



Valen

Felicity Heaton

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Prince of the Underworld and Lord of Lightning, Valen was banished from his home by his father, Hades, two centuries ago and given a new duty and purpose—to keep our world and his from colliding in a calamity foreseen by the Moirai.

Together with his six brothers, he fights to defend the gates to the Underworld from daemons bent on breaching them and gaining entrance to that forbidden land, striving to protect his home from their dark influence. Cursed by Zeus to never know love again, Valen has brought up barriers around his heart to protect it, but with each new barrier he creates, the dark hold his power has over him grows, becoming all he needs.

Until the night he finally crosses paths with the assassin who has been watching him from the shadows, a bewitching mortal possessing the name of an angel and the skills of a devil—a woman who awakens his passionate heart and stirs dangerous desires.

Eva has built a fearsome reputation for herself in Italy's underworld, but her latest job in her beloved city of Rome has left her feeling that she has stepped into a dangerous world and this mission might end in her death—either at the hands of her mysteriously seductive client or by the blade of the wickedly alluring warrior who is her target.

As the threat from the daemons escalates and more than just the Rome gate becomes their target, will Valen be strong enough to face the fears in his heart and the ghosts of his past to claim everything he desires or will they lure him deeper under their spell and into the darkness?

Valen Details

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Author : Felicity Heaton

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From Reader Review Valen for online ebook

Sandy S says

About the book: RELEASE DATE February 25, 2017

Prince of the Underworld and Lord of Lightning, Valen was banished from his home by his father, Hades, two centuries ago and given a new duty and purpose—to keep our world and his from colliding in a calamity foreseen by the Moirai.

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REVIEW: VALEN is the second installment in Felicity Heaton's contemporary, adult GUARDIANS OF HADES paranormal / fantasy romance series very loosely based in Greek mythology, focusing on six brothers- the sons of Hades and Persephone -sent to Earth to guard the gates to the Underworld. This is Prince of the Underworld and Lord of Lightning Valen, and assassin for hire Eva's story line. VALEN can be read as a stand alone without any difficulty but I recommend reading the series in order as the brothers struggle against an unknown enemy to keep the human world and the Underworld from colliding.

NOTE: The Guardians of Hades series is Felicity Heaton's interpretation of, and does not follow, the actual Greek mythological family tree or events.

Told from several third person perspectives including Valen and Eva VALEN follows assassin for hire Eva as she is tasked with taking down a man she knows nothing about. For months our heroine has tracked Valen without success until a run in with her target, and a broken vial of what she believes is poison, finds our heroine in bed with the man who will change her life. Enter Valen, the Lord of Lightning, and a man who believes he is incapable of love. What ensues is the search for the truth, and the building relationship between a mortal and a god.

The relationship between Valen and Eva is one of forbidden love. Eva was hired by a powerful man to bring Valen to his knees; Eva is a woman who for most of her life has remained hidden in the shadows, trained to

kill but a woman who will fall in love with a man not of this world. The \$ex scenes are intimate and intense without the use of over the top sexually graphic language and text.

All of Valen's brothers including Ares and his mate Megan (ARES #1), Daimon eldest brother Keras, Marek, Clalistos, Esher, their mother Persephone, and uncle Zeus play secondary and supporting roles. The requisite evil comes with many faces including Benares and his sister Jin-the pair who hired Eva.

Like many of Felicity Heaton's story lines the tale is told through written narrative, introspection, reflection and internal dialogue but it is the narration that carries most of the story. The premise is entertaining; the characters are broken, colorful and energetic; the romance is passionate and breathtaking. VALEN is an imaginative take on Greek mythology; a spirited look at forbidden love.

Copy supplied for review

www.thereadingcafe.com

Erika Patrick says

I LOVED VALEN! Oh my goodness! He is the perfect mix of danger and protective. After being shunned his whole life Valen only expects the worst out of people. That is until he meets Eva. She's also been through a lot of rough patches in her life that have caused her to become guarded. Their passion from the very beginning is explosive! With such undeniable heat between them they cannot help but give into temptation. There are quite a few amazingly hot moments between these begrudging lovebirds. Felicity Heaton will have you drooling at the hotness that is called Valen!

Lynee says

This is the second book of the guardian of Hades series. I have to admit I didn't like Valen very much in the first book of the series - Ares. But this book really explains why Valen appears so cocky and careless and why he gives the appearance of not caring what anyone thinks. He was such a great character once you got to know him. this was a great love story, and the world the author has created is developing more and more. great paranormal read!! I can't wait for the next book on Esher!!

AnnMarie says

Valen is the second book in the Guardians of Hades series by Felicity Heaton. It can be read as a stand alone novel, but I am sure you will get far more enjoyment from reading the whole series in order because all of the brothers involved will be mentioned and have a part in every book. For instance, after reading book one, 'Ares', I adored him and it was wonderful catching up with him in this second book.

As the beginning of the book synopsis states: "Prince of the Underworld and Lord of Lightning, Valen was banished from his home by his father, Hades, two centuries ago and given a new duty and purpose—to keep our world and his from colliding in a calamity foreseen by the Moirai.

Together with his six brothers, he fights to defend the gates to the Underworld from demons bent on

breaching them and gaining entrance to that forbidden land, striving to protect his home from their dark influence.

Valen is a very angry God, he blames himself for the death of a loved one a long time ago, and he believes that although they say otherwise, his brothers blame him too. They all think the worst of him, so he acts up, after all they think he only acts true to form. He has a little pleasant distraction in his life when he realises that he is being followed, and has been for a while. An assassin sent to kill him, a mortal woman who doesn't even realise that he knows exactly where she is and what she is going to try to do. He wants to meet her, he wants things to come to a head, he knows she has no chance of killing him and its about time she realises it.

Eva is a well known Assassin in Italy, and when she takes the contract to kill Valen she has no idea just who she is taking on. She knows nothing of the Underworld, and that daemons, Gods, and hell spawn are all living amongst the mere mortals of the planet. When the opportunity arises to shoot Valen with the darts her employer supplied her with, she'd never killed with poison darts before, she set off what could either be her worst nightmare, or the fulfilment of her dreams.

After reading 'Ares' I thought it was going to be impossible for the next book to be of the same high standard. I am pleased to say I was absolutely wrong. 'Ares' had the power of fire, but Valen has the power of electricity. The scenes that the author wrote telling of his fury and how it made the worst thunder and lightning storms were amazing. I adore thunder storms, and I could picture vividly the scenes that Ms Heaton painted with her words. All the battles between the brothers and the daemons were fantastic, especially when they had to deal with everything from your every day daemons, to ones such as succubus and wraiths! So much drama, and yet also a story of perhaps love conquering all? Valen's emotional story grabbed my heart, and I hoped that Eva would help him calm down, and realise that he was very much worth loving. If nothing else they had some steaming hot passionate sex that will have you reaching for a fan! This book was equal to, or perhaps even better than the first book in the series, and I cannot wait for the next book because I have a feeling that this series is just going to get better and better!

I voluntarily reviewed an Advanced Readers' Copy of this book.

Jennifer Dunski says

I was truly surprised by "Valen" I wasn't sure how his story was going to go, because I honestly didn't think to kindly of his character in book 1 "Ares" I soon found myself falling in love with the coldhearted brother Valen, as his story came to life, and his daring and sexy assassin Eva, hired by the daemons. His hate for Zeus, his need to keep to keep his heart guarded, his eccentric brother's, fighting the daemons, protecting the gate, it seems like Valen has been pushed to his limits, but it's been by his own hands. Pushing his own limitations with the gifts he was blessed with when he was a baby. Keeping everyone at a arms length. Hating himself and Zeus for the past that he cannot fix. Eva is that key and the daemons plan too play her against Valen for that very reason!

Annmarie says

Valen, Guardians of Hades #2 by Felicity Heaton is a paranormal romance that can be read as a stand alone. Set in Rome, Eva is a female assassin hired to gather intelligence for a client about Valen. Unknown to Eva, Valen is more than he seems. Prince of the Underworld, banished by Hades, and tasked with protecting the gates to the Underworld (along with his brothers) by wielding his gift of lightening. As a mortal, this opens

up an unbelievable world of gods, daemons, wraiths, and other Hellspawn to Eva. There is a ton of story packed into this book. Not so much that you get lost, but enough to keep you guessing on where this adventure is leading and what may be in store for future books in this series. Honest moment. I had mixed feelings about Valen being the next book because his character is so complex. I thought that he would need more time throughout the series to develop the intricacies of his motives and actions. Not so. The author does an amazing job of weaving in backstory throughout the book. She does this with Valen in Ares (book #1) and again with Esher in Valen's book. The interaction between the main characters is fantastic. I wish there could have been a little more detail as to how Eva became an assassin besides her family history but it really doesn't detract from the story and could have been left out altogether. If you're looking for a paranormal romance with action, adventure, and heat, this is a good one. A great story line without over the top Greek god-drama. I also recommend the Eternal Mates Series by this author.

Jennifer Becker says

what a great next chapter to Guardians of Hades. Valen is so complex and conflicted with emotions he keeps hidden. The gods are much kinder in these books than other series I've read with them in them. It's nice reading a book where everyone isn't angry all the time. The chemistry between Valen and Eva. Eva battles her own demons and together they are unstoppable. I couldn't stop laughing about the bunnies and the lightning. Awesome.

Sylve says

I received this ARC for an honest review. I LOVED IT!!!! I honestly did not think I would love this series as much as I do The Eternal Mates series but I cannot wait to read the next book!! I love books that have hidden meanings and this one had a great one about just how powerful words are. I highly recommend this series as well as all books written by this amazing author!

Sarah says

Valen is the second book in **Felicity Heaton's** Guardians of Hades series and I have to admit I wasn't sure what I'd make of Valen because he wasn't exactly the nicest of the brothers in the previous book. I know Felicity is brilliant at changing my minds about her characters though and she proved that again here, I think I actually ended up loving Valen even more than Ares!

Valen's ability revolves around controlling lightning which makes him a powerful enemy to have and someone you definitely want at your back in a battle. He also has a curse that we weren't aware of before though, one laid on him by Zeus before the brothers were exiled to earth to protect the gates to the Underworld. I don't want to talk much about what he did to earn the curse or what the curse actually entails but once you know the details and start to see the way it affects him it makes it much easier to understand why he's so standoffish compared to the others. I didn't really notice in the first book that the brothers all treat him differently to the way they treat each other but it kind of broke my heart seeing how on the outside he always was around them.

Eva is an assassin who was initially hired to track Valen's movements and report back to her employer but the requests he makes of her have started to become more and more strange and she's now really worried for

her own safety if she doesn't follow through on what she's promised. She had no clue about the supernatural creatures around her and now she's caught up in the middle of a battle that has been going on for centuries. As a normal human she doesn't stand a chance against gods and daemons but she has a few skills up her sleeve and most importantly she has the will to survive so she'll do whatever it takes to make sure she comes out on top, even if it means allying herself with the man she was initially sent to kill.

I thought Valen and Eva were great together and what I loved most was the way Eva was willing to stand up to Valen's brothers on his behalf. She saw things about Valen that none of the others have ever noticed and she really gave them a few much needed home truths about the way they treated him. They had brilliant chemistry but they also made great partners in battle and even though Eva isn't as physically powerful as Valen she fights by his side and always has his back. We get to see plenty of the other brothers too and as much as I loved Valen I'm practically dying of curiosity about Esher now. I'm so excited that his book is next and I can't wait to read it!

Source: Received from the author in exchange for an honest review

Sportochick says

Valen and his brothers can only be described as hotter than Hades and drool worthy in this Guardians of Hades series . This second book follows in the steps of the first one with a fast pace dramatic sexy read. The author continues her dynamic style of vivid descriptions of the world around their world and the sensual tension between Valen and Eva.

I have always loved the way that Author Felicity Heaton grabs the reader with her vivid imagination. She creates tortured souls that find each other and the love they deserve. What she does extremely well is showing weaknesses that create strengths quickly followed with resolutions that all parties are satisfied with. This book emphasizes this with Eva and Valen's brokenness and how they resolve the assassination situation.

As always there is an ending to this story that keeps the reader wanting to come back and I really, really want to know more about Esher.

This is an exciting 5 STAR read.....

Received an advance reader copy in exchange for a fair review.

Visit my blog for more reviews: [Sportochick's Musings](#)

Kelly says

Wow. Valen was kinda, err, rough around the edges when we first meet him. In an inflammatory douche canoe sort of way. He and Ares clashed repeatedly in book 1 and he came across as the isolated brother. Well, actually, that was Esher. But Valen had his own issues and they weren't of the gentle variety.

To say I didn't expect to like him as much as I did would be a bit of an understatement. Seeing what had driven him to that reactionary state where he lashes out at those around him was eye opening. Sad, too. Valen's issues run deep and they stem from something that affects every one of his brothers.

Then we have Eva. An assassin who seems a little world weary and is put in Valen's path for reasons that aren't made clear to her. An assassin who's suddenly been made aware that the world beyond her is much bigger and more dangerous than she could have ever imagined. Because, you know, who ever thinks demons could be standing beside you? Or gods? Or...well, anything of that ilk.

We get a few more answers as to what drives our band of brothers and a whole slew of new questions. Things are slowly revealing themselves, but the entire picture hasn't been laid out yet. I'm ready for the next brother!

-Kelly @ Reading the Paranormal

Angela (Angel's Guilty Pleasures) says

Rage. Anguish. Passion.

Valen is book two in the *Guardians of Hades* series by Felicity Heaton.

Well hawt dame Valen was a delicious treat in the *Guardians of Hades* series. I had a phenomenal time returning to this world and its deliciously sexy guardians of the Underworld. Boy oh boy does Valen have some issues, well all the brothers do, but with him it's deeper. He believes no one can love him and that he is cursed. The power of words spoken can affect anyone.

Valen has an assassin that has been tailing him for months now and his little assassin has crept under his skin and into his soul just like the lightning he craves. Even though he doesn't know her he is still affected by her and so the game is on.

We learn how Valen got his scare, why he thinks he is cursed, and we also learn what happened in the past to affect him so deeply and well all the brothers, but him it seems to have shaped and affected the most. As for the romance. The little assassin and Valen are similar, yet they complement each other. Both keep their hearts locked up, but glimpses of their true selves come out when they are around each other. The attraction and understand is vivid and plays out wonderfully on the pages.

The scene that made me smile and laugh was when he shows off his powers to his little assassin. Really, OMG, that bunny scene was just too funny. Something you really should read.

The author doesn't pull any punches in showcasing her writing and storytelling. We get more revealed on the family, some great surprises and twists, and the sexy times are steamy and powerful. I'm waiting on pins and needles for the next installment.

Rated: 4 Stars

***Disclaimer:** *I received a complimentary copy provided by Felicity Heaton with the sole purpose of an honest review. All thoughts, comments and ratings are my own.*

Elizabeth Neal says

****Disclaimer: I recommend reading Ares, book one, first as it lays the foundation for the series and world building.****

Valen is one of seven sons born to Hades and Persephone, and a Key to the Underworld, as are his brothers. They were banished to earth over two hundred years ago by their father, an action Valen is still disgusted with, and tasked with protecting both it and their world from a prophecy foretold by the Moirai. Valen knows he has enemies because of who he is and what he does, so learning he's being followed isn't a shock, but discovering his shadow is a woman...

Eva may be a mortal, but she has more than earned her reputation as a deadly opponent...she is an assassin after all, and excellent at her job. However, her latest mission has gotten her involved in something even more dangerous than her, something that could resist in her death. Eva is familiar with bringing that on others, but when it's herself, it's completely different.

Valen, as the Lord of Lightning, is used to the power of electricity flowing through his veins, but to have it happen in response to someone, a woman at that, is a surprise. Though he and his brothers are ever vigilant, knowing the battle foreseen by the fates is starting, he won't deny his stalker intrigues him, even if he can't understand, or admit, why he hasn't killed her yet. He was even curious why she'd disappeared for three months, and it isn't simply because he wants to know who hired her. He wanted to, needed to, know how she could've left him.

"He knew the moment she was near him, because she lit up his veins as fiercely as his lightning and made his body buzz just as addictively. Gods, he had missed her." - Valen

Eva can't believe that her target not only knew she was there, but also was able to capture her. However, the desire she feels up in seeing him, feeling his touch, surprises her more than anything else. Her emotions aren't supposed to be involved while working, yet she can't suppress them with him. But when he insults her skills, demands she tell her client to send someone more competent, the overriding emotion becomes anger, and the challenge has been accepted. Just like Valen intended...

"She is a storm born of the earth, bearing the name of an angel but the skill of a devil." - Persephone to Valen, regarding Eva

Eva's instincts keep telling her something isn't right about this mission and is unsure why the parameters of her client's requests are continually adjusted. Not to mention why she feels as if she's being watched, as if her client doesn't trust her. But then again, she doesn't trust him either, and knows he isn't someone you disappoint or cross.

What happens when the chemistry, the connection, between Valen and Eva is too strong to deny? How will Eva's client react upon learning she no longer views Valen as a target? Will her client, and/or his sister, try to come between Valen and Eva in any way they can? Can Valen and Eva protect each other and defeat those now after both of them? Will Valen and Eva admit the depth of their feelings? Will their pasts destroy any future they could have? Or will they get their HEA?

One-click now and follow along as the prey and the target become so much more to each other than either could've ever imagined. I'm looking forward to Esher's book soon. He intrigues me.

possible spoiler follows...continue at your own risk On a purely personal note, though I understand the significance it played and therefore why it was used, I really would've preferred not reading about the

"contact" one of the evil people, client's sister, had with Valen against his will. I don't want to read that. Yes, I know he didn't want it and stopped the kiss forced on him as soon as he could, however, I do not like any kind of touching like this between a hero and someone else. I'm invested in the main characters as a couple and regardless of it being against his wishes, I still preferred it wouldn't have happened.

I voluntarily reviewed an Advanced Reader Copy of this book.

Julia says

God, this book frustrated the living shit out of me. Pages and pages of rambling! There would be 3 pages of in-depth descriptions of how much the H wanted to kiss the h and nothing happens. I also HATE HATE HATE when there's a misunderstanding and it's never brought up again or when the characters say they're going to talk about it AND IT NEVER HAPPENS. I feel jipped. I was very disappointed, especially after how much I loved the first one. The characters couldn't decide what emotion they wanted to portray and the heroine was a complete moron.

Romance Novel Giveaways Lauren Seiberling says

Valen is INTENSE.

Unlike any other hero I can recall, Valen has a ton of rage. Hot, blinding rage and fury that he doesn't necessarily try to avoid or dent.

But something changed that first time he met Eva (and what a smoking-HOT time it was).

But then Eva left...

The story Felicity told is absolutely amazing. Her writing is so thorough, and I can easily imagine and feel everything that she intends the reader to see and feel. I was truly a part of this story and felt like I was a fly on the wall, actually experiencing everything.

I enjoyed reading Valen and how he evolved as the story progressed. And, I'll be honest, I'm a sucker for a dark, brooding alpha :)

And Eva was perfect, in my opinion. Strong, yes, independent, yes, but I'm so happy that she had her moments where she relied on someone else instead of being all gung-ho anti-male "don't you DARE try to help me" like so many of these romance heroines are anymore.

Felicity's word choice and attention to detail is phenomenal, whether it's an action scene, a love scene, or describing gaudy living room furniture.

I am positively enthralled with this series, and I can't wait for the next book!!!

(I received a copy of this book in consideration of an honest review)
