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The Omen Machine: A Richard And Kahlan Novel



Synopsis

Hannis Arc, working on the tapestry of lines linking constellations of elements that constituted the language of Creation recorded on the ancient Cerulean scroll spread out among the clutter on his desk, was not surprised to see the ethereal forms billow into the room like acrid smoke driven on a breath of bitter breeze. Like an otherworldly collection of spectral shapes seemingly carried on random eddies of air, they wandered in a loose clutch among the still and silent mounted bears and beasts rising up on their stands, the small forest of stone pedestals holding massive books of recorded prophecy, and the evenly spaced display cases of oddities, their glass reflecting the firelight from the massive hearth at the side of the room.

“Since the seven rarely used doors, the shutters on the windows down on the ground level several stories below stood open in a fearless show of invitation. Though they frequently chose to use windows, they didn’t actually need the windows any more than they needed the doors. They could seep through any opening, any crack, like vapor rising in the early morning from stretches of stagnant water that lay in dark swaths through the pear barrens.”

“The open shutters were meant to be a declaration for all, including the seven, to see that Hannis Arc feared nothing.”

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Goodkind’s greatest triumph: the ability to introduce immediately identifiable characters. His heroes, like us, are not perfect. Instead, each is flawed in ways that strengthen, rather than weaken

their impact. You'll find no two-dimensional oafs here. In fact, at times you'll think you're looking at your own reflection. — SFX on Blood of the Fold — “Few writers have Goodkind's power of creation--phenomenal piece of imaginative writing, exhaustive in its scope and riveting in its detail. — Publishing News on Temple of the Winds — “Mr. Goodkind's compelling prose weaves a magic spell over readers. — RT Book Reviews on Faith of the Fallen — “Outstanding — |. Highly recommended. — • — San Diego Union Tribune on Temple of the Winds — “Makes an indelible impact. — Publishers Weekly on Faith of the Fallen --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

"THE OMEN MACHINE - This is the extraordinary story of what happens next in Richard and Kahlan's world now that the great war has ended. — (A few have asked, and no, there is no connection whatsoever to THE LAW OF NINES.) — I'm having a great time writing this book and can't wait for people to read it. — From the first sentence you will be just as mystified as Richard, Kahlan, Zedd, and many of the other characters we've all come to care so much about. — I can't say much more for now... except fear what is about to happen." - Terry Goodkind, December 2010 --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

It's a must read book to get the story for the following 2 books. But was really hard to read in terms of interest retention. A lot of filler and repeats of stuff fans know from prior books in the series including repeats of the same content in this same book in various pages. The way it was written made you think that the main protagonist are a bunch of idiots, which is counter to what we all believe. Makes me want to stop reading many times but continued to get to the next book.

There were a lot of great ideas & potential storylines that were never developed because the author pumped the story full of repetitive dialogue about the most simplistic of ideas. Not to play spoiler, but honestly how many times does Richard need to have a dialogue about why it's important to have a filing system for the books in the People's Palace? Slight exaggeration, but not by much: Richard: I'm having all the books in the People's Palace catalogued so I can find information when I need it. Zedd: There are just so many books, that task is impossible. Richard: With all those books, I need a way to find information when I need it so I having them all catalogued. It is important in case I need information that I can find it in all these books so I am having them catalogued. Kahlan enters: What are you doing with all those books? Richard: I having all the books in the People's Palace

catalogued so I can find information when I need it. Kahlan: But there are so many books, you will never get them all done. Richard: With all those books, I need a way to find information when I need it so I having them all catalogued. Cara walks up: Why are you in the library? Richard: Because I'm cataloguing....(and on and on and on) The next book -The Third Kingdom- is even worse about using that mechanic. I mired through this and then the next installment which was even worse. This book was really bad about repeating simplistic ideas in dialogue form with every character having to have the same conversations. The next one in the series is even worse because of all the repetitive dialogue. Both books could fit into 1/4 of a normal novel if all the fluff was removed but that's only if all the fluff that was repeated over & over was removed. Why is that you ask.....

I found this to be an enjoyable read, and would certainly recommend it to followers of Richard and Kahlan. However, that being said, I have some questions which kept recurring throughout my read. We all know that Richard is the Seeker of Truth, as well as one who is gifted with both additive and subtractive magic. He is a battle-tested War Wizard, and a formidable intellect. He has also proven to be gifted as a leader, both politically and militarily. Yet despite all this, he comes off as some yokels farm boy, or perhaps backwoods guide, when faced with many of the challenges of this novel. (SPOILER ALERT) For example, after being around prophecy for years, reading and living it, with an extended family member who is the world's foremost prophet, he comes late to understanding that there is a difference between the spate of recent predictions and actual prophecy. He exhibits little tenacity in learning and searching out answers to the "occult" magic which is plaguing him and his followers. He seems content to allow the empire he worked so hard to forge to simply melt away. And he seems totally clueless, after vast experience with the Sliph and other magically-forged weapons from thousands of years before, that maybe, just possibly, Regula could have been created as a similar type of weapon. He doesn't even seem to think that the rest of the operating Manuel might be important enough to brave a trip to the Temple if the Winds. I hope Zed or Nicci will slap him awake before the next installment of this series appears...

I loved the SoT series up until around "Pillars of Creation", then the last three book really let down the series. But I kept reading, it wasnt horrible, but it didnt live up to the expectations of the first few books. Then this...The major failings:- (spoilers)* It doesnt add anything to the universe, we get a little more about D'Hara and thats about it, no character development, no world building, if anything it destroys the respect I had for existing characters through their incompetence and inaction's.*It leaves a MASSIVE plot point resolved. This book should have had at least 5 more chapters. Im not

sure if he intended to come back and write another one after this one was so totally trashed but this is almost half a book. I cant say enough how this is literally half a book, there are so many issues unresolved its not funny. And this isnt "leaving it up to the reader to decide" like the end of the Sopranos. This is literally one big baddy left alive and powerful with no resolution, a massive new force of evil let lose upon the world that no one seems to care about, and the brand new, freshly minted and hard won kingdom of D'Hara is torn apart!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The Kingdom we saw painstakingly built over 12 book and millions of lives, gone... pathetic* It wasnt needed. The world was finished, the story told, if he wanted to write more, write back story (which he has done) but leave this time frame alone!! know this world isn't done because the "First Confessor" is a great book, on par with Blood of the Fold which is my personal favorite. But for the love of the Sun God Ra please dont read this travesty...

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