



Shatru

Vadhan

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It's the end of our days.
Our reality will be shattered.
The foundations of the universe are set to be destroyed.

A demon is unleashed from the underbelly of nature-
To take a father from a son,
Kill a mother protecting her child,
Destroy a world to kill one boy,
Make a lover betray her man.

Even the Gods are powerless.

Vengeance will rise,
Worlds will fall,
Evil will ascend...
...Shatru will oppose it.

If he does not, the one person who means the world to him will die...

Shatru Details

Date : Published December 2014 by LeadStart Publishing Private Limited

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Author : Vadhan

Format : Paperback 264 pages

Genre :

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From Reader Review Shatru for online ebook

Durojoy Dutta says

I took a chance buying this book. I am glad I did. It is a riveting tale. The science behind magic is easily explained. The language is not overly simplistic like a few popular Indian fiction books. The information is spaced out, the descriptions are to die for while The concept of Asuras and Devas are given a new twist while sticking to their original mythological roots.

The humour is well interspersed, the situations are well thought through and they did not fail to make me laugh, especially the dialogue between the creature in the way station and Kris. It is almost Wodehouse comedy, Agatha Christie mystery and Tolkien fantasy all rolled into one.

frankly, I am surprised there is an Indian author who has such mastery over not only language but presentation.

On the flip side, some situations are too descriptive. \my advice is to go easy on that. In all, a fabulous read.

I Look forward to book 2 in this series with avid interest.

ALOP - A Lot of Pages says

[Link to the Book Review at ALOP](#)

In the words of Nimue, "I liked all the characters of the book and the fact that i could relate to the tribes describes since these are inspired from hindu mythology."

RATING: 4 Stars

Abhyudaya Shrivastava says

About the book

With the markets flooding with historical fiction these days, one is almost cautious not to pick up another 'retelling' of an epic. With Shatru, you can lay those fears to rest. The book is pure fantasy fiction with roots in Indian mythology. The thing with this genre is that the author has to strike a balance between imagination and structure. Author Vadhan has traversed that path almost perfectly. The plot follows a tangent that very few in Indian fantasy world have been able to achieve. Vadhan has created a world of his own and it has definite rules. The protagonist Shatru is half Asura. He also is a 'Hunter'. The novel creates a world of its own and it has its own laws. This is not Ashwin Sanghi or Amish. This is Tolkien meeting Agatha Christie.

When I started reading the book, it started with a gruesome crime and I thought- detective fiction. As I read on, I got introduced to the character of Shatru (Ajaatshatru), and I thought 'hey! Hellboy!' The world woven

around the characters is complex and consists of conspiracies and background stories. It makes the whole experience more enriching. The language is intelligent and witty. The author has not forgotten the importance of humour and that's why the plot seems even more real and believable.

One of the most delightful things about the book is its language. It is colourful and layered. There is an other-worldy feel created with just minor tweaks in the narrative. The author has, on multiple occasions, referred to the mobile phone or cellphone as 'the instrument'. It subtly drives home the point that the characters do not belong to 'our' world. There are more such examples of intelligent writing in there. Modern day Indian English authors have fallen in the trap of oversimplification. You assume that you have to keep a linear plot to keep the audience engaged, you assume that your hero should have certain traits- all those assumptions lead you to cardboard characters and flat plots. Fantasy in the west is much more nuanced. It is as if we have taken no cues from our forefathers who were the creators of Mahabharat and Upnishads. Heck, even the Panchtantra which is supposed to be a children's book has more layers than most of modern Indian English fiction. This book evades that trap of oversimplification and considers the readers to be intelligent, sentient beings. By all accounts, this is a 'true' fantasy book from an Indian author that I have read in a long time and that is saying a lot.

About the cover

The front cover is an eerie green eye with immaculate detailing with green smoke coming out of it. It marks the beginning of the series with the symbolic opening of an eye. Once you read the book, it will be clear to you that it is an Asura's green eye. The black background completes the picture. The back cover has the book blurb which thankfully reveals little about the plot and has the backdrop of a city with impending doom. The pages are crisp and there are almost zero printing mistakes. Full credits to Leadstart who seem to be learning from their mistakes and getting better with each book.

About the author

Bommadevara Sai Chandravadhan is a valuable member at my Talking Books in Delhi NCR meetup group. As you can see in the picture above, he has an imposing, towering persona. When one gets to talk and interact with him, you realize how friendly and humourous he is. You can fit him into one of those friendly giants in those Disney movies. He is a lawyer by profession and owns a legal firm in Gurgaon. Writing has been his first love and at age 12, when he first attempting writing a book (wow), his genre of choice was incidentally fantasy. He has an active imagination and it shows clearly in the book and also in the way he writes.

About the plot

Well, there is a hero, a sidekick, a mysterious murder. There are also secret organizations. Moreover, there is conspiracy and impending doom. Also, you have Indian mythology and elements of science fiction. This is not just a Fantasy novel. It is many things. It is also a fitting story for a comic book. The thing that most people miss while creating a superhero character is that they do not define its powers and their source. Vadhan has not only created a well-defined superhero-like character in Shatru, he has gone a step ahead and created an alternate universe with its own laws and norms.

I recommend that you read it with a free mind so that you can picture the hard work that has gone into creating this book and its characters. Also, it isn't a four-hour read. It is a story you can take home and make your own. Recommended to everyone with a child's heart.

Cifar says

An engrossing read. A story which took you into the unknown world of Devas and Asuras. This book would transport you into the mystical magical world of fantasy and the danger it would have for the mankind. A fast paced thriller you would crave for. For full review visit Shatru - Kronicles # 1

Dhiraj Bharude says

Shatru by Vadhan

Paperback-191

Shatru was half Asura. That was not the reason why he was the best Hunter for the most powerful peace keeping force in all fourteen worlds. If he did not do their bidding, they would kill the one person he loved. That was just the way it was. The Devas and Asuras, the most powerful of the Primordial Tribes shadow-controlled the financial, political and cultural lives of all of humanity just for one reason, domination over each other through control of terrestrials. When the brittle line between adversity and aggression was broken they were set on a collision course. Shatru was the only one standing between them. To stop the Primordials from destroying each other, Shatru had to go after an ancient sentinel of Chaos ready to do what it takes just to destroy. Vengeance was rising. Shatru was in the way. It was not only his loved ones in danger if he could not stop Armageddon

Merrybrains Book Reviews says

Finally, I have managed to publish a book review after a very long time. I have completed this book in 12 days, reading approx 45 mins to 1hr a day.

Strangely enough, this puts the book in tune with our time. It's a win-win. Vadhan has a awesome story to tell yo and look I have the book. Vadhan amazes me with his story telling technique. A story told in a very elegant way, perfect for audiences like me who love thrillers.

I loved the way some amazing poems were mentioned in the beginning of the novel. My favorite being 'you cant stop what has begun' -pink floyd.

"she could feel the inside of her throat emptied like meat scrapped off a crab's shell" My another favorite one.

Imagine how thrilling would it be when your favorite character kills the evil and asks it 'You could have told me your name.... I would have written on your tombstone'. This book is filled with Klassy dialogues. The story takes place in Delhi-Gurgoan,

Read the complete review in the below link:

<http://www.merrybrains.com/?p=1891>

Sandeep Sharma says

When we talk about fantasy fictions, the most common images that comes up in our mind are of Harry Potter, LOTR etc. but very rarely, some Indian fictional authors' characters appear in front of us. In this kind of atmosphere it's pretty difficult to take up a risk of writing in the fantasy genre, so for that I would like to congratulate the author, Vadhan for taking up a story which is purely based on fantasy.

Shatru, the name, the cover and the blurb, everything seems to be great. The book's first impression will force you to pick up the book from the shelves of a book store.

The story starts up with some explanation about the basic theme and is followed by a strange murder of Kausalya and that's the point from where the story kick starts. But as we goes further, the plot starts to confuse because too many characters gets hurdled up in the same scene and creates the blunder.

Then after 5 or 6 chapters, story picks up the pace again and this time there's no looking back. The character of Shatru and Kris are pretty well explained and they both teams up greatly.

Fantasy looks incomplete without some mind blowing elements that looks larger than life and still looks pretty real. There are many elements in the book that I found pretty interesting, for eg., the way Shatru had talks with trees through flashes of images and the concept of time capsule and portability, both were explained using science facts and looked somehow real.

I would also like to mention the fighting sequences between the good and the evil. Some of them are fantastic, like the finale one, it's pretty great and was easy to visualize.

Overall, if we ignore the opening few chapters, the book is great for fantasy lovers.

FULL REVIEW AT <https://theauthorsblogg.wordpress.com...>

Rohan Jefferson says

Amazing book by an Indian Author yet to be discovered. Fantasy Fiction at its finest in the first book of the series. I was so engrossed that I didn't even sleep until I finished it. Real gripping action with emotional twists and drama . Never expected it to be like this. Must read for all fantasy fiction fans who enjoy books like Lotr.

Ayush Singh says

Shatru is an Urban Fantasy novel set in Delhi, which follows the adventures of the Titular character. Shatru is a hunter. Hunting demons throughout the country. If you like The Dresden Files, you will feel right at home reading this novel.

The story itself is quite gripping, with good twists and mostly good pacing. I did have some problems with

the descriptions, which felt jarring, and took you out of the novel to explain regular mundane things. It did feel a bit rushed towards the end as well.

All in all it was a great experience. The book had an interesting take on Hindu mythology with several new ideas from the author.

Geeta Nair says

Engrossing! Has the reader completely hooked till the end. A perfect blend of fantasy and reality and that's been possible by adding a shade of human traits to the characters that are a part of the book. It is very easy for the reader to relate to the maze of emotions that the protagonist Shatru and his mentee Kris go through, their love for the parent who has always been by their side, their bitterness for one who has left them when young, their sense of duty, etc.

Set in modern day Gurgaon near Delhi the book is a virtual tour through the mystical world of Gods, Asuras, Demigods and Half-breeds. The story unfolds with the murder of a Half Breed Kausalya. Who is behind the murder and why? Shatru the protagonist himself a Half-breed undertakes the task of finding the culprit/s little knowing that he himself would become a target of the ones for whom he works as well as that which is out to stop an important merger one that can bring lasting peace between the Devas and Asuras.

One comes across valor, chivalry, deceit and vengeance in right proportions in the book. The play with words makes it easy for the reader to visualize the scenes, be it that of Shatru talking to the trees that constitute the Green Earth or the fight with the Disparate. There are a number of twists and turns all of which add to making the story truly enjoyable.

Read the full review @ <https://geetaavij.wordpress.com/2015/...>

Isha says

With sudden spate of mythology based fiction in Indian literary market, the reader is often perplexed about which one to pick from the wide range of options available. Although the Hindu mythology offers a lot of space for interpretation and re-telling, the re-telling is nothing more than an old wine in a new bottle. More often than not, the writing and the overall narration is mundane and adds nothing to the already existing literature. However, Vadhan's 'Shatru' is not another run-of-the-mill story; fast-paced thriller with elements of suspense, it makes for an entertaining read.

For the complete review, please go to:

<http://rainingreviews.com/2016/03/19/...>

Shashank Parmar says

Just a word for the writer....Tremendous... intriguing saga...must read ..Waiting for the next

Mahesh says

A great read. This is not a chick lit that one can finish in a sitting before loaning the book. Its a collector's item. I stopped reading whenever I could not picture the vivid images that the author's imagination threw up. Shatru is a world onto itself. The imagery is brilliant and so is the depth. There are many great scenes in the book, one being the mode of communication between Shatru and the green life. I could almost feel the images thrown up by the green life in my mind. I understand now that descriptions don't have to be long and winded. Simple words used dexterously can create fantastic images in the reader and for that I have to congratulate this first time author. I look forward to more books from him.

Sankalpita (bookGeeks India) says

Writing a fantasy fiction is no cakewalk. It takes elephantine courage and an equally gargantuan imagination to come up with something which can be garnished and served as fantasy fiction to an audience who have basked in glorious worlds of Narnia, Hogwarts and their likes..

Read the full review here - <http://www.bookgeeks.in/entries/fanta...>

Pratibha says

total fun ! loved it though the events towards end was a little unclear .. awaiting the next part.
