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Shadow Cursed (Fractal Forsaken) (Volume 2)



Synopsis

Night falls over the land and a shadow lights the way. An all-powerful Blood Mage has taken control of the kingdom of Malethya, and his promised peace and prosperity have come at a very high price— a blood oath that secures the loyalty, and mindless devotion, of all who fall under its power. The people's one hope is the Sicarius Headmaster, the Shadow in the Night. Not just a scary story for naughty children, the headmaster is invisible, deadly, determined, and free of the control exerted by the Blood Mage. The headmaster is also the only one who can liberate the mind of Slate Severance, who still feels the debilitating effects of his failed encounter with the Blood Mage in *Severance Lost*, and free the people of Malethya. The headmaster will need all the tools in her arsenal— throwing knives, lock picks, spells, schemes, disguises, and calculated risks. As the headmaster grows closer to freeing Slate, enemies outnumber her schemes and dangers outweigh her hopes. When faced with such a cursed fate, there is only one thing to do— finish the mission.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great book! Loved all the details of how the protagonist plots & plans and also all the details about the craft of spying. The Sicarious Headmaster is definitely a psychopath! Normally I'd say it would be hard to get invested in such a character - but the author's multiple personality twist allows us to care about her. Plus, her psychopathic tendencies actually make her entertainingly badass. I actually found her to be a lot more interesting than Slate as a main character and I'm almost sorry to

leave her behind as protagonist for the next installment. Just finished and can't wait for book 3. J. Lloren Quill definitely left us with some cliffhangers!!

Shadow Cursed picks up where Severance Lost left off except this time we live the adventure through the eyes of Sana. Sana is a person with split personalities and it's interesting to see how this treated throughout the story. I think the cover art for this book really nails the character. Now that the Blood Mage has taken over their world, the characters need to build up a resistance without drawing attention. I continue to enjoy the treatment of magic in this world. And I was especially pleased to find out some of the mystery behind why this is the "Fractal Forsaken" series. I'm looking forward to book 3 in the series because it feels like things are really going to pick up.

This is a wonderful sequel. Similar to the first book, it is immensely imaginative and entertaining. It's another fun book in a fun series. I highly recommend buying both the first and second books at the same time so that you don't have to wait to dive back into the story (also saves on shipping).

Just finished the first two books and cannot wait for the third. Hope the author is working hard on it.

I read Severance Lost and Shadow Cursed back to back - this is a different book with the shift in main characters. You can tell Quill had this format in mind from the start as some of the character traits of the people in the first book are explored in more detail as he builds this story and introduces us to a new story arc where the key players are consistent but their contribution (and therefore author focus) shifts. Seems like the author wants the reader to ultimately engage with the whole world he is creating as opposed to one character. As I wrote in my post for the first book, I'm interested to see whose perspective he chooses to write from in the 3rd book. Thankfully, another strong finish to this book with a clear teaser as to the story arc that will follow in Book 3. Looking forward to seeing what's next in the series!

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