



# The Shadow Falls

*K.S. Marsden*

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## **The Shadow Falls** K.S. Marsden

Hunter Astley has always known that he is different: being a witch-hunter that can use magic has sealed his fate.

He must destroy the Shadow Witch once and for all, with the help of some unlikely allies.

We delve even deeper into the world of the Malleus Maleficarum; into myth, rumour and history that refuses to stay in the past.

## **The Shadow Falls Details**

Date : Published September 5th 2014 by Createspace (first published August 29th 2014)

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Author : K.S. Marsden

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## From Reader Review The Shadow Falls for online ebook

### A.J. Chaudhury says

The finale of the Witch Hunter series. I can only say- Wow! What a book! This is the best book in the series. The Shadow Falls contains every good aspect of storytelling I admire, exploring people and mysteries and being fun overall. It's the longest in the series but it took me the least amount of time for reading. The writing is as slick as ever and the characters are even more fleshed out. Most loose ends are tied although there is enough room for a sequel. This is a delicious book in every sense of the word. You are missing a lot if you don't read this book. Just go and read it already!

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### Jacqueline Jackson says

#### Sad to see it end!

This was a great series! I hope Ms Marsden will continue the story with Adam, Molly and Kristin. I definitely recommend this series!

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### Ayla says

I would like to thank the author for offering me this book.

What a splendid conclusion. I was really hoping that Hunter and Sophie would reunite but not the way they did, but seeing as it was the only way they could be together I am happy for them. It's amazing how Adam ends up happy and carefree. Mel is a very odd demon, as she wants friends, while most demons in other stories I have read, have been power hungry. The Donili are an interesting group, and a very valuable ally. And I like how Hunter's feisty and outspoken mother is still around. But what happens with Bev? Is she released? Does she get to see her grandson? In chapter 36 it sounds like she is dead, but I thought Theresa had moved her to another facility.

I wonder who puts these books into the e book versions, with all the typos and mixed up wording, like ' she through her head back,' instead of threw, or her instead of his when Toby was watching Mel and Kristen walking back without his friend Hunter. It can be a bit of a nuisance having to autocorrect in my head, while trying to enjoy the story.

I found the plot interesting and easy to become engrossed in. The writing was good. Hunter's character more fleshed out, and mature. The dream sequences were a portrayal of how connected Sophie, Hunter, and Adam were. Now that the muggles know about the witches and the MMC, it truly is a new world.

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### Rose says

\*I received a free copy from the author in exchange for an honest review\*

Wow, I have loved this series – I'm still reeling from that finish!

This one picks up where the Shadow reigns leaves off. Hunter is alone and on the run from the witches, searching for the Benandanti.

I know this book was longer than the others, but I found the time with the monks was over far too soon, almost a review of what Hunter did there.

The story then follows Hunter as he is drawn closer to having to fight Sophie again. I missed Sophie in book two, she was very much in the background. Just getting a few snippets from her was quite nice, and the more I learn about her, the more I wish the book was from her point of view!

I'm definitely missing James in this book. He was my fave character from the first one. Mel and Kristen help to fill the gap. Oh my god – Mel! She is brilliant. Not a lot about her is explained, and I'm still left with a lot of questions.

I know that this is a trilogy, and how final the ending is, but I felt there was so many new questions, I hope Adam's story gets told.

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### **Teresa S says**

After the army loses to the witches, Hunter has to go on the run to avoid capture. He believes all other witch-hunters are dead. He decides to try to find help exploring his abilities, by finding the Benandanti, or at least their modern group. He finds the Donili and learns more about what he can do. Returning to England, he finds that all the army had not been destroyed. Then kidnaps his son from Sophie, the Shadow witch. Then things really get ugly! Full of action, with a great plot and characters. I received a complimentary copy and freely give my honest review.

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### **Zoltán says**

*I received a copy from the author, but would have bought the book anyway.*

Shadow Falls is the Grand Finale of the Shadow Witch trilogy. The long struggle of the war against the witches reaches the end and as the title suggests, the Shadow Witch will fall.

After he spent time with the Donili monks in the second book, Hunter composes himself and decides to start acting. Little is left of the original MMC and even that is mainly made up of first gens and soldiers. With Hunter disappearing for a long time, the reception is mixed. He is both a hero returning from the dead and the coward who left the MMC in the greatest need.

Additional characters gradually appear and make the situation even more complex. A girl with strange speech and unknown origins, Hunter's son and a surprise 6th gen witch-hunter from the US.

Hunter dives again into a research about the previous Shadow Witch and also tries to rally together anyone who can help in the fight against the current one. Sophie.

I liked the fact that the ending was a believable story. It was not about pure luck or other deus ex machina solution. Cooperation was an integral part of it. While Hunter had a crucial role in it, the story was not a single hero one. The third book is back to five stars for me.

A few notes that will contain **spoilers follow!**

(view spoiler)

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### **Ashley says**

I ended up enjoying this more than the second in the series! It has more twists and turns than I could have imagined and it makes for a very fast and exciting story. I love that we are learning more and more about this world as the story continues. Marsden has a wonderful world filled with crazy cool characters!

I received a free copy of this book via Booksprout and am voluntarily leaving a review.

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### **Rebecca Waldron says**

#### **Pretty darn good!**

This was a pretty darn good series! I really liked the take on witches, and their foes. Toward the end, I was a little bummed out, but smiled as I read on. Just maybe (fingers crossed) there will be a spin-off????

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### **Tanya says**

he is a hunter and different as he is a witch hunter. he needs to destroy the shadow witch. he will need help. will his friends be able to help? will he succeed? see if he does

I received a free copy of this book via Booksprout and am voluntarily leaving a review.

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### **Greg Thomas says**

Exciting conclusion to the trilogy.

K.S Marsden completes her Witch Hunter/ Shadow Witch trilogy in a suitably exciting and satisfying manner. The powerful Shadow Witch has already turned the tables on humans and it's the Witches who run the world, albeit with pockets of resistance. "Hunter" Astley works with allies old and new in order to restore balance and resolve the conflict once and for all.

If you love a great story, well told, then you won't go far wrong with this trilogy. The final book has new intriguing characters and settings that keep the story moving.

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## Rose English says

### Book 74 of my Goodreads Challenge

This book I have read in eBook formatt and now paperback which I purchased from the lovely author herself at a special book signing event.

I LOVE this book series and had to re-read this trilogy when I bought the prequel **James Witch-Hunter**

This book is a particular favourite as it takes us back into some of the history behind the Witches and Witch-Hunters we find out more about the protectors from Italy **The Benandanti the Donili Monks** I love all this.

There is some even more powerful magic around than in the first books it simply draws you deep within the story. Real page turners for me.

### A VERY HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BOOK SERIES

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## Lana says

Wow what a great ending to this trilogy! this book was a most satisfying read which i thoroughly enjoyed even though i was scared that the witches were going to be eradicated by the witch hunters, turns out that Ms. Marsden gave the book the needed twist to give us this fantastic ending. I loved the fact that Hunter went to Italy in search of the Benandanti to learn more about his powers! The description of Friuli and the Abbazio Di Donili are so picturesque and the monks and their values and discipline taught Hunter some lessons he really needed to learn at that point in his life. When he returns to England he returns as a changed man through his learning experience. He still intends killing the shadow witch and the route he takes to accomplish this is turbulent, but he has many on his side! Including the lovely character Mel the demon, who I really loved! I cannot praise this series highly enough for the way the story evolved, taking such unexpected turns to leave us the readers contented at the end!!

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## Lorraine says

I read the three books in the Witch-Hunter series back to back.

The Shadow Rises drew me in after the first few pages and wouldn't let go so I moved straight onto The Shadow Reigns, quickly followed by The Shadow Falls.

These books now make up one of my favourite trilogies!

Book three picks up where the Shadow reigns leaves off, with Hunter hiding from the witches and searching for the Benandanti.

The fast-paced action from book one was back in this book, and the twists and turns of the plot kept me on my toes.

Hunter's personality evolves and becomes more complex as the story continues. A number of new, well-developed, characters are introduced in this book including Hunters son, his new love interest, a demon and the monks.

This book and the last few chapters were the perfect finale to the trilogy!

The plot, throughout all three books, was unpredictable and kept me guessing the entire time!

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## **Wilmar Luna says**

The Shadow Falls by K.S. Marsden is the third and final book in the Witch Hunter trilogy. I've read the Shadow Rises, The Shadow Reigns, and now we're finally to the conclusion of this great and fun series.

As always, Marsden seems to improve with each book and now Hunter is finally back into taking matters into his own hands. He goes to find the Benandanti in Italy in order to further his mysterious talent in casting anti magic spells. Considering what Hunter's been through to get to this point, I couldn't help but feel sorry for him. Spoilers are coming up so skip em if you're planning to read.

**\*\*SPOILERS\*\***

(view spoiler)

**\*\*SPOILERS\*\***

The pacing was much improved over the second book. There's no meandering about Astley manor just waiting for conflict to come to him. Hunter now actively seeks out knowledge in order to end the conflict once and for all. Simply by giving Hunter the agency he needed vastly improved the flow of the story and kept everything moving at a great pace.

Also, I mentioned this before but it really needs to be mentioned again. K.S. Marsden really impressed me with her mastery of character voice. You could remove all the dialogue tags from this book and I'm pretty sure I would be able to identify which character is which by how Marsden masterfully made each voice feel unique. I knew who James was, instantly knew who Kristen was, Hunter's mother, Mel, every character felt distinct and different and they each had a personality to make them memorable.

I'm not gonna lie, I'm envious on how easy Marsden made it all seem.

However, I did have a bit of a nit picky moment when it came to the motive for the Shadow Witch's hatred.

**\*\*SPOILERS\*\***

(view spoiler)

**\*\*SPOILERS\*\***

Though I wasn't a fan of the Shadow Witch's motive, what left me a little bummed was that Hunter never got back to his normal self. He used to be a cocky ladies man who thought he was God's gift to women. Instead, due to traumatic events from the 1st two books Hunter becomes a quiet, mopey dude who lost all his attitude. It's understandable why Marsden wrote him this way, I was just rooting for him to find himself which we only get to see glimpses of.

Thankfully, Kristen Davies comes to the rescue by being loud, obnoxious, and very forward. Can you say new favorite character? Hell yes! I love, love, loved reading about Kristen Davies. Her scenes were amusing and she brought back a life and energy that was sorely missing from Hunter's world. Oh and a quick aside. I don't know what Hunter's mom's problem is but man she's a nasty old witch (not the magical kind). Marsden really cut it close with making this character unlikeable but thankfully she never crosses the line. So the old battleaxe actually ends up being kind of funny.

Remember when I was complaining about lack of Sophie in the 2nd book? Well this time I was given a reprieve. Sophie does come back but not quite in the way I was hoping for. Rather than interacting with Hunter in real life, Sophie starts to appear in his dreams. You get glimpses of what life would have been like if Hunter and Sophie had gotten together. The dreams were so detailed that I started to wonder if this was a psychic prediction or if it was reality. It was actually pretty cool to have that kind of doubt.

Okay so, dangit I need to go into spoiler territory again.

**\*\*SPOILERS\*\***

(view spoiler)

**\*\*SPOILERS\*\***

On the nitpicky side of things. I noticed that after Chapter 34 I started seeing a lot of typos. I'm not talking about color vs colour British spellings but rather typos that slipped under the editing radar. It only seemed to happen after 34, otherwise the book up to this chapter is solid and clean.

World building was also another thing that just never came across as believable. Everything felt rather vacant and abandoned without any hint of life or how life was like without technology. Though there were moments where they'd run into civilians on the street, it still didn't quite come alive the same way her descriptions of magic did.

However, characters and plot twists and shocker moments, K.S. Marsden really hits the nail on the head with this series. The plot felt very unpredictable for me (which is rare) and I was constantly hoping that everything would work out for the best. I never truly knew if my theories were on point and thankfully they were not. It left me guessing the entire time and played with my emotions in the way a good book should always do.

This is a huge compliment because if you didn't know, K.S. Marsden is an indie author. This is a great debut series from a new author and I hope that she finds more success in all of her future works.

So in case I didn't make myself clear. You should absolutely read the Witch Hunter trilogy.

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## **Merril Anil says**

### **why didnt you write my school books.. i could have aced my tests easily**

i think at this point a mere thank you would not suffice but yeah i guess i will stick with thank you for now. So A HUGE THANK YOU to the author for providing me with the copy.

Right now what i am feeling is something like this

i am so overwhelmed and speechless that i am not sure what to say about this book.

**The whole reason why i love this book is because of its narration. It is exactly the kind that i look for in any book. Simple, elegant and dynamic. Even if the language is simple, the things that it say is far from simple.**

I believe half the battle is won if you are able to convey your thoughts to your readers with perfection which is thoroughly achieved by this book

*Why oh why ... why didnt you write my school books... if you had written it i would have at least read it once ;(*

The book has kept each characters intact and equally strong as they started out in the first book and if anything you could see a natural progression to all these characters and then there is a whole new bunch of characters, compensating for the lose of all your beloved characters (*oops did i just give away a spoiler*)

Some may argue that the end was not what they were expecting or that it was abrupt... Trust me i had the

same feeling initially but when i pondered over it...i felt it was the perfect way or the only way to close a terrific series

*Going by the words of Navessa Allen, the reviewer/author*

This is an author who could write a phone book for me ;)

**The beauty of this series is its simple and silky narration that manages to tell a beautiful story. The finale of this trilogy was perfect in every sense. Loose ends had been tied up in the best way they could and characters have evolved and got more interesting with new things to look forward. In short everything is perfect about this whole series for me. i think i have fallen in love with the author.. The best part as i keep repeating is its narration power that keeps the story spiced up and entertaining.**

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