



Hourglass

Claudia Gray

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Bianca will risk everything to be with Lucas.

After escaping from Evernight Academy, the vampire boarding school where they met, Bianca and Lucas take refuge with Black Cross, a fanatical group of vampire hunters. Bianca must hide her supernatural heritage or risk certain death at its hands. But when Black Cross captures her friend—the vampire Balthazar—hiding is no longer an option. Soon Bianca and Lucas are on the run again, pursued not only by Black Cross, but by the powerful leaders of Evernight. Yet no matter how far they travel, Bianca can't escape her destiny. Bianca has always believed their love could survive anything... but can it survive what's to come?

Hourglass Details

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Author : Claudia Gray

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From Reader Review Hourglass for online ebook

Nicole - Too Weird To Live, Too Rare To Die- says

Bianca will risk everything to be with Lucas.

After escaping from Evernight, the vampire boarding school where they met, Bianca and Lucas seek refuge with Black Cross, an elite group of vampire hunters. Bianca must hide her supernatural heritage or risk certain death at its hands. But when Black Cross captures her friend—the vampire Balthazar—all her secrets threaten to come out.

Soon, Bianca and Lucas are on the run, pursued not only by Black Cross, but by the powerful vampires of Evernight. Yet no matter how far they run, Bianca can't escape her destiny. Bianca and Lucas have always believed their love could survive anything—but can it survive what's to come?

5 the roles have switched now stars

“This could be our greatest nightmare. But maybe, instead this would be our only hope of salvation.”

I was not prepared for the plot twist at the end of this book, which shocked me the most because you expect them to be what their originally going to be like Bianca as a vampire and Lucas maybe changed or stayed human because he didn't want to be a vampire but no they switched where Lucas is the vampire and Bianca is a ghost who both have destiny tied with each other and to see if they can last through this and what will happen in the second last book in the series but after that we have a book in Balthazar Point of view which I'm excited about because he was my favorite character.

This story surprised me because i thought it would be like the other ones and be a little bit better, but this one actually surprised me because of all the action throughout the book and how many problems they had to deal with just the two of them but what broke my hear the most is when Lucas saw Bianca die, that hurt so much because he loved her so much and too see her sick like that practically broke my heart and just made it super emotional too read and too feel how the characters felt during that scene made me feel different towards them, than previously in the different books I wonder how this is going to all play out in the last book and how there going to fix this problem.

There is also where we have to deal with a new villain and the same one trying to figure out what they want with Bianca, Lucas and maybe even Balthazar, but also left out what will happen with the other characters if they find out what happens to those three or even when Bianca parents find out she died to see if they will do anything to bring their child back and make her change than into a vampire because they never wanted their child to leave them after they did everything they could to get Bianca and now how are they going to react if they find out she is dead. Also what is Ms. Bethany going to do cause she wants to use the wraiths for her own personal gain or does she have something else in mind involving these wraiths?. What is their major plan also involving Bianca because Massie said she is the purest wraith and can help with a major plan that they have.

This book was very interesting to see the two different worlds collide in the most epic love story between a vampire and human which the roles have switched and how that going to work with everything else and how will old enemy take place in their new lives. we find out in the last book in the Evernight series.

Kathryn says

I loved the first one (Evernight) ,so I'm excited about this one!

Kristina ?echová says

Tohle je již t?etí díl ze série Evernight a ihned po Vampýrské akademii se tahle sága stala moji nejoblíben?jší. Jsou to jedny z nejlepších knih, jaké mohu ?íst, ale p?esto jsem se ještě ani jednomu dílu neodhodlala dát plný po?et hv?zdi?ek. ?ím to? Já sama nevím. I když, musím p?iznat, že tento díl byl plnému po?tu asi úpln? nejbliž. Mému rozhodnutí ubrat vlastn? p?isp?l záv?r knihy, respektive to, jakým sm?rem autorka navedla osud Biancy a Lucase. A myslím, že mi to bude ještě dlouhou dobu trvat, protože to prost? není tak, jak jsem si p?edstavovala a v?bec netuším, jakým sm?rem by se m?l odvíjet poslední díl, který si p?e?tu ihned, jakmile na m? p?ijde v knihovn? s rezerva?kou ?ada.

Tento díl byl úsm?vný, smutný, ano - zase jsem si poplakala, dokonce jsem musela knihu zav?ít, protože jsem nedokázala snést, co se na p?íštích ?ádcích dozvím.

Jsem ráda, že se v tomto p?íbh?hu objevoval Balthazar, protože jeho úd?l mi dává smysl, ovšem ani b?hem t?etího dílu jsem nep?išla na zám?r jeho pomatené sestry Charity. V?bec mi nedochází, o co tady vlastn? v jejím podání jde.

P?esýpací hodiny se mi skv?le ?etly, je to opravdu skv?lá série a vlastn? - pro mne - i velmi p?íjemn? p?ekvapující, jelikož jsem ji moc nad?jí nedávala a voalá... stala se z ní moje knižní srdcovka :)

Liz Hopps (Elizabetha) says

Bianca y Lucas, luego del ataque de los cazavampiros de "La Cruz Negra" al internado Medianoche, se refugian en esta institución, sin revelar los cambios que está experimentado el ahora "novio" de Bianca, ni mucho menos el secreto de la chica , quien debe aplacar su sed de sangre de diversas maneras. En una de estas "cenas" es descubierta y ambos jóvenes deben huir como deseaban hacerlo desde hace meses. ¿Será este un final happily ever after para ellos? o ¿el cronómetro que Bianca "encendió" al morder a Lucas por primera vez, evitará que todo resulte como los enamorados jóvenes desean?

Etiqueta Interna: Sobrenatural/romántica

¿Hay un plaga de Bellas? o¿Por qué las sagas deben tener 4 libros si uno es sobra?

Decepcionante.Completamente decepcionante.Llevo un par de años apostando por Claudia Gray como una buena autora,con una saga que puede competir o ser una diga alternativa a "Crepúsculo" y... saca/escribe/produce/¿imagina? una novela de relleno.Si no tenía ideas para armar una narración que produzca un libro como Dios manda (lease: trama interesante y rápida, personajes evolucionados e integrados, desarrollo y seguimiento consecuente de las historias previas etc.),¿Por qué no escribió tres libros y punto?, ¿Por qué decepcionarnos, de esta espantosa manera, a los fieles seguidores de su saga?.

Cuando terminé "Adicción" estaba pletórica de esas exquisitas dudas que te llevan a soñar con que el próximo libro salga pronto o te hace precipitarte como una loca a la primera librería que encuentres a tu paso para compartirte el tomo que sigue. Lo único que quería era saber que pasaba con la mitología que la autora había creado, con todos los buenos personajes que vivían en sus hojas (principalmente con el divertido e intrigante Vic, el guapo de turno que desea el amor de la damisela en cuestión, Balthazar, a quien personalmente amo, y su malvada hermana Charity, la enigmática Señora Bethany, los padres de Bianca, Los cazadores de la Cruz Negra y todo el problema ético que de ahí se puede deducir), con las historia alternativa de la niña que sólo había podido nacer con la ayuda de los fantasmas, con los misteriosos planes de la señora Bethany, como lograba existir en las sombras La Cruz Negra (la cual me recuerda una temporada entera de Buffy la Cazavampiros), quienes eran los buenos y los malos (si es que esa categoría existe en estos libros), si Lucas y Bianca podrían amarse sin que se interpusieran medio mundo entre ellos (léase. Vampiros, cazadores, seres sobrenaturales varios, fantasmas) etc. Y con esta cantidad ENORME de dudas ¿tengo que tragarme 334 páginas de una trama absurdamente dulzona, amorfa, lenta, aburrida, sin ritmo, con una Bianca y Lucas que no son creíbles ni por un segundo y con TODOS los personajes interesantes desaprovechados completamente?, ¿donde los malvados aparecen "por casualidad", sólo para que se diga en un cartelito al borde de la página "Charity estuvo aquí" y "emergen" con el único propósito de hacer una par de olitas en la taza de leche azucarada que el romance de los esforzados y amantes tortolitos, ahora, acartonados y aburridos protagonistas?, ¿Me comí las uñas y me negué a leer la versión en PDF para tener que "deglutir" una escena totalmente fuera de lugar que tiene como principales protagonistas unos preservativos en un supermercado? Ah? AH? AH???

Deberían pagar una indemnización cada vez que te matan una saga, sobre todo si es el propio autor el que lo hace (osea, no la traducción, la portada u otro tipo de percances). O cuando te cambian a una protagonista con la cual has enganchado 100%, pues la has encontrado de inteligente, fuerte, independiente, una chica - ¡por fin!- lejos del patrón Bella Cullen (me auto-cito: "Se agradece sobremedida que Bianca no sea tan estúpida como Bella... ¡oh! ¡cuanto disfruté de una protagonista con neuronas!". "Bianca al menos piensa, es culta, y tiene buenos gustos en música, pintura y libros") ¿Para que acabo igual que ella? ¿Bobalicona, indecisa, miedosa, hecha un mar de lágrimas, soñando despierta sólo con su amor y como tener un nidito de felicidad y arriesgando tontamente todo lo que ha conseguido? (Si te dicen que no mandes mail es que ¡¡¡NO MANDES UN MAIL!!! ⇐)

Creo que en algo salva la novela la breve aparición de Vic y la fantasma de su ático Maxi, quién debió tener más protagonismo- !!! ella es un "dato" Clave!!!- pero los demás personajes son totalmente descuidados y desaprovechados. Balthazar es degradado a un cajero automático y al típico amigo que aparece en la últimas 10 hojas para salvar el momento; La Señora Bethany, quien si bien es malvada, hace una aparición a lo Drácula que fue un poco too much para mí; Raquel, una judas al menos debería dar al cara. Y Charity, la hasta ahora perversa antagonista, excelente y pérfido personaje, a quien adoré en su demente y traicionera personalidad aparece incrustada dentro del libro, como para que nadie diga "sólo hay amor, nada de acción y menos un malvado" ⇐...

Ahora el final... ¡¡¡ohhhhhhhhhh my God!!!... casi me morí de los cursis, malo y poco inteligente. Se podría haber desarrollado y sacado mucho provecho a esta conclusión provisoria, ocupando más hojas en ella y ahorrándose las escenas de pasión barata entre Lucas y Bianca. Me tenían aburridas las descripciones de su pasión desmedida ⇐ Un poco, comprensible, ¡¡¡pero hastiaban!!!!.

Símil del The End para no dar spoilers: el simpático adolescente Clark Kent siempre ha sabido que es distinto peor cuando cambia completamente sabe usar toooooodos sus poderes a la perfección, de una vez ⇐ ... creo que con eso lo ilustro todo. ¡¡¡ahhhhh!!! y de paso Batman, su amigo del lado, se convierte en Gatúbelo ⇐... Horrible.... ⇐

Resumen

Bianca es toda una Bella, llorosa, desvalida y sufriente...

Lucas parece menos creíble y espontáneo que nunca. La frase "Bianca ¿estás bien?" se me hizo excesivamente repetitiva... ¡¡¡ya, si sabemos que la ama y que él es el macho alpha!!!

Todo los personajes logrados de la novelas precedentes son desperdiciados en pos de la consumación edulcorada del amor de los protagonistas. Parece un intento burdo de una "Romeo y Julieta", versión citadina y almidarada de película de bajo presupuesto... con todo lo que ello implica: falsas lagrimas., colmillos de plástico y fantasmas con hechos con sábanas (¡Dios!, ¡cuando tenia entre manos una trama tan buena ya al cual se le podía sacra tanto partido!!!)

Charity, la perversa por antonomasia, brilla por su casi-ausencia. Esta... pero no está, o sea no sirve de nada. Balthazar... Visa platinum con colmillos

Vic ¡¡¡Rules!!!... y la fantasma de su cobertizo, Maxie, también, pero la autora la limita a una simple guía telefónica paranormal o Google sobrenatural

Matemos a Raquel ^^

Debi llorar a gritos con el final y me quedé indiferente... ¿eso les da una idea de cuan mala es la esta tercera parte?. Porque era un final para matarse sollozando... eso, si estuviese bien escrito ...

El final podría definirse por la siguiente acción : cuando alguien te da con la puerta en las narices, abrupto, repentino, sin sentido, salvo por que no duele, ni produce sensación alguna.

Me arrepiento de haber comprado este libro (en realidad de haberlo pedido, fue un regalo de mis padres), y yo nunca siento gastar dinero en ellos. Son mi posesión más preciada. Si eres seguidora de la saga y te gusta como escribe Claudai Gray, imagínate que este libro nunca existió y pide que alguien te lo cuente, o en el peor de los casos googlealo. Espero que la autora se reivindique con "Afterlife", porque la decepción fue enorme

.

Curiosidades

Heeeeeeeee... no hay... ¿cual será la razón me pregunto todos las mañanas mientras peino mi larga cabellera frente al espejo?

Ohhh!!! si hay una... Afterlife EL TERCER LIBRO DE LA SAGA (para mi ^^), sale el 8 de marzo...

Frases interesantes

"Te daré un consejo-dijo-el enemigo de tu enemigo no es necesariamnete tu amigo"-Sheperd, amigo de Charity

LizClasificación 1 Castillo de 7

Chelsea ♥Peril Please♥ says

4.5 stars

Hmm. I am NOT pleased. But I thoroughly enjoyed the ride. And I cried. Also, I'm apparently reading too quickly to keep up with reviews. I can't even. UGH.

RTC. Probably. That dumb bitch villain pissed me off good. So I guess that means the author pissed me off? Yeah. That's probably more like it.

Kristy says

no, no, no.... You did not just end like that!?!?!?!?!?

I thoroughly enjoyed this book, up until the last few pages....

Spoiler Alert*****

I am not into the whole ghost thing, I knew this was coming but I just kept hoping that the book would go in a whole new direction.

I am curious how the next book will be with Lucas as a Vampire. Is he going to be angry that he was turned and how is the whole Lucas and Bianca situation going to go???

Now, all I can do is wait for Afterlife to be released!!!! AHHHHHHHHH!!!

Tatiana says

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Bex says

I love to be taken by surprise. It doesn't happen all that often, so I really relish the times that it does. I have to admit I was a little apprehensive when I started Hourglass. The plot was a little slow moving, there wasn't that tension or anticipation between Bianca and Lucas.. will they be together, will they not be together? I think that helped the first two novels move along a little more quickly.

The last quarter of the novel is really what did it for me. I wanted to read the book because I do enjoy the series, but had that last quarter not happened... I think my rating would have been a lot lower. Totally did not see it coming and I'm very curious as to what is going to happen next.

So besides the plot another thing that bothers me is Bianca. I don't really like her. She kind of annoys me. A LOT. Her character is just so..... mature. And not in a good mature teen kind of way, but in a very worldly mature kind of way. Which isn't what her character is supposed to be at all. She isn't a vampire that has been around for centuries, she really is just a teenager. I mean what kind of teenager uses the word lover? As in being in bed with a lover....? Maybe it's just me, but her character just isn't consistent. BUT the real character behind my love for this series is Balthazar. Give me a piece of that! Love everything about this guy and he is in this novel plenty, which I of course lapped up like a kitten would a saucer of milk. Meow! Was that too much? I'm usually not a metaphor person, but hey I'm just in that mood. I will admit that Lucas did start to grow on me a little bit. He finally grew a backbone somewhere in there.

Hourglass was a little steamier then the previous two novels as well! I'm a steamy fan though, so I enjoyed that part. And it was done tastefully too. Which is always nice, especially in young adult fiction.

Gray has a very addicting writing style I think that is what kept me going despite the slowish plot and my annoyance of Bianca. I am really looking forward to the final installment: AFTERLIFE!

Natalie says

I'm going to start off by saying that Hourglass is by far the best book in the series so far. While I definitely enjoyed Evernight and Stargazer, Hourglass surpassed the first two books in the series by leaps and bounds. If you stick around, I'm going to try to explain why.

First of all, the characters are much more complex. While this might be because of the background and development established by the first two books, Claudia Gray definitely showed what she can do with a pen in Hourglass. The main characters are faced with even more difficult decisions, and they don't always make the choices you'd expect them to. I've always loved it when an author manages to throw me for a loop, and this happened a few times in this book.

Second, the secondary characters were more fleshed out. We get to see more of Vic, Dana, Raquel, and Ranulf--including some things that I didn't see coming. For those of you who read this blog regularly, you know that for me, characters make the book, and in Hourglass, the loveable lead characters of Bianca and Lucas are supported by a cast of complex, well-developed minor characters.

Furthermore, the entire book was emotionally charged. Anger, happiness, fear, grief, confusion--pretty much every emotion you could imagine was somehow included. I even shed a tear during one scene, and that's rare coming from me. The emotions were real, and they helped me to connect to the characters and identify with their situation, which is important in a series that focuses on the supernatural.

Finally, I was impressed with where Gray took the series. After Stargazer, I was expecting to get shorted out on the wraith problem, by which I mean that I thought we'd get a kind of "wimpy" resolution. I've found that, in many series, other supernatural creatures are brought into the books just to make them more action-driven. I was expecting this to happen in Hourglass, but I was happily proven wrong.

I don't know what I'm going to do waiting for the fourth book. The ending of Hourglass was awesome, but it left the characters in such a predicament that I'm wanting to beat down the author's door and demand the manuscript for the fourth book.

kari says

This series gets better with each book; something of which not many series can boast. Too often a series stumbles by on the strength of the original book, but nothing could be further from that with this series. This book has more action, more shocking events, more drama, more joy, more sadness, than the previous books. I don't want to get into anything that happens because you'll really want to experience it all for yourself. I can't imagine how this series is going to be wrapped up, but I'm looking forward to it.
Great read.

Arlene says

Claudia Gray has outdone herself with Hourglass. This book is the best of the series... BY FAR!! The twists, turns, struggles and climactic ending kept me riveted the entire time! All I have to say is (1) What an ending!! (2) When is Afterlife coming out?! and (3) I.CAN'T.WAIT!!! Wow... Just wow!

In this book Bianca and Lucas are together and trying to find an escape from the Black Cross Vampire Hunters before they figure out what Bianca truly is or isn't for that matter. Their time together is sincere, genuine and emotional. In Stargazer, I was a firm believer that Balthazar was the right choice for Bianca, but now Hourglass has me completely confused because Lucas is just perfect for her. This is truly the epic of all love triangles, even though we know who Bianca chooses, as a reader my heart went out to both.

That last part of the book astonished me! Without giving it away, I never, NEVER saw that coming! I'm glad I didn't read the last chapter of the book... OH! Warning, DO NOT read ahead, stay away from the last chapter! I did not expect that at all. Well, maybe I should have because we all know from the first book, Evernight, that Gray is capable of delivering plot twists that make your head spin.

Great book, where the series continues to get better and better as it progresses. Hourglass is truly a book worth reading. A MUST.READ.NOW book.

Gio says

severely disappointing read..... I thought the first book was ok and wasn't really interested in continuing the series however I was bored and read Stargazer which interestingly enough spiked my interest. Butttttttt with Hourglass I am afraid to say, Claudia took 3 steps back

In all honesty I find Lucas's character to be very boring and uninteresting so I found it hard for me to root for them to be together because I really don't understand what Bianca saw in him. However in Hourglass I could not stand Bianca either she became to me one of those characters that are too stupid to live. She.... no both of them.....are very stupid and immature. Bianca for some reason stupidly and blindly trusts Lucas to take care of her when he doesn't want to go to college and can't even work with the vampire hunters anymore and his big plan is for them to work at fast food restaurants. Wow Bianca and Lucas! And how could they not figure out that when she was becoming ill that it has nothing to do with the fact that she is part wraith ughhh. And Lucas what the fuck, if he really loved Bianca why would he not lower his pride and call Bianca's parents for help when she needed because obviously he didn't know what the fuck was going on with her.

And I was upset by the fact that Claudia didn't develop her characters more in this book especially since they really didn't do anything the entire novel. I don't really feel connected to Bianca in Hourglass at all because the only thing I wanted to do was literally slap some sense into her. And with Lucas I never did find that many qualities that I like about him. To me he was just a silly infatuated boy ruled by his hormones and I felt like neither Bianca or Lucas spent enough time together to truly like each other.

But anyway needless to say I won't be reading anymore books on this series.

Crystal says

This book was my favorite in the series thus far. Gray throws in so many surprises that I am really chomping at the bit to get the next one! The story takes off where Stargazer left us with Bianca leaving Evernight with Lucas and his Black Cross family. Their biggest fear, they think, is that Bianca will be discovered for what she truly is, a vampire, but when you get to the final few chapters you will find out that they haven't even begun to realize what could possibly go wrong. I don't want to spoil it for anybody but the twists and turns that Gray develops are very unexpected at least to me and I am amazed that she had the strength to put her characters through so much. I give her big props for pushing her writing. Is Afterlife here yet???

Gemma says

Ah, Evernight. No matter how much it tries, it always reminds me of a poor man's version of Vampire Academy. You know, the whole 'girl at a boarding school for vamps who falls for a stake wielding hot guy' thing. I hate comparing series; it's hard to write original YA nowadays, and it's near impossible to write a book without someone accusing you of stealing something from somebody else.

When I began reading Hourglass, I realised all of the actions took place away from the school. I was a little sceptical, but hopeful this would distance the two series from each other.

Once Bianca & Lucas get away from the vamp vigilantes (finally), I was looking forward to some more original material. If they weren't going to return to Evernight, surely *something* big and dramatic would have to happen to keep the story going, right? So I waited. And waited. And waited some more. And about three quarters of the way in, I accepted that in fact, nothing particularly big and exciting was going to happen. Until I got to the ending. I'm sure this was meant to make me gasp in shock and excitement, but my gasp was caused by entirely different emotions. All I could really think was, 'But Ms Gray, you were doing so well!' Because when I read those final lines, my thoughts immediately went to the ending of said similar series, and I felt disappointed. I think that Evernight has the potential to be, and often is, a pretty original series, and I feel bad when I compare it to other series, mostly VA. But if there's going to be so many parallels between the two, usually one is found to be better, which undermines the other.

Some people will probably disagree with me saying not much happens in Hourglass. Sure, revelations are made, particularly with Bianca & her heritage, and other stuff crops up along the way. But most of said stuff was pretty predictable, and I ended up playing a waiting game through most of the book, wondering when the characters were going to figure out things that were right under their noses.

Most of the middle of the book comprises of Bianca & Lucas drifting around, doing basically nothing. This down time seemed perfect for character development, something I've always felt is sorely lacking in Evernight. No matter how much the author tries, I've never felt connected to Bianca & Lucas, which is pretty unforgivable considering they're the main characters. The series is written in first person, yet Bianca still remains a somewhat vague figure in my mind. I'm not sure if it's just because they're two dimensional, or whether it all harks back to me reading the first book and only being told halfway through that Bianca was in fact a vamp. I found this pretty ridiculous, considering I was supposed to be in her head and she'd conveniently forgot to mention her species; this subsequently made me see her as quite dim, and the author as amateurish.

Since most of this series revolves around the Romeo & Juliet relationship between B & L, my inability to really care about them is a huge blow to my ability to get into the series. They act more like two immature teens with a silly infatuation than two people deeply in love, and this usually results in me feeling pretty unsympathetic when something goes awry for them.

Saying that, I felt like I understood the characters a little better after Hourglass, Lucas especially, but it was all too little too late.

I've heard Claudia Gray is writing a spin off series featuring the lovely Balthazar, who pops up briefly here to get tortured by Lucas's slap happy buddies. Despite my reservations about Evernight, I do quite like Balthazar - he seems more complex than others, and his sister issues are quite bizarre but interesting at the same time.

I'm hoping Claudia Gray won't do a number on him and turn him into a vapid pretty boy who is oblivious to the fact that his sister is totally insane, something that I suspect wouldn't be too hard to do, but I'll read it anyways.

Probably the most shocking thing in Hourglass was that B & L finally 'do it'. I say 'shocking' not because I have delicate sensibilities, more because after three books and more than enough moaning about restraint I'd just assumed it was going to be used as a crappy dramatic device to keep us reading (hello, Twilight). So I was pretty surprised Gray actually took the plunge, and applauded her development of the characters' relationship. However, after reading the ending, it became quite clear why this development had been made - something tells me Bianca & Lucas won't be indulging themselves any time soon in their present conditions... :L

I think I'll read the next book, if only to see how the hell Gray is going to sort out the mess the characters ended up in. But I'll be missing the excitement I had when I began Hourglass, and replacing it with a somewhat unhealthy dose of cynicism. Depressing, I know, but if this series doesn't clean up its act, I won't be reading it at all (:

Michael says

6/16:

Okay, I'm not even half way through this book, but I *had* to write a little something about how I felt so far. Basically, Bianca and Lucas are the most idiotic and annoying couple I've ever had the misfortune of reading about. And Bianca is probably the worst heroine in a novel. Ever. Okay, so her best friend (and almost lover) is in the next room being tortured. Lucas, the biggest douche-bag in life, is jealous because she is worried about what might happen to her friend. And then Bianca goes off with things like, "Oh Lucas, forgive me! Balthazar means nothing to me! You're the only one!" Seriously?

Gah, this book is pissing me off.

6/18:

I finished it. And I must admit, it did get a little better. *A little.*

I still hate Bianca and Lucas with a burning passion. Especially Bianca. She has got to be the most self-centered heroine in the history of literature. Almost all the hardships in this book are caused by the fact that Bianca cannot stand to leave her beloved Lucas. Almost half the book is Bianca talking about how madly in love she is with him and how perfect he is. Seriously, give me a break. Bianca says "Lucas" more in this book than Rose says "Jack" in *Titanic*. And seriously Claudia Gray (if that *is* your real name...) stop comparing Bianca and Lucas to Romeo and Juliet. For the love of God, no matter how much you want them to be, they will never be Romeo and Juliet.

However, the plot saves this book from getting less than two stars. I've never had any doubts that Claudia Gray can spin an interesting storyline. Charity is interesting enough as an antagonist. And the part with the

diving board was simple, but chilling nonetheless. The events that happen in the end are interesting as well, and should lead in to an interesting conclusion to the series.

Alina says

Ich merke mal wieder das Internats Geschichten definitiv nichts für mich sind. Dieser Teil war anfangs sehr unterhaltsam und hatte auch nicht mehr viel mit dem Internat zutun aber was anfangs eine Vampirgeschichte zu sein schien, bleibt bald davon nix mehr über. Langsam geht es in eine ganz andere Richtung. Und ich weiß noch nicht, ob ich sowas mag oder was ich davon halten soll. Es ist in meinen Augen keine starke Reihe aber man merkt wie die Autorin dazu lernt und manchmal die Tatsachen verdrehen kann, woran ich viel Spaß hab. Naja bleibt mir noch ein Buch über mal schauen, wie alles ausgehen wird.?

HStevey310 says

OMG!!!!!! really?!?!?! this book was absolutly AMAZING!!!! i cant not believe that bianca is a wraith and lucas is DEAD!!! see this would be fine if bianca wasnt dead!! im completely impressed!! wat will clauia gray do next?? if or how is she going to bring bianca back to life??? is lucas going to be crazy blood driven vamp or be like bianca parents or belthazar??? i seriously cant wait to read afterlife!!! GREAT BOOK!!! it had me holding my breathe the entire time!!

~Tina~ says

WOW!!! I am completely blown away!

I don't want to say to much, because I know me, and if I start one of my long reviews, I'll slip and start spoiling and I can't do that cause y'all need.to.read.this.as.soon.as.possible! But man, is it ever hard not to talk about this!!

I will say that HOURGLASS is an amazing addiction to this much loved series. Lucas and Bianca have had there love tested in so many different ways, and yet there love is so strong. It's a beautiful thing and I simply adore them! They both have grown up and you can feel that in Hourglass, there romance is not only tender but hot and I can't help but smile when I think of them!

But we don't just get some romance in this book, there are a lot of surprises and twists in this book. Enough to make you scream *OMG WHAT?!?!??* Maddening suspense screams off of these pages as you struggle to hold it together. I just can't get over the rush I felt after I read this book and how **BADLY** I need the last one! Theories are already bouncing in my head and I know I'll go mad before the last book hits the shelf next year!

I cried:(But that's all I'm going to say about that:(I basically am in total awe of this masterpiece! Claudia Gray is a genius of intrigue. I love and adore this series and I think it's save to say that I **CAN'T** wait for the last and final book to be in my hands!

This is going to be a very, long, year!

Nicole says

I can't wait for this book to come out!! Bianca and Lucas?!

Karyn says

OMG! I was blown away. Completely caught off guard with this story. Claudia Gray took me on an emotional rollercoaster that had me petrified, elated, joyous, and utterly destroyed. I thought the Hunger Games were intense, but that was a walk in the park in comparison. Top 3 stories that I have ever read. My only concern is that the final book won't have the same intensity. March 2011 is too far away!

Summary

The story starts with Bianca, Lucas, and Raquel with the Black Cross. They ask them to join and Bianca is trapped into a yes. Raquel embraces her new membership and ability to fight back. The cell moves to NY for safety. There, they have to train hard and Bianca is often left hungry. In desperation, Lucas begs Bianca to drink from him and she agrees. This causes more changes in Bianca where she is now light headed and Lucas is more sensitive.

During a patrol, Bianca sneaks off and emails her parents that she is fine. This leaves an electronic trail for Ms. Bethany which leads to an attack on the NYC Black Cross cell. Seven humans die - Eduardo is killed by Ms. Bethany. She also tells Bianca that she has to make a choice to be a vampire soon. Bianca tells her that she will never choose to be a vampire. The cell retreats back to the river with a hostage - BALTHAZAR! They torture him for information, really torture, but Bianca and Lucas devise a ruse and free him to Chinatown.

A few days later, Bianca and Lucas are in the old hideout looking for their things when Dana and Raquel see Bianca drinking a packet of blood. Lucas explains everything and they promise to keep their secret. That night they are grabbed by the head of Black Cross who now knows the truth. They try to torture Bianca with pure holy water, but Lucas blocks getting burned himself. This makes him an enemy in their eyes and they decide to take Lucas and Bianca away to be tested by professors. Dana slips Lucas the handcuff keys and they escape. Although Raquel gave them up, Dana still loves Lucas as a brother. FYI - Dana and Raquel are a couple.

Bianca and Lucas go to Chinatown to get money from Balthazar for their escape then head to Philadelphia. They get a hotel and then consummate their love. The next plan was to get in contact with Vic who lives in town. They meet up with Vic and Ranulf and turns out the Vic has known about the vampires all along. He gives Bianca and Lucas the keys to his house while he is in Tuscany with his parents and Ranulf.

Lucas gets a job at a chop shop while Bianca tries to be a waitress. Her dizzy spells are getting worse and she is no longer hungry. For her 18th birthday, Lucas takes Bianca to the Franklin Institute for the planetarium. He gives her a coral bracelet that becomes useful later. On their way home, they get surrounded by Charity's tribe and taken back to an abandoned pool. Charity wants a vampire family so she threatens Lucas' life to persuade Bianca to become a vampire. The wraiths come and save her and Lucas - "She is not yours. She is ours."

Bianca is clearly dying. Lucas is there with her and offers his life so that she can live as a vampire. He only asks that Bianca kill him afterward so that he will not be a vampire. She refuses and dies, but not really since she becomes a wraith. Balthazar and Lucas bury her and then set out on a mission to capture Charity. Meanwhile, Bianca meets the wraith who has been haunting her, Maxie. She tells Bianca that the wraiths need her because she is pure and gives them energy. Maxie also shows her how to use her powers, specifically how to use the bracelet to have a body again.

Vic and Ranulf come back after receiving Lucas' letter that Bianca is sick. Ranulf has a hard time working with a wraith since vampires and wraiths have been enemies. All three go to help Balthazar and Lucas. When they get there, Lucas is battling Charity and has LOST! She bit into him and drained him until he was dead. The story ends with Lucas in Bianca's lap, and Balthazar, Vic and Ranulf surrounding them. Lucas will become a vampire and Bianca blames Balthazar for not seeing how crazy his sister is and for taking Lucas on the mission to capture her. WOW!

Characters - Black Cross

Lucas

Kate - Lucas' mom who tortures Balthazar during his capture. We don't know what happens to her or if she knows what has happened to Lucas. Will she be able to kill her son if it came to it?

Eduardo - Kate's husband and real hard ass on Lucas. He takes Lucas' money preventing them from escaping sooner rather than later. During the raid by the vampires, he is killed by Ms. Bethany.

Dana - Lucas' surrogate sister and best friend. They have been a part of the same cell since they were 12. She helps them escape and is in a relationship with Raquel.

Raquel - Bianca's roommate who came with during the flee from the Evernight raid. She is extremely happy to be a member of Black Cross and wants revenge on all wraiths for the tortures that she has endured and the lies from the vampires.

Eliza - head of the NYC Black Cross cell. Vicious killer.

Milos - member of the NYC Black Cross cell.

Characters - Vampires

Bianca's parents - not in this novel. Bianca is still mad at them so she doesn't talk to them. She does send a letter to them when she dies.

Ms. Bethany - she is vicious and dangerous. Still don't know her plans.

Balthazar - still clearly cares for Bianca and tries to save her from Black Cross when he gets captured. He is the first to arrive after her death and helps bury her. His greatest character flaw is his blind love for others. He does not see the evil in his sister or that Bianca will never be available. He is such a great character that he lose sight of this.

Ranulf - LOVE HIM! Great character. He is one of the oldest vampires and has the toughest time adjusting to time. Vic takes him under his wing and they seem to become really good friends. Deadly warrior.

Vic - not a vampire, but so loveable and funny. Has to one of the coolest, smartest, genuinely nicest characters ever.

Questions for the next novel -

1. There seems to be 2 wars going on; Vampires vs. Black Cross and Vampires vs. Wraiths. How does that resolve? Ms. Bethany seems to be a key player, but I can't seem to foreshadow an ending.
2. LUCAS IS A VAMPIRE - he never wanted to be. Will he choose to end his life and then become a wraith so that he and Bianca can spend eternity together?

3. Black Cross? There has to be some form of confrontation between them and Lucas.
