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Endless Knight (The Arcana Chronicles Book 2)



Synopsis

In this seductive follow-up to *Poison Princess*, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Kresley Cole takes us deeper into the dark world of the Arcana Chronicles. Shocking secrets Evie has fully come into her powers as the Tarot Empress, and Jack was there to see it all. She now knows that the teens who've been reincarnated as the Tarot are in the throes of an epic battle. It's kill or be killed, and the future of mankind hangs in the balance. Unexpected allies With threats lurking around every corner, Evie is forced to trust her newfound alliance. Together they must fight not only other Arcana, but also Bagmen zombies, post-apocalyptic storms, and cannibals. Gut-wrenching treachery When Evie meets Death, things get even more complicated. Though falling for Jack, she's drawn to the dangerous Endless Knight as well. Somehow the Empress and Death share a history, one that Evie can't remember--but Death can't forget...

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Customer Reviews

While I absolutely loved Poison Princess, I'm not sure if Endless Knight was just as good or even better, but it is definitely close and this book series is one of the best YA paranormal series I have read. The incredible characters and the story itself are so unique and extremely addictive. Kresley Cole has a gift for storytelling and kept me riveted and hanging by the edge of my seat. There is a lot of action in this and a good dose of romance. **WARNING: DO NOT CONTINUE IF YOU HAVE NOT READ POISON PRINCESS.** Endless Knight picks up where Poison Princess left off when Evie had come into her full powers and had eviscerated the Alchemist right in front of Jack and their crew. Poor Jack is a little freaked out and spends a couple chapters trying to come to terms with his fear and anger at his girl being "not quite human" and her ability to transform into something frightening. Once Jack finally has his head on straight and he accepts that he's in love with Evie, what she is does not matter and he is back in the game. What an amazing character. He's a handful, yet he is incredibly sweet, caring, loving, and sexy as hell and I just about melted over his sweet words and total adoration of Evie. That boy has it bad. He still wants to protect her even though clearly she is able to protect herself. Death is still around to antagonize and exasperate Evie, voicing her inevitable demise in her head. In this installment, we meet some new Arcana. The kids face several dangers. It's raining and the bagmen are getting stronger and the cannibals are a huge threat. The "cannibal chapter" is particularly disgusting, gruesome and utterly disturbing (you have been warned). Kresley could give Stephen King a run for his money in this chapter. I love that we get to meet Death in this book. He's an interesting guy. He starts out as an absolute bastard, but I eventually warmed up to him. He's dark and twisted, but he's lonely. We finally learn about his history with the Empress and it was unexpected. This guy has serious emotional baggage. At first, I was caught between hating Death and feeling sorry for him. When his "bone to pick" with Evie was revealed, my heart broke a little for him. There definitely is a thin line between love and hate with these two. Even though Death is definitely growing on me, he's no Jack and I LOVE that sexy Cajun, even though Jack has some major secrets of his own. And so, we get the dreaded YA Love Triangle. Ugh, I am not a fan of love triangles especially when there is the good with the bad in both men. If only they would end up in a threesome, but alas, this is YA so that's not happening. ;) This is a fantastic, engaging and brilliant read that I would rate 5 stars. I am anxious for Book #3 because well, this one ended in a huge cliffhanger that left me mad as hell. Kresley has me hook, line and sinker with this series and I can't wait to find out what happens next.

Everything is turned upside down, shaken and stirred in Endless Knight, Book 2 of The Arcana Chronicles and I loved it. My feelings after I read book one in the Arcana series were

underwhelming. Here's a little quote from my review of Poison Princess: "Not in love with them. I think it's the unbalance between them being responsible for saving the world and the way they still act like annoying hormone driven teenagers." Even though I was on the fence about whether I liked the Poison Princess the story stuck with me and almost a year later I was still wondering, "what the heck happened next?" I'm glad that I finally read book 2. This is the book that made me fall in love with The Arcana Chronicles and a few of its characters. The series is: UNIQUE Characters are reincarnated as the Major Arcana to participate in a deadly battle that determines the fate of mankind. Who will survive and what will be sacrificed along the way is the question that moves the story forward. MIXTURE OF GENRES Paranormal, Dystopian, Zombies, Cannibals, Romance, Action, Thriller. It's all there and it works beautifully. Plan to stay up past your bedtime and change your mind about Death as you enjoy the second book in The Arcana Chronicles by Kresley Cole. Reader Discretion: * Read the series in order. * I know I'm over cautious about YA content but I would probably classify this as NA but will leave it at mature YA. There is explicit sexual content, cannibalism, and magic so reader discretion is advised. * We have a big cliffhanger at the end of book 2 which means, I can't wait to read book 3, Dead of Winter.

This series just gets better! The story line is so captivating...Ms. Cole continues to ensure loyal readers with this second installment of the series! This series may be rated "YA", but it definitely touches on some very heavy issues. I would definitely recommend this to any mature reader...no matter what genre you prefer, as this series has something for everyone! "Zombies" (Bagmen), and a Dystopian world; romance and enough angst to keep you reading far into the night!!

The book was immensely enjoyable, but there were a few points that had me tilting my head going "huh"? Mainly in regards to how the romance evolved. The plot itself is magnificent and the interactions between the characters had me grinning with joy, so it's still a very solid book. The only reason it gets 4 stars is because of certain things within the romance that felt inorganic and awkward. You can also tell that the author is more geared towards an adult audience because the attempts to make the sex scenes less explicit are... odd, to say the least. If not for the fact that those scenes carried plot information I would have skipped over them entirely. That said, I will definitely be picking up book 3 and keeping my fingers crossed that the characters evolve from the aforementioned awkwardness! (As Kresley has done before with all the complaints I had in book 1.)

The series is quickly becoming one of my favorites as I absolutely love anything to do with the Tarot and she did a magnificent job researching it. Her ability to turn plot points on their head astounds me to the point that half the book could be awkward sex scenes and I'd still read it. Onto the next book!

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