



# The Shadow Prison

*K.A. Parkinson*

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## **The Shadow Prison** K.A. Parkinson

Sixteen-year-old Macy is not your average teenager—she's a member of the Chosen, an elite group of gifted and magically talented children responsible for protecting humans from the monsters of the Hidden race. But when the Shard of the Ninth Chosen arrives at her Watcher's door with the deadly Shadow Wraiths in hot pursuit, her world is shaken. The Ninth is to lead the Final Battle against the evil forces of the Dark. And when that Ninth turns out to be Tolen Parks, a clueless seventeen-year-old who has no idea he's anything other than a freak, she figures the world is a gonner. The two of them are swept down a dangerous path that tests everything that Macy is . . . and brings out everything that Tolen can be. Amidst monsters and Radia Warriors, the pair must discover who they really are and face the heart of darkness in order to find victory . . . and their destinies.

## **The Shadow Prison Details**

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Author : K.A. Parkinson

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# From Reader Review The Shadow Prison for online ebook

## Fay Roberts says

"There is no beginning of Light and Dark, they have always been. Worlds have been formed and destroyed. Lives have been created and obliterated. Alliances have been made and broken. Always the Light inspires. Always the Dark enslaves. You have been selected by the Balance to fight for the Light. Two choices lie ahead for you with the greater call...Follow the road that will save both worlds...or ignore your destiny and watch them fall...Will you accept your destiny...?"

Living in nowhere Utah, Tolen knows something is up with his life. On the surface it reeks of cliché. Missing dead beat Dad, sick mother, bullies at school, working extra at the grocery store to help make ends meet. A tale as old time. But then there's his eye. A birth defect he assumes; talking about it only upsets his mother. And the stuff that happens with the trees whenever his emotions run high. But when Macy and Bastian crash into his life and he finds out nothing is as it seems, Tolen longs for the days of blissful ignorance.

The Ninth Chosen by the Light, Tolen is gifted with all the talents the Light has to offer. Meant to lead the Chosen and unite all the Warriors of Light in the Final Battle against the Dark, Tolen has to decide whether to follow his destiny or not. He also has to sort out his conflicting feelings about Macy, escape the Dark and get to safety so he can learn to use his Gifts, and it turns out his Dad isn't a dead beat and is locked in the Dark's Shadow Prison and it's his fate to go and rescue and him. Another day in Utah.....

In a richly imagined world, every bit as vivid as Cassandra Clare's Shadowhunters', this is a slick action adventure story with plenty of twists and turns to keep the reader guessing (but minus the snark). There are a host of new mythical creatures for readers to fall in love with and/or despise all backed up the universes' own myths, legends and prophecies. A fun read for an Autumn night.

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## Heather Green says

This is one amazing book! It's like Harry Potter meets Percy Jackson, but better. I didn't want to put it down. Many books show the rivalry between good and evil, but most don't do it as eloquently as this one. I love the authors writing style. I came away from this book feeling better about myself and my potential to contribute to the world. I'm not sure this story was supposed to have religious undertones, but it did for me. I was reminded of who I really am and where I came from. I have strength beyond my own to do great things in this life. I cried in a couple scenes that involved Bastian. I laughed. I worried. I loved the way Tolen was with Macy even though she was less than kind to him. I loved watching the growth Macy experienced emotionally. I was glad she discovered the reason she pushed people away so that she could address the issue and open herself up to love and friendship. I can't wait to read the next book in the series. This author is one of my new favorites. I thought I heard somewhere that this is her first book. Holy Cow! What an exceptionally talented person to put this together for a first book. Phenomenal. I would recommend this clean, action-packed journey of discovery for teenagers on up. I received this book in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Sarah says**

I got this book in exchange for an honest review and, honestly, I didn't like it. The plot was the usual fantasy fare: a chosen teenager has to save the world, but has never received any training in his gifts. Even though everybody else is a lot more qualified, only his pure heart and raw talent can stop the world from ending.

What annoyed me the most was that the characters did not grow realistically over the course of the book. Macy, the female sidekick, is closed off and annoyed at Tolen, the protagonist, but ultimately comes around and considers him the best thing since sliced bread. This change of attitude basically takes place within 10 pages with her being ambivalent and then suddenly changing her mind. Besides that, Macy does not seem to have any sense of curiosity. If somebody does not tell her something, she thinks it's for a good reason and does not keep pressing, which is really annoying when half the book consists of characters telling each other that they will tell them later. She always seems to do what others tell her to, which makes her general abrasiveness even more inexplicable.

Tolen suffers from the same character flaws. At first he does not want to exchange his destiny, then 10 pages later he accepts it after a short pep talk. He does not understand his powers? No problem, he will still be able to use without a problem. He is a little better with getting answers than Macy, but if he does manage to get answers, his elders will ultimately be proven right by him getting into trouble. Tolen's most troubling character trait for me was his chauvinistic, nice guy attitude toward Macy. She is better trained, has more experience, and he still goes out of his way to treat her like she cannot protect herself.

Apart from the characters, I also disliked the depiction of the other female character, of which, as the narrator actually goes out of her way to point out, aren't many. They are either the love interest, the weak willed traitor or the weak willed mother. The male characters, even if really flat, get more meaty roles and a more positive depiction. Overall, I also disliked the parallels to other previous works, and christian mythology, which makes the Ninth Chosen seem somewhat derivative.

The review got a little longer than expected, but the essence is that I cannot recommend it and definitely won't read the sequel.

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## **Laura says**

I struggled rating this book, because by chapter 6, I would have given it two stars. It was just slow and didn't seem very unique. The last half of the book was 4 stars, so I gave it three stars. BUT, I will read the rest of the books in the series.

Fans of Mortal Instruments, I am Number Four, Michael Vey, Percy Jackson, Fablehaven and Harry Potter will see familiar threads running through this story. The first few chapters there was VERY little back story, so I could really see the similarities. Once the back story was told (I think it was in chapter 8 that they actually explained the universe to Tolen) I was able to focus on the story rather than make comparisons to other series I have read.

The overall premise of an ultimate fight between good and evil is not new. The hero, Tolen, is hidden by his mother to protect him from those who would use him in the fight. He is found by the one who will train and protect him--at any cost, including sacrificing his life. Of course Tolen is years behind in his training because he doesn't even know who he really is, nor does he understand the reality of his universe.

Macy has been training for 10 years and is supremely frustrated that Tolen is intruding on her life. She

doesn't want to deal with entanglements--she is just fine living without friends or family. Unfortunately, that is not what the Light has planned for her or Tolen.

I will recommend this book to friends, but I will probably have to warn them that it starts slow and builds. Any teenage boy would be hooked once the action begins. I just don't know that my son--who is not a fast reader--would stick with it until the action really starts.

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## **Raquel Zúñiga says**

I received this book in exchange for an honest review.

The Shadow Prison is the first book in The Ninth Chosen series. And it's an awesome YA fantasy book, full with magical creatures, shadows, friends and ancient prophecies.

### **THE STORY**

Macy was chosen to protect the human race from the darkness since she was 6 years old, and she has spent the last 10 years training to be the best.

The legend said there are eight chosen and the ninth will unite and lead them all in the final battle against the darkness.

Tolen is just a regular 17-year-old boy who can't wait to graduate and move on with his life. That is of course until Bastian and Macy show up at his place and turn his life upside down.

### **MY THOUGHTS**

I wasn't sure about this book at first, I thought it maybe too high fantasy for me; but thank the lord I didn't quit it because this book is so great.

When I finish it I just kept thinking "I can't wait to get home and see what happens now with Tolen" and then I remember I've already finished the book, so sad.

I don't usually compare books but I have to say The Shadow Prison is kind of like I Am Number Four (Pittacus Lore) meets The Faeries Guardian (Rachel Morgan) which are both awesome so you can imagine this book being twice awesome.

I like the idea of good vs evil and having to save the world but with different mythical elements. It is not your everyday witches, aliens, wizards and elves. But chosen, guardians, doogars and D'hool.

And there are also tons of adventures, dangers, romance and friendships.

I can't wait for the next book to be out I need to know what's next for Tolen and Macy asap. Xo

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## **Becki says**

[The only “bad” thing to say about this book

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### **LuAnn says**

I have enough difficulty with my own (familiar) world, so I am always seriously impressed when someone comes up with an entire 'other' world. 'Other' is in quotes because, as you begin to read *The Shadow Prison* (Book 1 of *The Ninth Chosen Series*) by K. A. Parkinson, it becomes apparent that while the book is set in the Utah and on the West Coast, it's a 'whole 'nother world' out there. (In there?)

There are forces of the Light and of the Darkness. There are humans and the Hidden. There's a lot to take in...and I'm just reading. Poor Tolen (the titular character) - he's thought all his life he was just a weird human. Just before high school graduation, he finds out not only is he not human, he's got this whole destiny-to-save-humankind thing going on that his mother has neglected to mention to him.

Thank goodness there is a lexicon of Light words at the end of the book! It's a pretty language (assuming I was pronouncing everything correctly, of course) that looks like some kind of cross between old Irish and something you might find in LOTR.

I'm always curious when an author names a book after one character and then starts out with a lot of activity from and information about a different character. For the first chapters, I thought Macy (also one of the Chosen) was the main character.

When you start a book, let alone a series, that is set in a whole other place and/or time, with its own laws, customs and languages, there is of necessity a lot of exposition, which made the beginning seem a teeny bit slow to me. But as the story progresses, things definitely heat up and by the end I did not want to put my Kindle down!

I was a little disappointed at the ending - it was a little too abrupt for my taste. I understand there are more stories to come (yay!), but Tolen and Macy had just been to h.e.double-toothpicks together (or pretty close to it). They hugged, they relaxed. I swiped my finger and saw "The End". I may have wailed. But there was an excerpt from Book 2 (*The Keeper of the Last*), which is, I believe due out this month, so I wasn't left completely hanging.

(Disclosure: I received an ecopy of this book in exchange for my honest and unbiased review.)

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### **Maddy Martinelli says**

I would first like to thank [ebooksforreview.com](http://ebooksforreview.com) for sending me a digital copy of this novel for review! This was a great opportunity and I greatly appreciate it. The story definitely had its ups and downs, but the overall premise of the storyline was well written and had lots of twists and turns that the reader would never suspect. In the beginning there was a bit of an information overload, but that was clearly there for a reason; to inform the reader of the world and give us the knowledge to understand what was going on in the book. I really loved the relationship between the two main characters and the way that they developed together as the story

progressed. The author did an excellent job making the story come to life as she went in detail of the world around our protagonists and their own journeys of self discovery and knowledge. At times the story got a bit slow, which made it a tad hard to read but otherwise the progression of the story was smooth and well written. I would recommend this story to fans of Blackmoon Beginnings by Kaitlyn Hoyt, City of Bones by Cassandra Clare, Forbidden by Amy Miles, and Water by Terra Harmony. This is definitely a book for those who love the world of magic and YA novels!

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## **megan says**

This. Was. So. Good! When I first started reading it, I read the first chapter and immediately thought that it was going to be a tough read for me because it seemed a little complicated and intense, and in some ways it is, but it's so good!

I loved so many things about this: the fantasy world, the abilities/magical powers that the characters have, the characters themselves, I loved it all! The only thing that made me dock it a star is that it's a bit insta-lovey, and the slight love triangle. I would've loved to have seen the same events take place without a love triangle involved like it always is and seen some more creativity since this book was already so creative.

I loved the magical abilities and setting this book has. All of the abilities that are possible are touched on and explained (Bonus: if you get confused, the author includes a guide at the back of the book to break things down for you!). The world is very much shown instead of told which can be a struggle with fantasy authors but which I personally think Parkinson pulled off flawlessly. I'm not the biggest fan of fantasy, normally because the worlds aren't explained well enough and I get caught up in logic ("That doesn't even make any sense!/Why did you think that was a good idea?!"), but even with the strange, ancient terms used in the book, it was still relatively easy to follow along and I really enjoyed this. Also, all of the words and the way their abilities worked put me in the mind of The Kane Chronicles by Rick Riordan which I think helped me catch on to this book more quickly.

The plot was a bit slow and complicated for me in the beginning but I got into the flow of it by the fourth chapter and it picked up. I think it was a little on the predictable side but I still loved reading the events unfold.

I also loved the characters. Each character was unique and I loved meeting them. Again, I think Parkinson did an amazing job with showing instead of telling about the characters abilities and roles and everything unfolded in an organic way. It was really fun for me to see Tolen's different abilities appear and see him grow. Macy is literally a ball of fire and a strong female character, and if you've read any of my reviews before, you'll know I love strong female characters. Bastian is so sweet and gentle, and just all of the characters were so good.

I could go on but my main point is that this is a strong fantasy read and I loved nearly everything about it. I'm definitely putting the second book on my to-read list.

Likes: Characters. Showing instead of telling. Different abilities/beings. Tolen.

Dislikes: A little on the predictable side. Spelling/grammar errors. Love triangle. A bit insta-lovey.

Overall:

Recommend? Yes!

Reading the Next One? Yes!

\*I received this e-book for free in exchange for an honest review\*

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### **Jessica Bronder says**

In our world, there is a battle between Light and Darkness. It is almost time to choose the last person of power for the end battle. We start the story with Macy, a teenage girl with powers and her Watcher, Bastian. The creatures of the dark have found them and are coming with the intent to kill. But just before they strike, Bastian tells Macy that the ninth person has been chosen and they have to find him. Barely escaping, they go on the hunt for Tolen Parks.

Tolan has a special background and amazing powers that he knows nothing about. His mother has been shielding him and has now gotten run down enough to not be able to protect him by herself. Bastian and Macy come to introduce him to his heritage. But it's not going to be a happy gathering. The agents of the Dark are intent on capturing Tolen for their side of the war. Now it's up to Macy and Bastian to keep him safe and get him trained for war.

I loved this book. There was great action and a well thought out story. I loved how everything was explained, as Tolen learned so did you plus the index in back was a help. Tolen thinks he is nothing more than the town freak then learns there is more to him than he thought. Macy was a bit of a pain but as you went along you could understand why.

If you like the paranormal, thriller young adult books you will love this book. I can't wait to see what happens next in Keeper of the Last.

I received The Ninth Chosen: The Shadow Prison for free from Kathy at I Am A Reader in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Julie says**

Macy and her watcher Bastian are on the run from Shadow Wraiths that killed her parents 10 years ago. She's been hiding out since she was six years old training to fight the Dark and just when she is feeling safe the Wraiths have found her. Bastian who was weak and old transformed into a younger muscular man. They have to find the Ninth, the chosen one, before the Dark finds him. Macy and Bastian locate the Ninth in a small town. He happens to be a normal teenage boy, Tolen Park. Tolen has one blue eye and one brown and has always known he was different. He learns his best friend Dane is a "Doogar" and his mom has lied to him.

Tolen can't help notice, Macy is beautiful. She's petite but tough with long blonde hair and green eyes. Tolen is tall with brown hair and very awkward. He doesn't have a chance with Macy, especially since she hates him. Macy doesn't like Tolen because he's helpless and she doesn't have time to train him before the Wraiths attack. Tolen is suppose to bring balance to the Light but his mom kept him hidden. She didn't tell him who he was or where he father really was. He learns his father is in shadow prison. When the Wraiths attack,



Tolen's mom and best friend help them fight so Tolen can escape to where he'll be trained. Tolen isn't sure he can live up to his destiny but more than anything he wants to save his dad who he had thought had abandoned him.

I love this idea of different dimensions going on around us. The Light and the Dark are at war with each other right here but we can't always see them. Tolen and Macy are going to have to learn to work together to save the world from the Dark.

This is a great read. If you liked the City of Bones series you'll love this.

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### **Karen says**

The Shadow Prison is the first book in The Ninth Chosen series. This is all about good versus evil. Light versus Dark.

Macy is a Chosen. She has been raised since her parents death at age six by her Watcher, Bastian. Bastian has taught her about the Light and its goodness. She has spent her life learning that she was chosen along with eight others to protect humans and Hiddens (all the others who humans do not see) from the Dark. Until one night when once again Macy's world turns upside down. Suddenly her and Bastian are fleeing from minions of the Dark trying to locate another Chosen. Tolen, a misfit in a half-dead town, has one friend and a mother who is clearly sick but refuses to go to the doctor. He is 17 years old and being harassed by bullies. Truthfully he can understand why. His father left the family right after he was born, he has one brown eye and one strangely colored blue eye and he can communicate with trees. In fact, one night the trees interfere with the bullies who are beating him up. So when out of the blue Bastian and Macy show up to tell him that he is the ninth Chosen to defend the Light against the Dark, he knows they have the wrong person. He is a loser who cannot even defend himself. Except, his mother knows what these strangers are talking about and even his friend, Dane, understands what is going on. Bad enough to leave home to train to be one of the Chosen when you are not sure you are capable of it, but even worse is Macy acts like she cannot stand him. The terrors of the Dark are chasing them and he has to learn to be one of the Chosen but there is so much more he does not understand and he wants the answers to it all.

This is a great book to start a series. Here is the fight of Good vs. Evil where there is so much more going on in the world around us. Macy lost her parents to the Dark because she was one of the Chosen. Tolen has no clue that he is a Chosen because his parents hide it from him all his life. There is so much more to this story then hero discovers who he is, trains and triumphs. He has to learn about this whole other life and how he and his parents fit into it. The relationship between Tolen and Macy is important and you get the idea that there is more to it then you know. The idea of Tolen's parents and their past influencing the future leaves you wondering if there is more to come of Macy's family history. You also wonder who are the other Chosen and what are they like. I will definitely be looking for the next book.

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### **Montzalee Wittmann says**

I just loved this book! It is a fantasy about Light and Dark in a way I would never have dreamed of. The main characters are teens but don't think they are incapable due to their age! They are kick-ass teens with "gifts" that will be used to help mankind. Eight "Chosen" are trained to prepare at all times for the battle of the end times. The "Ninth Chosen", he/she would lead them into battle when the time comes. The time has

come. I make it sound corny but the author makes it believable and suspenseful. There is lots of surprises, just a touch of romance to keep it fun, plenty of creatures of fantasy and magic that is used in ways I have not read before, and the characters are well developed. I have read fantasy since I learned to read as a young child and this old lady will read fantasy till she dies, and this fantasy book was awesome! I can't wait to see what happens in the next book! It does not leave you hanging. It ends in a conclusion which I like. I hate it when a book leaves you hanging. It does leave more to come so this is what I am waiting for.....yes!!!

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## **Meghan says**

I loved every aspect of this story. I can't even describe the ups, downs, laughs, tears and gasps this story put me through...except to say I loved it and I can't wait to read the next in this series! The writing style was unique for me because I felt like the KA was able to put me into a place where I felt where each character was coming from and feeling. With every scene I was rooting for or irritated with each character! I never knew which way Macy was going to go and I was floored by some of the losses we experiences and I still think my mouth is hanging open with the ending...in a good way..I promise!!

If you are a YA or fantasy type reader you probably will not be surprised that the author has created a whole world and language, but I think you and everyone who reads this will appreciate the depth and artistry behind the world that KA created for this story. I loved learning about the different powers, creatures, the Chosen, the Hidden race and more. The story does delve into the often discussed battle between light and dark, good and evil, but by creating this world and the skills with which the characters came to life I felt that this book was unique and a fascinating read!

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## **Leslie says**

I am trying to figure out where to start. I really liked this book. But in the beginning I was on information overload, and still clueless. I'm learning all these new terms, words, people, creatures, and rules. But I don't know why I'm learning this yet.

So the world is on the brink of war, but not between countries, but between the light and the dark (good and evil), there are chosen ones selected to protect humans and the light against the dark, and then the ninth one is chosen. The ninth is suppose to fulfill a prophecy. They are suppose to save the world from the dark. But, the ninth being chosen is a good and bad thing, he is superior so he can save the world, but him being chosen means the war is on the horizon. Macy & Tolen have a guardian named Bastian as well. He is there to protect, guide and teach them. There is a lot of action in this book, as well as rudeness, love, betrayal, pain, and loss. There are all sorts of creatures in this story, you have different evil creatures that most people would consider demons, fairy types, watchers, along with people with different powers. The powers usually are something to do with the elements earth, wind, fire, and water. However, a select few have different powers. Macy does get on my nerves sometimes, because she is always pushing people away, and Tolen gets on my nerves too because he does dumb stuff and sometimes acts like a girl.

While they are learning to survive together, they also have to figure out their destiny and what part they are suppose to play in this war.

This book is written from different points of view.I thought I wouldn't like it and I almost put it down. I then

thought about it and I wasn't giving it a fair chance. So I carried on and I found myself enjoying the book. I was enjoying figuring out the mysteries before the characters did.

So, give it a chance, you will be surprised.

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