



## Court of Shadows

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**Court of Shadows** Miranda Honfleur

**Answers to who killed her family. A trial to death. Is the truth worth the risk?**

Master Mage Rielle is counting the months to her wedding when an unexpected invitation arrives from Magehold—to compete for magister. The magister's mantle has been her dream for over a decade, but rumors accuse Magehold of shadowy deeds, among them killing families to collect promising young novices.

Piracy has been rampant along the Emaurrian coast, and Jon has his hands full with Immortals attacking, his forces spread too thin to handle it all. When Magehold announces the winner of the Magister Trials will be granted one boon, Rielle is determined to ask for an end to the piracy that threatens so many others and harmed her own family... and to investigate whether Magehold was responsible. But when she arrives, she learns that the trials have only one rule: survive.

Magehold could easily stamp out the piracy claiming countless lives, and if she wins the trials, Rielle could see it done. But with the other mages competing to kill, strangers hunting her in the shadows, and mysterious factions working behind the scenes, trying to win the test could mean the end of her life. Will the trials give her the answers she seeks and the aid Emaurria sorely needs, or will they be her end?

*If you like the romance of A Court of Thorns and Roses, the epic adventure of Game of Thrones, and a heroine who never gives up, you'll love this romantic epic fantasy series.*

Buy Court of Shadows and dive into a medieval world sensual and dark, full of magic and greed, love and blades, where factions vie for influence and there are no easy choices...

## Court of Shadows Details

Date : Published February 1st 2018

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Author : Miranda Honfleur

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## From Reader Review Court of Shadows for online ebook

### **Limecello says**

[ Brennan is all "I had to act to save my family to hide our treason - otherwise the king would kill us all" like near the end; bitch HE ALREADY KNOWS. YOU KNOW HE KNOWS. THIS HAPPENED WHEN Y'ALL QUESTIONED SINCUORE! ARE YOU FUCKING KIDDING ME. WHAT DID I MISS."

And I'm so sick of how stupid AF these

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### **Andrea says**

These books are so underrated oh my good.

I love love the story, world building and character development in this series but I can say I'm mad in the romance aspect since last book but oh well, guess we'll see what happens next book.

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### **for.fictions.sake says**

I really enjoyed this! After all the happenings of the last book, I was glad for this one to be (somewhat) lighter. It still has enough drama and plot to keep things interesting and I can't wait for the next book.

I will forever say that these books are so underrated and they SHOULDN'T be! If you like fantasy with some romance WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

Slight spoilers though:

I REALLY am hoping for a more solid relationship path for Rielle next book. I don't think I can take 6 books of back and forth.

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### **Wendy D says**

I think this series has ruined other books for me. The writing is flawless, the storybuilding superb, and the characters complex and real. Despite the length of these books, I can't devour these quick enough and am always grateful for the extra pages. The story never lags or feels boring. This book continues to build on the characters as they try, not always successfully, to be better versions of themselves. I love Brennan in this story as he is the best person he can be...when it involves things he cares about...which is so keeping with his character. And Jon is trying to so hard to be what everyone needs him to be, but remaining unflinchingly dedicated to his personal moral compass -- I love that he makes mistakes, but becomes better because of what he learns. (Jon is my favorite!) And Rielle -- so strong without alienating those around her. I hate female characters that have to do everything by themselves or have to be uncompromising to feel strong. Rielle is not one of those, rather she has flaws, and feelings, and traumas but still works with those around her to strengthen them and take strength from them. She's not too weak to save herself and not too

vain/stubborn to need to be saved sometimes.

The only reason I took off a star was because the sex scenes which just got old and annoying (and sometimes just uncomfortable) very quickly---I ended up skipping over them as often as possible. That being said, Honfleur is such an accomplished author, that I'm suspicious that even this "flaw" was really just an intentional way of leading readers towards certain own conclusions about the strength and dysfunctions of that relationship...I don't know...she's just that accomplished an author!

Overall, I love this series, and love each book more than the last. Every time I finish one of these books, all subsequent books seem unreadable, uninteresting, and poorly written. I'm emotionally invested in the people and have such a hard time waiting for the next book (thank goodness she's a quick writer!) Read these books -- you won't be disappointed!

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### **Barbara "Cookie" Serfaty Williams says**

#### **Court of Shadows (Blade and Rose Book 3)**

The love triangle continuous of Rielle, Jon and Brennan. Jon upright to end the immortals threat, Rielle and Brennan are planning a wedding. Someone want Rielle dead. Brennan is going to be a father. Can Jon save the world? Can Rielle and Brennan find happiness? A action full story you will lovw.

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### **Katherine says**

Magical duels, steamy romance, and dragons, oh my!

This spellbinding continuation of the series delivered on the promises of the previous books. Rielle shines as a fierce heroine with heart, Leigh dazzles in epic battles, Jon gives us hope for redemption...

And BRENNAN!! No spoilers, but trust me when I say you'll want to watch him ?

As always, my favorite part was the deep themes running throughout. Honfleur makes an art out of illustrating the subtleties in relationships that end up mattering so much. You want to laugh, cry, and cheer with each of the characters as they come to realize their deepest desires, their life's purpose, and their deepest insecurities.

I cannot wait for the next book!

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### **Blythe says**

Pretty please give me book 4 now?! I can't handle this!

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## **Vicki says**

How many times can you change your mind about characters?

I'm usually pretty dead-set on characters I like and characters I don't like, but this series is taking me on a rollercoaster.

The only thing I'm certain about is how much I love Leigh and Ambriel.

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## **The Mysterious Reader says**

I loved Blade & Rose and By Dark Deeds, the first two books of Miranda Honfleur's Blade and Rose series. Now the author is back with book 3, Court of Shadows, and it's a true treat.

Master Mage Rielle has two easy options: compete and win the post of magister of Magehold, which will include finding out who killed her family and being able to stamp out the piracy that has been running rampant along the Emaurrian coast, or die. Luckily Rielle is the epitome of a kick-a\*\* heroine so I'd not be fast to bet against her - and, as a reader, following along as she takes on all comers is one heck of a fun, if wild, ride.

Highly recommended.

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## **Stacy Kauffman says**

It was a page turner. But not in a good way. The first two books did a great job of world building and had a good balance between the protagonist's romantic struggles, her personal story and the overall threats to the kingdom. This did not. 75 percent of this book was Rielle and Brennan hemming and hawing over their relationship and the writing took a backseat to incessant whining. I skimmed the sections where characters would rehash all of the same emotions to get to the parts where the story actually moved forward. I felt the author did not give readers enough credit and she spelled out everything. I had high hopes to see where this book would go and it just did not live up to my expectations. I'm too invested in the story to give up on the series, so my fingers are crossed that the next book is better.

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## **Lindsay Merrill says**

Okay these books are honestly so good. Why aren't more people talking about them? I'm really invested in these characters and their lives- not just the main characters but everyone. Well written characters, beautifully build world, interesting magic, political intrigue- what more could a girl ask for?

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## **Kyle keskitalo says**

This book was not for me, or really this series I guess. I enjoyed the first 2, obviously enough to purchase and read this one. But it becomes apparent I am not the intended audience, being a guy. I believe our heroine

has slept with every single male character in this series now and it appears more like some kind of dating/sexing sim game. This time she gets the smug werewolf baaaad boy.

I know it's just me and the fact I never much cared for wolf boys character, but through almost the first half of the book rielle and wolf boys seeming input into the story was to have sex, a lot, all the time, in excessive detail, (say my name) uhh, ok. At this point I feel kind of stupid and embarrassed for reading this, but I might as well see it through. Oh hey, look, their having sex again. I believe people are being slaughtered by immortals but hell, let's have more "spine tingling" sex. And that's ok, I'm just the wrong demograph, my fault.

Rielle character has stagnated for me, she seems like a willfully manipulated, weak kneed girl. As her old slave master confronts her and she falls over and scrambles away. Where is the fire, the inner self belief. I loved her in the first book, strong, independent, capable and mysterious. Here she's either having sex, arguing or feeling bad. Oh, she does fight and it's bad ass, but I just lost interest in reading about her.

At the end of book 2, I liked how Jon pulled himself together and resolves to live by his oaths again. But here he just..... never really progresses as a character. He is exactly the same at the end here as he is at the end of book 2. Which was novel for a while, but morose sadness gets old after 700 pages.

I guess Olivia was the only character I really liked, of course she starts to have feelings for king man, ? and leigh, he actually progressed the plot with the coven and immortals, that his chapters let you know there is still a war going on.

I'm just disappointed that I enjoyed the first 2 so much and found this one hard to read, there is absolutely no resolution at all and it feels more like filler, a lot happens in the book but it never felt very grand or important. The mage trials could have been over in 200 pages, but it's filled with angst sex, bickering, sex, talking about feelings, sex and some magecraft. It feels more like the grand story is who will rielle sleep with next, will it be, the smug werewolf baaaad boy, the morose sad good king, or some random chiseled 0% body fat God like man. And the war and stuff.

I hate being critical on author's because they work very hard to create these characters and worlds. This one is just not for me, or really, it's not written for any man, this book especially made it clear this story is exclusively written for a female audience, and that's ok. I hope more people read it and find enjoyment in it, I sincerely hope this become a successful series, it just sadly isn't for me.

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### **Jennifer says**

This series is so good. I couldn't wait for this book to come out and it didn't disappoint. There are more books in this series, and I'm both glad to read more and sad I have to wait for it. I loved Jon in book one and then was disappointed with him in book two, and then I started to love Brennen. In the first half of book three I loved Brennen and then not so much in the second half. And it's all completely realistic faults that these characters have. I just don't know how the author does this. I'm impressed, and have never been this torn in a love triangle. Well done!

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## **Sarah says**

I really have no idea why everyone is rating this book so high. Nothing really happens in this book, all of the characters just chase their tails around (some of them literally). Drama for the sake of drama, and so far-fetched. Everyone gets pregnant the first time they have sex with someone! DRAMA. People suddenly falling in love with other people, like Olivia and Jon! DRAMA. Rielle just can't stop loving two idiot jerk dudes who betray her constantly and are dying and dead but no, they're alive again and DRAAAAMAAAAA.

This book didn't even tie up the pointless magister trials - a cliffhanger ending again about stuff I just don't care about.

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## **Mary Nguyen (fox & wit) says**

Why is this series so underrated?

Jon's redemption arc is 10x better than Brennan's.

Yes. Brennan stopped being cruel and did everything right as best as he could by Rielle in book 2 but it was all to win back the woman he loved. He never truly saw the horrific consequences of his actions other than it cost him Rielle. He justified his past actions away as fear of love and rejection. A means to an end. Even throughout their relationship he couldn't quite work through issues of possession and control. His love for Rielle blinds him to what Rielle needs and I'm not sure he can keep apologizing and make amends.

Jon redeemed and rebuilt himself partly to honor Rielle and his love for her, yes, but it ran deeper than that. He hated the man he had become and couldn't live being that man any longer. And that, to me, will always make Jon the better man for Rielle. He's selfless through and through in ways Brennan can never be.

But that doesn't mean I don't love Brennan. I do. I love Brennan in ways I didn't think I would because of book 1. He's certainly an interesting character who tries so hard to work through his issues. But I just cannot ship him with Rielle.

I hope that he comes to find peace and happiness that he deserves but I just don't think he and Rielle fit no matter how much they love each other.

And I think there's something lovely about seeing these complexities of love. It's not a balm and cure all.

Rielle is wonderful in her own right.

Actually I love all the characters new and old in this book.

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