



Shadowed Blade

J.C. Daniels

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Something wicked this way comes...

The arrival of a very important person in her office seemed to be the start of a lot of problems for Kit Colbana, investigator extraordinaire. Claiming that he needed somebody with her special skillset, he sends her on a series of jobs that made little to no sense until one culminated with both her and her partner, Justin barely escaping with their lives.

Back in Orlando, they go their separate ways to recover, Justin heading to the house of a local witch, while Kit returns to the Lair, where she's recently been living with her lover Damon, the Alpha of the Southern Cat Clans.

There's barely a chance for to catch her breath before trouble of the highest order comes knocking on her door. This time, it's the form of a psychic by the name of Nova. Nova has bad, bad news...Justin has gone missing and so has the witch who was going to put him up while he healed. Colleen, one of Kit's closest, dearest friends.

With all sorts of non-humans disappearing, fury doesn't even touch what Kit is feeling as she heads out to hunt down the people responsible.

But Kit isn't the only one out on a hunt...somebody is hunting for her...somebody Kit would rather never, ever see again.

Shadowed Blade Details

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Author : J.C. Daniels

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Genre : Fantasy, Urban Fantasy, Paranormal, Vampires, Romance, Shapeshifters, Magic

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From Reader Review Shadowed Blade for online ebook

Ferdy says

Spoilers

I don't know how this managed to get published. The writing and grammar were atrocious. I could barely get past the first few chapters, the dialogue was terrible and nothing made sense. The story was disjointed and all over the place, I had no idea what was going on even with re-reading. Did the author not bother with an editor or proof reader? I don't think she even cared enough to read over her own work before letting it get published.

It took ages for the story to finally make some sense, which shouldn't have been the case when it was the usual main character has to kill the one-dimensional-bad-guy-of-the-week.

Rana was the most entertaining part of the story, her relationship with Kit and Doyle was actually quite interesting to read. Damon on the other hand was a joke, he was too over the top and possessive, pretty much every thing he said or did made me roll my eyes.

Shelley says

Source NetGalley

Genre Urban Fantasy

Rating 4.0

My Thoughts

J.C. Daniels' Shadowed Blade is the Fifth installment in the Colbana Files. If you are new to this series, please allow me to summarize what has happened to this point. Kitasa aka Kit Colbana is a 1/2 human, 1/2 Aneiri warrior, private investigator. She has faced her fair share of challenges since leaving her island behind and finding her way to East Orlando where she is still considered to be an illegal. As the story opens, Kit is working with Justin Greaves.

Full Review @ Gizmos Review

<http://gizmosreviews.blogspot.com/201...>

Jeanny says

This counts towards my 2016 Cliterary Genius A to Z book challenge. Letter S.

TJ says

Again, great story! And we finally get to learn more about her past and her family AND learn more about the things and reasons for the way things turned out in her life.

I am having some serious trouble with the Damon/Kit aspect. I get that she is independent and capable on her own (and I enjoy that aspect of the story) but it seems to be at the expense of Damon's need and desire to be a good mate to her. He is written as such a strong Alpha who is more than capable of protecting those he loves. BUT... in every single instance that arises where Kit is involved, she demands that he stay out of it. It gets to the point that he even tells her she is pushing him past the limit of his ability. Still, she just keeps walking all over his need to help her. Leaving him looking eviscerated. She even allows Justin to help her more than the man she loves and is a mate to. Could we not at least see him work together WITH her as a team and play a part in her protection? It really can be done well and without dimming her abilities... All we need do is look to the very character all compare her to - Kate Daniels to see an example of how beautifully it can be accomplished.

Feminista says

I love J.C. Daniel's Colbana Files Series. Love it. It was my most favourite urban fantasy series. I bought this book at midnight and slept well so that I could read it with a fresh mind.

But the writing was unsatisfactory. The novel did not make much sense. There were things happening that needed a bit of description, more depth but were just given dialogue. It ruined the whole book. I have just finished this book and I can tell you I couldn't understand 30% of it. I don't know why J.C. Daniels chose to write it the way she did, but her writing is quite different than the others in this series.

There were also a lot of editing mistakes. It just isn't good enough. We as readers pay for these books. Amongst other things I expect an absence of editing mistakes and grammar. This is why editors exist, to review their work and resolve any mistakes or incorrect sentencing. J.C. Daniels either hasn't hired an editor or she needs to hire a new one because this one has done a poor job.

Jo says

This series is a favorite of mine, and I have been waiting on this book for a very long time.

I must admit the beginning of the book had me feeling disorientated and lost. I actually thought that I missed a couple of chapters. This is not something that I'm used to from this series, and I must say I didn't appreciate the feeling. Luckily as the story progressed the beginning started to make sense, I just wish it did right from the start.

Despite the rocky beginning, the rest of the book was as good as I've come to expect, and I enjoyed it. It was action-packed and the romance was wonderful.

"I know you'd walk into hell for me, Damon—and probably stroll out, carrying the devil's head by the horns."

"Sometimes, baby girl, I think you are the devil. My devil, anyway."

My favorite parts were of course Damon, the sexy alpha of the Southern Cat Clans. I adore him, and the romance between him and Kit was very sweet and hot. Although I do like Kit's need for independence, there were parts where I felt she went too far, and a little understanding on her part of why Damon wants to keep her safe, especially after what happened to her before, would certainly help their relationship. Hopefully this is something that will change for the better as the story continues.

As always Kit's partner, Justin and her friend Colleen were great additions to this book. I'm really interested in seeing how things will work out with them after all they had to survive in this instalment. We also find out more about Doyle, and an unexpected member from her evil grandmother's clan makes an appearance.

All in all this was a good addition to a series that I LOVE.

Sarah says

I've been a huge fan of this series since I read **Blade Song** nearly four years ago (where the hell does the time go?) so I'm always itching to get the next instalment and I couldn't wait to start reading **Shadowed Blade**. You definitely need to read these books in order to get the most out of them though so I'm going to assume that anyone reading this review has already read at least as far as **Edged Blade**. I'd also recommend reading the short story **Misery's Way** before starting this book, if you haven't already bought that story separately you're in luck because it's included at the end of this one (this is one of the very rare occasions when it's better to start at the end of the book LOL). This story jumps in as if you already know the new character introduced in that short so you could end up feeling a little lost if you haven't.

I have to say that the beginning of **Shadowed Blade** felt a little choppy anyway, it jumped around a bit and skips chunks of time so I was initially left wondering what was going on but once the story kicks off it was everything I'd hope for from this series. Kit and Justin are working together on a case but everywhere they go a crazy witch appears and tries to kill them. There's plenty of action as Kit and Justin try to figure out who is targeting them and it looks like they have a new and incredibly dangerous enemy to deal with. While this is going on we finally get the chance to find out whether Frankie's magic had any effect on Kit.

We also get to meet a few interesting people from Kit's past which I really enjoyed. Nova is a fab addition to the cast, he has some incredibly interesting abilities and he added a lot of humour but we also have an encounter with a member of Kit's family and let's just say things don't go as expected! I'm not going to say more than that so I don't spoil the surprise but I think we're going to see the series take a very interesting turn over the next few books. This series continues to be as much fun as always and I'm settling in and preparing myself for the long wait for the next book.

Linda says

This book, unfortunately, reads like a first draft.

The opening chapters are disjointed and confusing. Even if you recently have read both the previous book and the associated short **Misery's Way**, they are hard to follow. (A quickie overview for those who haven't: Kit has enlisted Justin to help her on several seemingly unrelated missions assigned to her by the president. None go as planned.) Even after the first several chapters, though the narrative becomes clearer, there are numerous errors, with missing or extraneous words as well as occasional things that are difficult to follow or

simply that don't make sense. (view spoiler)

That said, for fans of the series--and I am one--you won't want to skip this book. There are important revelations and developments, and the interactions/relationship between Kit and Damon are satisfying. Although this book was a bit rough, I do wish the best for the author and look forward to the next book in the series.

Suzanne (Under the Covers Book blog) says

So, in the previous book in the series, Edged Blade, J.C. Daniels left us with a kind of cliffhanger. I don't want to give away any spoilers, but it did have me furiously trying to turn the pages on my kindle, hoping that maybe there was a hidden chapter somewhere. In Shadowed Blade we continue on and get into the mystery of what Kit's mysterious and well known new 'client' wants. Of course, things just aren't quite adding up, and the more Kit discovers, the more she realises that this 'client' isn't all he appears.

I love this series, it has a little bit of everything that I love, romance, action, magic, mayhem and a sexy alpha shifter; for me, this is the winning formula. With Shadowed Blade Daniels continues to give me what I want, and even a little bit more. In the previous book in the Colbana Files series I remember complaining that it was a little slow, but in this book once again the pace has been picked up and Daniels throws us right into the middle of the action.

Although I admit the first 5% of this book was a bit of a bumpy ride, it hadn't quite settled into a pleasing pace and at times left me a little confused, but once it settled it was smooth cruising and I delved straight in, not coming up for air until I had read the final word. One of the things I love most about the series is Kit, our heroine, tough, smart and brave, she has been through a lot, both growing up and very recently and once again she is thrown in to a bad situation and I thoroughly enjoyed reading about her thinking and fighting her way out.

Kit does this surrounded by her friends and the man in her life, Damon, the alpha of the feline shifters. As a romance junkie I fully appreciate the hint of sexy romance that Daniels has put through this book and Damon and Kit continue to be smoking hot together, even if Kit does drive him a little mad with her adventures. This book also reveals a little more about Kit's past, things that not even she knew and I can't wait to how these new revelations affect the rest of the series.

This is another winner in the Colbana Files series, if you haven't picked this series up yet, then you need to give it a try, it's an Urban Fantasy with plenty of action, romance and a new and interesting world the Daniels has created. The only thing I am disappointed about is having to wait a year for the next book!

Katie Michaels says

I know it's hard to wait for a new book when you love a series. I'm right there with you, griping and wondering if that precious story is ever going to get here. This book, in particular, was one we had to wait on. And I hate to say it, but we should have waited a little bit longer. The story is a good one. As it unfolds, there are some major revelations. It unlocks secrets and it changes Kit's life. It's a big deal and the ideas are really good. But the book feels so unfinished. By that, I don't mean that there's a problem with the ending. I

mean, it needed more work. It needed more time, and maybe as fans, that's partly our fault for pushing so hard for it to come out. It wasn't ready and you'll be able to tell.

I felt a huge disconnect in the first few chapters. We jumped right in to this mission with Kit and Justin. And I felt so lost. Where was Damon? How long have they been separated? Where did the events of the Frankie novella take place? Is Kit broken or fixed? How much was I forgetting from a previous book and how much was supposed to be new? Just... everything. It took a while for me to find a rhythm, for it to feel like a Kit Colbana book.

Once it did, the story itself was great. Kit and Justin are investigating cases for the President, but something feels really wrong, and eventually, they become hunted. The story follows Kit and her people as they try to figure out who the villain is and how this all ties to the missing supernaturals we learned about earlier in the series. Kit's broken bond to her weapons is finally addressed --and we're getting back to her past and her family that is hunting for her. Plus, Damon and Doyle and Chang and all the great characters that help make this series sing.

But there are editing issues. Everything from spelling to grammar... to punctuation... even sentences that basically repeat themselves. All things common in early drafts of a book. All things that if given proper time and attention could be fixed and allow for a much better reading experience. Every book in the series has been self-published. But this is the first one that didn't feel like it could have come through a publishing house.

Fans of the series shouldn't skip this one, but prepare yourself for some dips in the road. Hopefully, the next installment will return to the quality I know these books are capable of.

RachelW (BamaGal) says

I really hate to do this, especially since the author has been having health problems; but quite frankly this book was a mess. The plotline was sound, and quite interesting, as always. The writing itself, however, was just not up to par. Confusing, choppy, convoluted scenes and poor editing throughout. There were scenes that started at the end of one chapter, and when the next chapter began the action was all over. Later in the chapter or the next, Daniels would revisit the long gone scene to explain what happened. So confusing, and there was quite a bit of wordbuilding left unexplained. I had to go back to read the last chapter of *Edged Blade* again, and was still often lost as to what was going on. Even as a regular reader of the series I had difficulty following the storyline because of the odd way it was laid out, and what was left out that might clue me in.

It was great to be back in Kit Colbana's world; I just wish I could say I enjoyed the visit a little more than I did. This was a good story in desperate need of better wordbuilding and proper editing for coherence.

Lindsay says

Kit's story comes to the climax that the last couple of books have been teasing, with missing non-humans and revelations aplenty. (Note: it's just a periodic climax; there's plenty left in Kit's story).

The first third of this book is a mess. The author tries something with mixed time-frames and a recollection

narrative, but it just doesn't work and ends up being barely coherent. After that though this becomes largely a normal entry in the series and it comes together fairly well, and gives some payoff to things that have been teased since the first book of the series.

Denisa says

2.5 Meeehhh...

It took me, like, a week to read this whole thing! It's been a loong long time since it took me more than a few days to finish a book (and I had time to read). I chose to watch movies and series and shows rather than finishing this book, so all I can say is that it was kind of boring.

It wasn't awful and it was a bit better than the last one, but it just couldn't hold my interest.

Saly says

3.5 stars

I would have given it 4 stars if not for the disjointed beginning, the first few chapters made no sense, there was no context to why all this craziness for happening, the later developments in the book have me very intrigued.

Keri says

Glad to see our young Kit back in the saddle. I struggled getting into the story, because I felt like I came in the story in the middle of a big scene and I had missed the first part of it. It took me awhile to catch up, but I eventually did and was completely onboard with Kit and band of merry fellows. The editing was a little off. Can't wait to see where the story goes next.
