a little too much like advertisements instead of Easter eggs.

And, lastly, I was sad to see so little of Suzie. I mean, considering both the title and cover art reference her, I sort of expected her to be a more vital role in the story. That said - it was fun to hang out with Julien.

And a parting hope. If Green ever does pick up Nightside again, I would love to spend more time getting into the head of Razor Eddie. ;)

Mizuki says

Pre-review: What the hell? This person and that person are getting married!????

Thoughts after reading:

Nightside series is a lot of fun, it has a lot of mayhem, action, witty sense of humor and vividly written characters, the last book of the series offers us more or less the same supernatural cocktail, and I suspected the author, Simon R. Green has always been using this series to make a satire out of the old schooled hard-boiled genre, and it's more than fine with me. 3.5 stars.

David Caldwell says

This book made me sad because it is John Taylor's last case as a private investigator. But then I quit being sad when it it also was his first case as Walker.

His last case as a P.I. has him investigating the death of The King of Skin at the Immortals Ball. Who can kill an immortal in front of a roomful of witnesses and no one see anything?

His first case as walker has John teaming up with Julien Advent, the Victorian Adventurer when the ghost of the Hawk and Wind Bar disappears. Who is the mysterious Sun King and can he really bring an end to the endless night of the Nightside?

John always manages to solve his cases even if no one wants him to do it. Usually he can rely on his friends and enemies to help, so what will he do when everyone is turned against him including Razor Eddie, Punk God of the Straight Razor, Dead Boy, and even Shotgun Suzie. How can he fight them or even survive?

And all of this happens on the night before his wedding to Shotgun Suzie.

One of the best entries in an awesome series.

Jason says

4 Stars

The Bride Wore Black Leather book 12 in the Nightside series brings to conclusion one of my all time

favorite series. This is arguably the weakest book in the whole series but who cares. All of our favorite friends and enemies of the John Taylor make an appearance or a mention. John Taylor will go down as one of the greatest anti-heros ever written. I loved this series and am deeply sad to have it come to an end.

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...

Highest recommendations for the series.

One of my all time favorites... Must read for urban fantasy lovers

JOSEPH C WINTERS says

I always said the Nightside books contained a setting and supporting cast that was far more interesting and worthwhile than the protagonist, John Taylor; imagine The Dresden Files if Harry Dresden was just kind of boring compared to everything else going on. However, reading the first Secret Histories book (set in the same universe, along with the "Ghost Hunters" books which I haven't read) inspired me to finish these off... and damn! That was spot on, across the board. Well done Mr. Green, well done.

Now to catch up on Secret Histories before those books go back to the Nightside this June...

Andrew says

Time to catch up I think...

And so ends my journey to (or in) the Nightside although I am sure it be visited again at some point (more on that later)

This is the 12th and last in the series - yes there is an anthology and the characters appear in short stories however they are either standalone or neatly slotted in to the history of this series.

Now I will admit that I read other peoples reviews just out of curiosity (and its one of the reasons why I do not do spoilers as they write far better story related reviews than I do) and I pick up the general feeling that its not the best in the series.

Let me address two of the over riding themes - the first is that its not the best storyline - possibly. Now typically in the series you have events of a smaller case a side job if you like that come back and get involved in something far bigger and more important. This is no different although you feeling the side job

here IS the bigger picture - almost as if (in the story it is talked about as much) its one last job. I think the criticisms really are more about the fact after 12 books where can the story go? after all one of my favourite ideas are the play on words and the twisting of our perception and preconceptions. Yes there are other stories which might be better but I think this book has its own charm which could all too easily be overlooked

Then the second issue is that the main characters are getting too dam powerful - well that is true - but in a book of this type (facing yet another total destruction and annihilation of the nightside) each instalment it does feel like its a bit of an arms race to the top (or is that bottom). However this is a tried and tested approach really that goes back to the days of the pulp storyline which each week either ends or starts with grave peril approaching. If anything I rather enjoy it - as it has a nostalgic feel to it (and no I am not old enough to remember the first time around). What I am saying is if you series has a defined end - and this one certainly does - then why not up the scales each time.

So for me it does feel like a suitable swan song - however I know that Simon Green likes weaving his various stories and series together (the name dropping in the last book was pretty blatant) now some may see it as spot the easter egg while others see it as drawing together a bigger picture - me I am the latter- but I guess to coin an English phrase this book is the marmite of the series - you love it or you hate it - me I love it and as always with a long running series I am sad to see it go - however I think this is far from the last we see of the nightside and hey the series may come back again who knows anything is possible out there.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

The Bride Wore Black Leather (Nightside, #12), Simon R. Green

Since his reluctant return to the the Nightside all that time ago, life has changed a great deal for private eye John Taylor; and he's now settling down in that city of eternal darkness where he once vowed never to return. He's about to be married - to Suzie Shooter, the love of his life and the Nightside's most formidable bounty hunter. And he has a new job; he's replaced Walker, the Voice of the Authorities in the Nightside. This new life, and the responsibilities that go with it, mean it's time for Taylor to move on from his work as a private detective - but not before one last case. Yet, as ever in the Nightside, nothing is straightforward. Taylor's final investigation soon leads him to discover a threat to all of humanity - but saving the day would be much easier if he weren't on the run. With the entire Nightside suddenly against him, and his future spouse after the bounty on his head, happily-ever-after suddenly seems an unlikely ending for John Taylor.

Farhad says

Thus ends the story of animeside a.k.a nightside with the power of love (no pun intended)

opening with a side quest (short story) as usual, and ends with all hell breaking loose, (Boss Battle) again, as usual.

this is one of the good books in the series, unfortunately with a hasty weak ending which is the Achilles hill of all Green's books I read so far.

if you read all 11 volume prior to this, sure why not, go ahead and grab it. or you could just easily skip it, it's just another nightside story with a forceful last chapter of the series attached to it.

Carol Dass says

I am sorry this series is finished, but I would read it again! So lovely to see Taylor and Suzie get married! Now on to some of Simon's other series!

Timelord Iain (Eeyawn) says

I was quite satisfied with this book and the previous one... I'm glad I stuck out this series through its rough patches and repetition...

Tulipa says

I just finished the whole series of nightside after a year and odd. It was my birthday present and I will actually miss reading it. I read it in very strange places and this damn series is so memorable. This is Nightside full of miracles as for me who never thought reading such a thing and actually enjoy it. But behind the whole sin stuff and a dark night, there was always a huge and bright moon. And this world is something I miss because it indeed had lots of good stuff. As though it had a mask of an ugly beast and turned out just a human. Human, with all goods and bads, mistakes and relieves. It NEVER erased the real thing. I know lots of people don't like the cliche and the miracles in rescueing John Taylor forever and hidden helps... but I like the seed nightside have tented. I will remember the name NIGHTSIDE forever as though it was a real teacher.

The series and story never was out of mistake and upleasant but it deserves something IMO so I give it 5 stars.

DeLace Munger says

So, here's the deal. I love Simon R. Green. His stuff can start to feel a bit formulaic at times and there's a bit

more repetition than I'd like (I know this book mentioned ambulances that run on distilled suffering at least twice, possibly three times. I get it. It's a creepy/intriguing/Nightside kinda thing. Let's focus on other types of vehicles now) BUT Green is absolutely incredible at pulling me into his stories and wanting to know more about almost any character he introduces. They always feel fully fleshed, three dimensional and ready for any criticism you can throw their way. He'll throw in some minor character and after just a name and a few lines of description I want to sit down and have a drink with them or else gossip behind their back to find out more.

Here's an example: Julian Advent (almost always love his names too) is the Victorian Adventurer. He invented a formula back in the 19th century that was the opposite of Dr.Jekyl's and became the ultimate hero. He fell through a Timeslip and ended up in the 1960's in the Nightside.

I love this character and he's usually a minor one. Then there are folks like Razor Eddie (Punk God of the Straight Razor), Lord of Thorns, Suzie Shooter, Dead Boy, Count Video, the Oblivion Brothers and many others. They're varied and some are archetypes but feel original while others are completely unique and unlike anything I've encountered in other fantasy.

This is merely the latest installment but it kept me turning the pages faster and faster until a major character had died (or maybe not) and I just HAD to know how John Taylor was gonna get out of this one. I loved this book. I love this series. Thank goodness Green is so prolific! I hope he lives and writes to an old, old age.

Ross Alon says

Not the best urban fantasy series, but I've gotten used to the repetitive narrative.
I'm actually going to miss the night side

Ben Truong says

The Bride Wore Black Leather is the twelfth and final book in the *Nightside* Series written by Simon R. Green and centered on John Taylor, the main protagonist, who is not a private detective per se, but he has a knack for finding lost things.

Having been appointed the new Walker by the Authorities, John Taylor decides to take one last case before marrying his sweetheart bounty hunter, Suzie Shooter. He receives an e-mail to come to the Ball of Forever, a club for immortals to gather and sneer and preen at one another. Eventually, somebody murders the widely despised King of Skin and Frankenstein's Bride. However, Frankenstein's Bride was resurrected by a shock of electricity. John Taylor quickly solves the mystery, but something else appears to bring concern to all of Nightside.

During his Stag Party, Julian Advent pulled him away to help him stop the Sun King, a charismatic hippie who disappeared some decades back, shows up to declares that he'll bring devastating, cleansing sunlight to Nightside, whose denizens are aghast.

Nightside where it is perpetually three in the morning and where the sun never shines is now under threat of having their sins shown in the bright light of day and make Nightside into Sunnyside. Worse, the Sun King

appears to have been amplified by super-powered entities from another dimension, aptly called The Entities, and it is up to John Taylor to stop him. While Nightside may be a place of darkness and sin, it is also the last line of defense against other realities and dimensions who wants to annex, or consume Earth with John Taylor being front and center.

John Taylor is determined to stop the Sun King, but soon a beloved Nightside resident is dead and the Sun King has framed John Taylor for the death. He is on the run with every hand turned against him – even his fiancée, Suzie Shooter.

In order to save Nightside, John Taylor pushes himself harder in this book than any previous books. He does physical and spiritual damage to himself in the quest to save Nightside and now his own life. *The Bride Wore Black Leather* took us all over Nightside and shown us some new powers that John Taylor has received. John Taylor's choices get narrower and narrower until he confronts the Sun King in the last place he wants to go.

The Bride Wore Black Leather was written rather well. Green has mixed fantasy, science fiction, urban fantasy, horror, and humor rather well and it flowed just as well also – it was quite the page-turner filled with suspense and action. *The Bride Wore Black Leather* seems like a novella within a novel. John Taylor's last case as a detective – solving the murder of The Skin King was the novelette within the novel of John Taylor's first case as Walker – trying to stop The Sun King.

Overall, the *Nightside* series was written rather well. It can be distinctly separated into four categories: Pre-Lilith War (*Something from the Nightside – Nightingale's Lament*), Prelude to the Lilith War (*Hex and the City – Sharper than a Serpent's Tooth*), Post Lilith War (*Hell to Pay – Just Another Judgement Day*), and John Taylor's Evolution (*The Good, the Bad, and the Uncanny – The Bride Wore Black Leather*) books. The strongest books in the series are from the Prelude to the Lilith War and John Taylor's Evolution books.

I particularly enjoy the character arcs of the main protagonist – John Taylor and his love interest Suzie Shooter. At the beginning of the series, John Taylor lived in London Proper under self-banishment from the Nightside who would become one of the powerful – if not the most powerful person in the series. Suzie Shooter's character arc was just as great, she starts out as aloof character to become a person of depth and the love interest to John Taylor.

The secondary cast of characters were very interesting and were both horrific and humorous in equal measure and I will miss them dearly. All of the characters that Green has created (and sometimes killed just as quickly) give that added flavor of Nightside and that anything and anyone could be created if one has the imagination to do so and I'm glad that Green had such an imagination.

While I'll miss this cast of characters, I feel it's time to say goodbye to them. However, I wouldn't be adverse if there is a secondary series in the Nightside – this time focusing on John Taylor as a Walker instead of a detective – only time will tell.

All in all, *The Bride Wore Black Leather* is a wonderfully written book and a very good conclusion of the series. I like to give my sincerest of appreciation to Simon R. Green for making such a wonderful series.
