



Magic and Loss

Nancy A. Collins

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Located on Manhattan's Lower East Side, Golgotham has been the city's supernatural district for centuries. Populated by creatures from myth and legend, the neighborhood's most prominent citizens are the Kymera, a race of witches who maintain an uneasy truce with the city's humans...

It has been several months since Tate Eresby developed her new magical ability to bring whatever she creates to life, but she is still learning to control her power. Struggling to make a living as an artist, she and Hexe can barely make ends meet, but they are happy.

That is until Golgotham's criminal overlord Boss Marz is released from prison, bent on revenge against the couple responsible for putting him there. Hexe's right hand is destroyed, leaving him unable to conjure his benign magic. Attempts to repair the hand only succeed in plunging Hexe into a darkness that can't be lifted—even by news that Tate is carrying his child.

Now, with her pregnancy seeming to progress at an astonishing rate, Tate realizes that carrying a possible heir to the Kymeran throne will attract danger from all corners, even beyond the grave...

Magic and Loss Details

Date : Published November 5th 2013 by Roc

ISBN : 9780451464927

Author : Nancy A. Collins

Format : Mass Market Paperback 290 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Urban Fantasy, Magic, Paranormal

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Stacy says

Another great series comes to an end. I will keep this spoiler free.

There were some pretty emotional points in MAGIC AND LOSS. Hexe's attempt to repair his hand went horribly wrong and he did things and said things that any woman who didn't know him better would have run for the hills. It was definitely a dark point in the book but there are also happy things that were thrown in like Tate's job, meeting new family members and the birth of the baby. I was so excited at the end of book 2 when I figured it out. The pregnancy went by pretty fast with the time jumps but I never felt like I was left behind or that the situations didn't make sense. I do wish that more time was spent with the baby after they were born. I wanted to see more of Tate and Hexe as parents. We finally get the story behind how exactly Tate's Mom knows Hexe's Mom and I am so glad that was included in the book and I loved that Tate's Dad knew all about it and was never fooled.

I really enjoyed the Golgotham series. It was different, fast paced and the world building was exciting to follow. I am sad to see it end but everything was tied up and put where they were supposed to be by the end.

Marla says

Yes, I am giving 5 stars to a fantasy book about witches and dragons and magic. I liked all 3 book in this series but this one was so good! The emotional roller coaster Tate was in through the whole book was totally believable and encompassing, I couldn't put it down, read it in a day and as I closed it said out loud to the empty room "that was so good!". I don't know where the author could go next with this; there was a feeling of closure that satisfied me. But I will definitely be reading the rest of her backlist

Andrew says

This closes (for now I hope as I would love to see more stories of Golgotham) the trilogy of closely linked stories. As I explained in the previous book you do not need to read them all but it really does help and to be honest its worth it as you meet the various characters this book pretty much takes for granted.

As I said in the previous books comments (Left Hand Magic) the book contains several storylines of varying complexity and peril (come in when is it not interesting with a little bit of peril thrown in) however there is a major plot running through the trilogy which is neatly (if bloodily) closed off.

My only disappointment is that it appears that this is all we will see of Golgotham and its colourful inhabitants which is a shame - not only do you have a whole community you can create fascinating new adventures with but also at the end of this book you see old scores and rivalries put aside (don't worry no spoilers) which in my mind opens up a whole new realm of stories you can now approach - well I can live in hope I guess.

This was a surprise series from an author I have long admired. The fact I read each book in to the early hours so I could finish it before turning in is testament to how much the books captivated me - its been a long time I have read that much and that long in one sitting.

Craig says

Following Right Hand Magic and Left Hand Magic this third volume of Golgotham (why not Third Hand Magic?) brings the story to a satisfying conclusion while revisiting the characters and situations that were set up in the previous volumes. It's just a bit darker in tone, but still a light-hearted romp. It's altogether a quite fun and engaging urban fantasy triad.

Jael says

While reading Magic and Loss, the book really came across akin to a finale. I am unaware if this is the final book in the series (but I have seen other goodreads reviewers peg it as such).

The book picks up months after the last one wherein Tate and Hexe are barely keeping their head above water in the monetary sense. Though, Tate has a regular gig going as an apprentice to a blacksmith. However, things are bound to take a turn for the worse when Boss Marz is released from prison on a technicality. Marz soon makes a ploy and using magic-blocking weapons to severely damage Hexe's right hand (the path of magic that's more defensive magic, which Hexe uses). Tate ends up preggers and Hexe gets a magic glove to give him back the use of his hand but with dire consequences and an nefarious individual re-emerges.

Steve Isaak says

Fun, relatively light* and fast-moving read that might especially appeal to those readers looking for an urban fantasy novel-series that's a shade darker and more mature than a YA novel (this is not meant in a demeaning way - there's hints of sex, but nothing even remotely explicit and the magic and violence of the first two books is PG-13 at worst).

There's a 'mystery' - hidden villains and secret associations - element to the book, but, as in *Right Hand Magic* and *Left Hand Magic*, they're easy - intentionally so - to suss out.

My only nit with *Magic* is that its ending essentially sports the same finish as *Right*, making *Magic*'s climactic fight feel formulaic. (True, it's a minor nit, but one worth noting.)

Magic is worth your money and time, if its series-formulaic finish and lack of mystery aren't an issue of you. If they are an issue, check this one out from the library.

[*compared to Collins' dark, ultra-violent *Sonja Blue* series]

(This review originally appeared on the Reading & Writing By Pub Light site.)

E. says

4.5 stars

"Magic and Loss" by Nancy A. Collins is part of the fun and entertaining 'Golgotham' series and continues the saga of Tate Eresby, a human with magical talents and Hexe, the heir to the Kymeran throne. They have settled into a routine and are content until their lives are disrupted by the return of the evil Boss Marz who is determined to get revenge upon them and the rest of the inhabitants of Golgotham. Once again, past differences must be put aside and all citizens must work together or risk seeing their ways of life completely destroyed. Unfortunately, there are major changes in Hexe and the impact on his family threatens to destroy all that he has worked for and desires, even as his relatives seem to be increasing unexpectedly and Hexe will have to decide whether Left Hand or Right Hand magic offers the best choice for him.

This exciting urban fantasy story continues to build on the intriguing and imaginative elements that have been introduced through the past two entertaining novels, "Right Hand Magic" and "Left Hand Magic". I love the fact that we aren't stagnant in the society but instead continue to build on the fantastical elements that have already been introduced. Tate is continuing to grow, not only by acting as an apprentice but as she learns to analyze her relationships and what she will and will not accept in the way she is treated. I was a little surprised at some of the revelations about various family members and disappointed at the reaction to Boss Marz's bullying but I enjoyed watching the changes in dynamics as yet another milestone is reached in Tate and Hexe's relationship. It is always refreshing to view society through the sometimes skewed lens of Golgotham and discover that bigotry and prejudice can always rear its ugly head but if enough people band together and oppose it, life can only be improved. Another deliciously entertaining visit to a city that has the kinds of neighbors you can only dream about but who might be quite fun to get to know, as long as you don't inadvertently cross the forbidden line. And if you have a little artistic talent of your own...who knows what will happen?

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I received a copy of this title in return for an honest review.

Bethnoir says

I love Nancy's characters and had to know how this story ended, but it was quite a challenge in the middle and a lot happened very quickly. There was so much action that there wasn't much time for reflection in this book, but it was a rollercoaster ride and I'm glad I was on it.

Darcy says

My favorite part of the series is Golgotham, I love the neighborhood. I really liked the Jubilee holiday, loved how happy Tate and Hexe were, sadly I knew it wouldn't last. I hated what happened to Hexe, but even more

I hated the choices that Hexe made after. There is the saying there is no such thing as a free lunch, Hexe should have remembered that when looking at the glove. When things started to go bad, I knew what was at the center of it. I thought that Tate made the right choice when things started to get really bad, she had more than herself to think about.

I found it interesting how both sets of parents dealt with things. It was a good thing that Golgotham banded together to take care of things, to protect themselves and their way of life.

I really loved how this one ended, how it seems like Tate and Hexe are melding their lives in a bigger way.

Not sure, but with how things were written it seems like this series is done. I really hope not, because I look forward to reading them.

Blodeuedd Finland says

I do like Golgotham, such a cool world, it's part of the city of New York. They are a little world of their own, magic, beings, and all things nice and horrid.

Tate and Hexe have settled down quite nicely. But things are never that easy are they? Family problems, the whole she is human, he is Kymerian thing. But I like them and they are so cute together, I like that they just went for it. Especially since he is the heir to the throne and everything.

But a bad guy is coming for them and the book took a more sinister tone, and I felt so sad for them at times. It was tough.

The ending wraps it together a bit too nicely. I had to ask the author and she does want to write more. But this one needed an ending if more did not come. And I did like that cos yay it all worked out. But she still left room for so much more for them to come, as Tate was preggers and all. Ohh drama. But if more is not to come then this was a nice trilogy, and if more is to come then yes more will be awesome.

Conclusion:

A cool urban fantasy series that I have enjoyed :)

Jessica says

Check out this and other reviews at <http://bathtubreader.blogspot.com>

In the final chapter of Tate and Hex has arrived. Tate is working full time and supporting the household now that she's given up her trust fund. Hex works as much as he can but when the Boss gets out of jail all hell breaks loose and Hex's hand is damaged beyond repair. Or is it? Just when things seem to be looking up, everyone is pleased about Tate being pregnant and Hex thinks he's found an answer to his hand issues things go very wrong and a final battle must be waged to save Golgotham - only Hex is out of commission and Tate has a baby in her arms so it's one difficult fight.

Review: (I've kept most of the spoilers down to a minimum but beware the first part of the third paragraph) This was a good series and I'm sad to see it end. It's wasn't the greatest series ever but it was good. One of the great things about this series that Tate is a strong female lead without being a warrior and always fighting. Tate's an art kid with tons of money and for the most part she acts the part of one who is still cool - not a little princess. I love that she's tough, skilled, and independent but not always the first to fight or even some crazy strong warrior. She strikes a great medium of fighting when she needs to but avoiding it at all cost because she's not great at it - she just a normal woman living in a place of magic.

Collins's writing does some odd things. She's gets so close to being really amazing but falls a little short at just really great. Her vocabulary is higher than most novels in the genre and I love that but sometimes it seems a bit awkward - like she wants to use this word and even though it doesn't really fit she's going to. There were also a number of moments when she should have used contractions and didn't, leaving the text feeling forced. The world she constructs is amazing and fun and this final installment is no different. I did have a problem with her bringing a bunch of characters from the previous two books in and not giving us much of a reminder of who they are. It's been two years since I read the last book (there was a big gap between books) and it would have been nice to have a quick note reminding us who people were. I'll go back and re-read the three books pretty soon just get the full impact of the book.

Overall the story was great but not amazing. I was understanding of Tate not leaving Hex for most of the book. Having worked at domestic violence center gives me insight into the patterns and lives of people who are abused so I understood why Tate didn't leave for so long. My issue though, was that her family acted like nothing happened and she went back under the wrong circumstances. I didn't feel like Lady Syra was being true to character. If she was going to get Tate to return she should have done it a bit different and fixed things so they were different. If Collins had written the scene better I would have been behind it but she left too many openings that I don't think Lady Syra would have allowed. Also, the final battle was pretty lame. It lacked passion and was skim worthy and the ending was just lukewarm for me.

A good series and I'm sorry to see it end. I'm sure I'll re-read these three books in the years to come.

Maja (The Nocturnal Library) says

Magic and Loss is the long-awaited third installment in Nancy Collins's Golgotham series. Its release has been pushed back a time or two, so when it finally became available, it completely slipped my mind. In case you're a fan and the same happened to you, rejoice – it's out!

Returning to Golgotham is always such a wonderful experience for me. Collins enriched New York with a whole new neighborhood inhabited by the ruling Kymerans, and with them, leprechauns, satyrs, fauns and so many other races. It is a richly detailed world, enchanting and endlessly entertaining. But it is also a dangerous world, especially for powerless, defenseless humans. It is a place of constant turmoil, political games, threat of the supernatural mafia and left-hand magic, the evil kind.

For Tate, a human girl and former heiress, Golgotham has become a home. She is no longer the lost girl who moved there because of low rent. Her newly developed power to animate metal objects she creates through her art, as well as her stable relationship with Hexe, made her a much stronger woman. It was lovely to see her new life, the independence and strength she now possesses.

I always liked Tate, even before she developed her powers. Even as a human in the middle of a supernatural

world, she was always a worthy UF heroine – strong, outspoken and decisive. I admired her for finding her way around Golgotham all on her own, and especially for choosing Hexe over her family's wealth when the time came.

The plot in Magic and Loss is slow to pick up, the first part of the book dedicated solely to painting a picture of Tate and Hexe's life, with all its advantages and challenges. When the story does pick up, though, it becomes very eventful and extremely emotional. The local mafia boss shatters Hexe's right hand, stopping him from doing magic and turning him into a bitter, self-centered version of himself. The changes in Hexe come at the worst possible time – Tate is pregnant and scared that she'll have to raise their child alone, if she doesn't find a way to make Hexe whole again.

Surprisingly (and disappointingly), Magic and Loss appears to be the final installment. I only realized this when I reached the final chapter – all the threads were tied too neatly. I'm going to miss Tate and Hexe, but even more, I'll miss all their friends and neighbors and the enchanting atmosphere of Golgotham. Oh, well, I can always reread, right?

Orion Lyonesse says

The last book of the trilogy wraps up a bunch of storylines for a satisfying finale. Tate and Hexe battle each other and old villains with the help of the many supernatural and mythic residents of Golgotham, a truly special piece of New York. I enjoyed the series and would like to see more stories in this world.

Jennifer Reed says

MAGIC AND LOSS is a fun, fast read. It has well-developed story line and characters. The struggles they face keeps you interested and wanting more. This is the last book in the series, and I hate to see it end. It tied up some loose ends from other two books. Tate and Hexe are finally getting their quiet life back, or as quiet as Golgotham can be. Until Boss Marz is let out of the tombs(prison). This sets off a chain of events that causes Hexe to finally lose his left hand instead of his sanity and family. Tate is trying to protect her unborn child who will be half Kymeran and human, and the possible heir to the Kymeran throne. MAGIC AND LOSS has a full cast of mythological creature we all grew up with in Golgotham city. You will love the leprechauns, centaurs, fauns, satyrs, and others in this book. I really loved this magical world and hate to see it end. I give this urban fantasy 5/5 stars. I recommend everyone to read this series.

David says

The last of a three book series. I was actually quite pleased with this book till the last 75 pages or so. It's not that it ended badly, in fact it wraps up very neatly - too neatly really. All the author left off was "and all the good guys lived happily ever after." Given how dark some of the first part of the book was, it was kind of atypical. Still, overall I really did enjoy the series. New York City is a magical place without elves and

centaurs, the addition just makes it that much more fun.
