



## Soul of Flame

*Rebecca Ethington*

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**Soul of Flame** Rebecca Ethington

The Time for the final battle has come.

Edmund's armies have surrounded the Rioseco Abbey, trapping the few survivors inside. The sight that Ilyan was given a thousand years ago is about to come to pass.

If only Joclyn was able to fight.

Joclyn is tormented by the hallucinations that Cail's mind has left her with, her magic an uncontrollable torrent that even Ilyan cannot control. Her moments of lucidity are broken by fears of dripping pipes and bleeding walls, and a desire to kill Ryland that she is having trouble trying to ignore.

The sight has shown her power, shown her success, but it has also shown her death – The end of her life something she is not quite willing to give up on yet.

Even past her death, the sight has shown her love, and that love may be the only key to her sanity, to her strength, and to Edmund's death.

That love may stand in her way, and a single choice may tip the scales and secure their future, or destroy their fate.

## Soul of Flame Details

Date :

ISBN :

Author : Rebecca Ethington

Format :

Genre : Fantasy, Young Adult, Paranormal, Romance, Magic

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## From Reader Review Soul of Flame for online ebook

### Deanna says

Anticipation and expectation are my enemies.

I've been so looking forward to this book that I built it up in my head too much.

While the story had all the wonderful characters that I love so much...Ilyan particularly...I admit that I am a little disappointed with this book.

Gah! How can I say such things?

Well, it's true. Though this book was far from boring or unexciting, I did not find the plot as exciting as the previous two books. Dare I say that not too much happens in this book???

But don't let this review get you wrong. You see the four stars I gave it? Yeah, that isn't some mistake. I gave it four stars because I still loved this book even though it wasn't the highly complicated, heart-breaking, emotional story I was anticipating. So if you haven't read it yet, don't let your mind build it up for you, or you could be disappointed.

Man, that word sounds harsh. I'm not disappointed. Truly. It's just the best word to describe my feelings towards this book since I've now read it. I am still in love with this series and am looking forward to the last book!

Now, there is one thing I want to comment on.

(view spoiler)

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### Arienne says

Spoilers!! I read the book between last night and this morning. I thought about my review and I'm just going to have to say I had mixed feelings about this, after all the anticipation I've had with it being delayed. I know the final book won't be released until possibly July, which is quite frankly, lame...so I didn't really expect the battle to happen in this book. With that being said, chapter upon chapter upon chapter of "mi lasko" and their love started to bore me. Yes, she really came into her own, and yes, Rebecca did a fantastic job of writing that part in the last few chapters, but the whiny co-dependency along with the endless mush was just too much for 3/4 of the book! I still have mixed feelings about it. It was good, but I only kept reading so quickly in anticipation SOMETHING else was going to happen! ...and it did. In the last chapter, and then of course, was cut short.

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### **Ben Alderson says**

YES YES YES!

Again, one of my favourites, literally read 80% of this yesterday and then moved onto book five AND ALMOST FINISHED THAT... Better go and update that on here.

This series is getting better and better, i don't want to spoil it for you, so i won't tell you whats happening... but just know, secrets are unravelled and the world deepens, loved it!

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### **Steven Erickson says**

Soul of Flame continues the Imdalind Series tradition of amazing characterization and complex motivations.

The book starts out almost immediately after where Book 3 left off – which is good considering the events of that book. I'll try to make this review as spoiler free as possible.

Here, Joclyn has to work through her motivations, fears, and personal faults in order to move forward toward her destiny as described in the sights. Unfortunately, what Joclyn has seen in the sights does not bode well for her or her companions – something that Joclyn must struggle with as she discovers where she belongs and cements who she belongs with. And that's just Jos.

The other major characters – Illyan, Ryland, Thom, Cail, Wyn, Sain, all of them are present and accounted for. And each of them gets their own bits and piece. Illyan must determine how to make his continued future with Joclyn work, Wyn struggles with what has happened to her love, Ryland is...without spoiling too much, going through Hell, and Sain? Sain gets to struggle with Illyan and Joclyn and his own personal beliefs regarding the sight and what it is/how it works in a way that will make you wonder if the man spits arsenic.

Many of the emotional scenes in the book are wonderfully described and entirely immersive. Ethington's imagery and focus on feeling is so well connected and well flowing that you don't realize that several pages have passed while you watch the characters interact. One of the most enchanting 'love' scenes that I have read in a very long while is contained within this novel. If you are looking for spectacular emotion, grab this book.

In other words, Ethington's spectacular character development continues to shine in the novel. Joclyn and

Ilyan are the major ones, but everyone gets a few moments in the sun that really round out the character arcs. There are a few minor questions left regarding each personal journey, but, on the whole, a lot of the characters feel 'accomplished.'

There is not a lot of 'plot' advancement in the book. We know about Edmund and his evil and that our friends/lovers/horrible father figures have to stop him from moving forward and attacking others to conquer the world in darkness and pain. Only a few days, however, actually pass in the course of the novel. Instead of focusing on the action of the battle and the confrontation, the physical side of it, Ethington focuses on what it means TO the fighters and the future. The opening salvos are fired, yes, but it's clear that Ethington is saving the major stuff for the concluding novel (due out sometime this year according to her website). Rather than make a reader feel ripped off or disappointed, Ethington's pacing simply makes you hungry for the conclusion. The conclusion of the novel is spectacular and sets us up perfectly to see the confrontations that are sure to happen in the final volume.

On the whole, Ethington continues to shine. The Imdalind series is a shining example of excellent characters with a complex plot. If you haven't started reading it, go grab the first three and Soul of Flame and prepare yourself for an amazing journey.

Writing – 5/5

Characterization – 5/5

Setting – 5/5

Story – 5/5

Flow – 5/5

Value – 5/5

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## Holly says

*Soul of Flame* picks up right where *Scorched Treachery* left off, in a blaze of passion between Joclyn and Ilyan. I find the storyline between Joclyn and Ilyan to be so romantic and gripping. It's not explicit in nature as a New Adult book would be (of course not, these are Young Adult) but yet Rebecca still paints a picture of what it really means to bare ones self completely before another, to show complete vulnerability, all while remaining mostly (so Ilyan prefers to not wear a shirt a lot of the time) clothed. The connection between Joclyn and Ilyan is soul wrenching by how beautiful it is. But at the same time, the loss of what Joclyn feels for Ryland and their broken relationship will break your heart.

Ryland and Joclyn are both emotionally damaged, broken even in some ways by the torture that Edmund put them through. Ryland is nearly completely broken because his heart has literally been shattered. All he sees when he looks at Joclyn is someone he wants to kill. His father put that desire there. He can't help how he feels. Who he was, the boy who was her best friend and first love no longer exists. In the same way Joclyn is battling the demons she now carries because of Edmund and Cail's torture of her mind. Her anger threatens to consume her. When she sees Ryland all she sees is the boy who tried to kill her for 3 months and her anger becomes its own being within her, wanting nothing more than to choke the life out of him. But Ilyan, oh Ilyan, her fierce and strong protector, is working to calm her and help her control her anger. Though he loves her deeply, he won't take advantage of her weakened state, nor will he force a bonding on her but tells her when she is ready they will make that decision together.

Much of the book is leading up to the final battle they will face against Edmund. What Ilyan and Joclyn have seen in the sight, is a battle that will lead to Joclyn's death. Because of what they are soon facing, I found most of the book to be hauntingly beautiful. Though they know what is waiting for them only days away, through all the stumbling blocks in their way of what appears to be a hopeless situation, (Wyn isn't yet strong enough to fight, Dramin is still dying, Ryland has lost his mind and is in no shape to fight and Thom and Sain will have to get them all to safety while Joclyn and Ilyan fight a host of enemies), they still manage to cling to each other, to live in the moment of what is building between them and to strengthen their connection. One song came to mind during my reading of this book. Seriously, it's so perfect.

Eavesdrop by The Civil Wars.

(Go to my blog post to listen and watch the video)

Sigh....

My only complaint, and this is nothing about the story itself, is this book cover. I get what it represents. But something about it I just don't like. The cover of *Scorched Treachery* was perfect!! It is my favorite cover of the series - I mean, hello?! Of course it is, since it features Ilyan. There is an aspect of *Soul of Flame's* cover I didn't pick up on until I read the book and I loved that part of it afterward! I guess it's all the redness that I don't like. Total personal taste there. This series is so wonderful, that I'd love to see equally wonderful and eye catching book covers represent them.

A special thanks to Rebecca Ethington for entrusting me with an ARC copy!! I am honored to have been given the opportunity to read this before it came out. This series is still a top favorite of mine! And now, a small plea Rebecca, please don't make us wait long for *Dawn of Ash*. That would be cruel.

If you haven't yet read this series, and you enjoy books about magic and love and heartbreak and victory - then you will love these!

To view my reviews of the other books in this series in book order:

Kiss of Fire (4 stars)

Eyes of Ember (5 stars)

Scorched Treachery (5 stars)

#### **Favorite Quotes:**

*...feeling his passion, his commitment, his selfless love - I knew how wrong I had been. This was home. This was love. This was real.*

*"Without love, you wouldn't have willingly sacrificed yourself for her. Without love, her heart wouldn't have called to you and given you a way to find her. It was always there. It always will be."*

*I may have lost my first love, but I wasn't going to let Edmund take away my best friend, too, even if it took years to trust him again.*

#### **Final Rating - 4 stars**

This review is also posted [HERE](#).

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## **Andrea says**

Well I hate to be a wet blanket but I was a little disappointed in this one. I felt like nothing happened, the story line did not move forward AT ALL, and the whole book was basically Joclyn hiding in her room having panic attacks anytime anyone mentioned Ryland (or Cail)(or Edmund)(or the final battle). I know she's been through a lot and not very much time has passed, but we're four books into this thing now. I need her to stop being the victim and start being this powerful person that everyone keeps talking about.

Still had a hard time putting it down, still obsessed, still excited about the next book... but hoping it'll have a little more plot and a little less Joclyn and Ilyan gazing into each others eyes page after page.

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## **Jodie Champ says**

HOLY COW I NEED THIS IN MY LIFE NOW!!

i have read 100 books in the last 5 months, mainly erotic! but this...is something else. i got through the last 3 books in 5 days and now its killing me waiting this long for the next one! i feel depressed i cant even pre-order it on itunes yet! I CANT WAIT!!

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## **Kristin Campbell says**

Can this story get any better or more complex?

There are so many things I love about this book:

One, it all takes place in a matter of a few days. That made it minute by minute, like you were actually living the story.

Two, there was this feeling of closure. I can't really explain it, but there was this sense of peace with Joclyn. She is battling her fears, heavily, but seems to be at peace that the haunted memories will forever be there. By the end of the book, she seems to have won that battle. Plus, there is the torn relationship with Ryland, who I absolutely love still and cry so many times at his own battle with insanity! Gah! Anyways, she seems to make her peace with him, too. Kinda. :'(

Three, how there is still SO much more to come! Wow, with that one. As much as this book felt like closure in one way, in another, a lot of the story is open with more plot twists. Things have changed, destinies have been altered (or have they?), someone doesn't seem to be who we thought they were (he's a real arse, actually!), and there is a whole other mission for those who are left standing.

Four, Ilyan. Enough said. No really, how many books are there where the love interest changes? This was a dynamic that I LOVED with last two books. You only see a snippet of Ilyan's affections in Kiss of Fire, and that seemed a little freaky at the time because Joclyn had no interest whatsoever. Then, she became more dependent on him in Eyes of Ember and as their friendship grew, so did her love for him. THEN! you learn about Ilyan's past and the vision he sees of her coming (Awe moment there). THEN! there is the kiss at the end of Scorched Treachery! All of it building up beautifully to what happens in this book. Sigh...

All in all, this book was beautifully written, it was an amazing build up to the last book, and it will leave you edgy for the final book of the series!

Rebecca, you amaze me!

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## **Lisa says**

Soul of Flame  
Book 4 of the Imdalind Series  
YA Fantasy

I had a tough time rating this one. That doesn't happen very often. Usually I can sit back after finishing a book and give an overall impression, a solid representation of how I felt and thought. But Soul of Flame is proving uncooperative. I can't seem to reconcile all the parts. I think of one scene and want to give 1 star. But then I ruminate on another scene and can't think of giving anything less than 4 stars. And then when I get to the characters I'm even more scattered! I will say however that Ilyan is by far the best thing about this entire series.

I can't even get more together than this for a review because I'm so irritated. So I will break it down in a list of what I liked and what I didn't like.

### **Liked:**

- 1) Ilyan! He's a hot, sexy, possessive, protective, impassioned, delicious millennium old warrior king that I would happily fight Joclyn for. In fact, I'm pretty sure she doesn't deserve him.
- 2) I like where the story is going for the most part. (My problem is with the execution.) The story itself is very good.

### **Did Not Like:**

- 1) Joclyn. I can't put my finger on what it is exactly that rubs me wrong about her. Perhaps it's that this is YA and therefore the author feels the need to make her a scattered, immature teenager that is humanity's only hope to survival. I had high hopes that in this book we would have seen her turn a corner in regards to growing the hell up. Because after four books you'd think we would have seen some growth and maturity... but nope. She's the exact same as she was in book one: a waffling, impulsive, foolish little girl. I really wish that this series was written in third person...
- 2) In the first 50% of this book...nothing...happened...at...all. I think this was the author's attempt at building relationships, maybe developing a few characters, but it was just off. I kept putting the book down and walking away because I would get so bored. That's not good. The only reason I finished the book was because I have invested so much time in this series...and because I'm in love with Ilyan.
- 3) I had high hopes for Soul of Flame. I had expected this book to be the turning point book. The first three books were build-ups, laying everything down to get ready for the big event, the showdown with Edmund. And I was also waiting for some good character development, especially from Joclyn. But rather than the epic book event I had planned, it was scattered, poorly paced, and a sad attempt at character development and execution.



It amazes (and frustrates) me that Rebecca Ethington can write such an awesome character like Ilyan yet have such other weak characters. She can develop a fascinating story yet fall down on the execution. And she can write! I have no complaints about her prose, descriptions, style, etc. Rather it's the way she is choosing to present her story and characters.

Soul of Flame on merit alone gets 2 stars from me with a one star bump because Ilyan is a beautiful man, and .5 star bump because I like the overall storyline of the series.

3.5 total stars.

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### **Krissy says**

Wow...It is so rare to find a series that delivers every time... Rebecca Ethington, does it again! (PS 5 stars is not enough!!)

The author successfully delivers and entices the reader by invoking so many emotions on every level...fear, happiness, anticipation, love, satisfaction. Soul of Flame has delivered more than my expectations could have ever imagined. The writing, the story, the characters are intriguing, addicting, and will guarantee to have you wanting more... I will guarantee that you will not want to put this book down, as the author draws you away from reality and slams you straight into the exciting world of Imdalind!!!

Sigh....this book was so worth it's wait, I recommend it to everyone that enjoys a good romance, action, mystery, paranormal, fantasy...or just a great story.

Well done, thank you for sharing this wonderful series! I am looking forward to Dawn of Ash

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### **Cheryl Lynn says**

I read chapter 1 of Soul of Flame, ABSOLUTELY AMAZING!!!! It makes you feel almost like you were Jos. You felt the kiss, the warmth inside, Ilyan being right there, face to face with him. It's like angels in the heavens came down and played their harps. The feeling of love that is so intense, it almost makes your toes curl. It's amazing, just amazing. If you haven't read the other books, this will definitely make you want to.

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### **Susan says**

What a disappointment. After loving the first two books, I am starting to not love the series in general. Absolutely nothing happened in this book other than Joclyn and Ilyan staring into each other's eyes, magic flaring and consuming bodies, and complete mental breakdowns over and over again. The author needs to get a thesaurus.

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## **K.Marie says**

I ABSOLUTELY LOVED THIS!!!!!! Review to come!

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## **Lisa says**

Just when I thought this series couldn't get better!!!! Once again, you will find yourself enamored and tormented, torn and in love, angry and vindicated! The Imdalind series is incredibly special. The characters are so well written and the relationships are beautifully evolved. You will not be let down by the most recent installment. Another masterpiece by a brilliant artist!

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## **Curly Carla Celebrity Readers says**

<https://celebrityreaders.wordpress.co...>

This book was better than the third one. In this one the book focuses on Joclyn and Ilyan's relationship. Not as much on Ryland though, I wish they would have focused a little bit more on him because he is still a favorite in my heart and Joclyn is still too insecure for my tastes. She seems to be waffling back and forth with her trust issues. I understand why but it's starting to fray a little bit on my patience as a reader.

Ilyan plays a much bigger role in this book. I'm starting to like Ilyan more at this point because he is so confident as her protector and in his role as king. Ovailia!!!!!!! Why can't she just die already? I can't stand her. I'm tired of reading about this breezy. I want that loose end to be tied up. I think I may be impatient. :)

The ending dialogue was kinda scratchy, it didn't flow as well. It seemed the author was foreshadowing more questions so we have even more loose ends to tie up. Like the issue Sain has with Joclyn. Dude, that's your daughter first, not the savior! He is a shady character.

I'm getting lost in all the side stories and losing my focus on the main plot. Maybe that's what's wearing on me. It just keeps asking more questions and not answering the original ones. I'm still reading the next one though, I have to know what happens.

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