



Darkness Savage

Rachel A. Marks

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The fate of humanity hangs in the balance as Aidan faces a crushing choice: give in to the demands of the forces of Darkness in order to save his sister, Ava, or fight on the side of good and risk losing her forever. With so much at stake and so little time, Aidan embarks on a mission to finish assembling a team of “Lights,” other teens whose special abilities are linked to his own.

Meanwhile, Rebecca discovers that she’s more than just a normal teen, and that the power awakening inside her may be stronger than she ever could have imagined. As the city plunges into chaos and Aidan doubts his plan of attack, Rebecca’s newfound gift may tip the balance in the wrong direction.

In this thrilling final installment of The Dark Cycle trilogy, will Aidan find the help he needs to release the world from Darkness’s grip? Or will he lose everything he's been desperately trying to save, including his soul?

Darkness Savage Details

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Author : Rachel A. Marks

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From Reader Review Darkness Savage for online ebook

Rae Sontheyon says

Secret Power Becomes Secret Weapon! . . .

Since this is the final novel in the Dark Cycle Series be prepared to be amazed, terrified, happy and yes in tears. A reader of this series will not be able to stop from being overwhelmed with emotions in saying goodbye to such a wonderfully crafted series dealing with relationships, magic, love, loss, angels and demons. This story is by far the most emotional out of the three in the series and yet I was still able to finish the last page with a smile on my face.

Faced with no choice but to fall into his little sister Ava's traps, Aidan fights with the demons sent to him under her command. However, those encounters happen in broad daylight in view of witnesses including cameras. Aidan is now forced into hiding while he plans his next move, which may mean destroying Ava, the one person he promised to always protect. With so everything and everyone he loves on the line, Aidan seeks to unite his team of lights, which includes Rebecca. Thinking she gave all she was to Kara in the transfer, Rebecca is adrift and doubts she is of any value to Aidan. But when strange occurrences happen that point to Rebecca still being a part of Aidan's group because of a special gift hidden within her, none can deny she maybe the most important part to saving everyone. The question is will Aidan be able to unit his lights in time to take on the Darkness that his sister has fallen to and will he be able to do what must be done to save the world?

Overall, great ending and I'm so sad to say goodbye to this series. I honestly was not expecting to cry but I totally did a couple of times. So I highly suggest hiding when reading this because you're not going to want to be interrupted, trust me almost killed my brother for bothering during an intense part. Aidan is a true hero, his only fault is love and trying to save everyone. The fact that the kid (because he's like 18) is willing to sacrifice himself time and again for his friends and family is inspiring. So when he does a few thing that hurt him to the core, I cried for him since I know I couldn't have done what he did even to safe humanity. Oh and Rebecca grows in this novel, showing all she is to readers, from the broken 'Who am I?' to 'I'm worth it'. Rebecca hadn't been my favorite because she was a wrench in Aidan and Kara's relationship, but love and understand her after this novel, plus she has her own man now so now fear of hurting Aidan and Kara. So if you're a fan of the paranormal and supernatural you'll enjoy this series and if you've read the previous novels you're in for a great finale.

****I received a free copy & chose to post an honest review****

Kat Heckenbach says

So, I loved this whole series, although for some reason the second book was my favorite. I've waited a few days to review this one because I wanted to make sure I had my thoughts in order. Book two really focused on the relationships between the characters, and I think that is why it surpassed the other two. Rachel Marks has such a talent for that, for connecting characters and getting into their heads. While there was story progression in book 2, it focused more on the characters coming together, on the romance between Rebecca and Connor (who I totally shipped). In this one, the relationships continued to develop, but the focus returned to stopping Ava and there was something a bit off to me with the pacing. It seemed to read like a story that

would require a fourth book, but it all wrapped up at the end of this one, but there's still, well, powers. That's all I'm saying. Maybe Marks is leaving a door open for more stories in this world?

Anyway, this is a series I will likely read again. The characterization is top notch, the story world rich and plausible, the descriptions and voice wonderful.

My Website

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My YA fantasy series:

book 1

book 2

book 3

Sharon says

How sad. The end of an excellent series. I could not put it down and read until 3 AM. The story built and built to unexpected places, with strange happenings and unexpected people. I loved it.

I do hope a new series will be started soon.

Mícheál says

I'm gonna have a hard time writing a review of this book. To me, it was average. I was thrilled by the first book. It was new, thrilling, funny, and I fell in love with the characters. That's what got me through this book. I care about the characters.

The first book had a clear path and direction. The second book... I'm not sure what the point was. Here, there's a goal in sight, but I'm truly not sure how anything that happened in the meat of the book led up to that goal. It seemed like there was some master plan at play... but then there wasn't.

But the characters remain just as fun as they were before, and that counts for something. If you want to spend more time with the characters, but aren't too concerned with how much sense the story makes, then I'd recommend it. If what I described above may frustrate you, then maybe hold off.

I want answers. If this is the last book in the trilogy, then I need to know why Ava turned out evil. I need to know what made her turn into this beast we met at the end of the last book. How was she going to bring about the apocalypse? What was Aidan's purpose? What was his dad's purpose?

Also, why the heck was Rebecca so important?

I think the first book was so steeped in mythology, I would have liked to see more of that in book 3. More angels and demons battling it out. Some attempt at an explanation as to why Ava ended up evil at the end of the last book. Why the demons were so obsessed with killing Rebecca. I think Marks is a great author in both character development and world building, so I believe she knows those answers, I just wish they could have been part of the plot.

So, overall, I guess I'd recommend reading book 1, because it is brilliant, and end with that book. Leave it an

open ended novel. I think the series works better that way. But again, if you want more time with the characters, read on!

Pat Esden says

I was lucky enough to receive an ARC of this book in exchange for my honest review.

I loved the first two books in the Dark Cycle series and this third book, Darkness Savage, didn't disappoint in the least. From the first page, I was sucked back into the world. Like the rest of the series, this novel has a gritty contemporary feel and sense of place that comes from the author's wonderful choice of details and descriptions. The story's mythology gives it a frightening, razor-sharp, and dark edge. The characters are emotionally torn and feel real. Darkness Savage puts them literally through hell, hurtling them into situation after situation. I'm not a fast reader, but I tore through this book in a couple of days. I'm not going to say a lot about the plot or end, I don't want to give any spoilers. I do think it's better to read this series from the beginning to get the full impact and totally grasp everything that's going on. After finishing Darkness Savage, I'm left with a bittersweet feeling. I'll probably read this series again at some point. It was that good.

Blues says

Loved it.

Great series loved every single minute of it. It's a must read, and will be going on my personal face list.

Danielle Cloakey says

This book was thrilling. I love the world she has created within this trilogy. It's fast paced with no downtime, which I love! The action keeps going, each scene adding to the story, never distracting the reader from the main character's goals. There are two narrators, switching back and forth between Aidan's voice and Rebecca's. They are both intriguing characters, and Rebecca is something of a mystery because she's supposed to be Aidan's soulmate, but she gave that away to save another's life. That tells you something about who she is as a person. We find out about her mom in this book, and it's rather interesting. The dark forces in this world are unrelenting... there were even parts of the story where I was wondering if it would turn out to be okay at the end. If you like Buffy the Vampire Slayer or Supernatural, you will love this trilogy. Rachel A. Marks has definitely become one of my favorite authors!

Liz Barnsley says

I've loved the Dark Cycle series. Because I love a bit of magical mayhem with a demonic mix of wit and witchery. Phew.

So Darkness Savage is part 3 - the ending maybe, I don't know but certainly it ties up an awful lot of stuff

regarding Aiden and his sister, Rebecca and her struggle and all the highly addictive and intriguing plot elements Rachel Marks has brought to us in books one and two. Again it is fast moving, exciting, sometimes contemplative and the character arcs are as compelling as ever.

I like the world that has been built here, it is YA Urban Fantasy with a top notch descriptive sense that puts you right into the moment and some bang on characters to love and hate. Add to that an excellent nuanced plot that is written beautifully to be highly engaging and you have a winner.

Multiple viewpoints which work well, the mythology is solid and fascinating and I've thoroughly enjoyed every moment. I'm sure there are more stories to tell within this universe. I hope they come along soon.

Recommended.

Rachel Marks says

One way or another, Aidan's story is about to come to an end. . .

*

ONE MORE WEEK, GUYS!!!!

I just listened to the audio, guys... *shivers* Be ready to listen with the lights ON!

Look, there's a cover and a blurb now!!! ^^^ And I'm working on copyedits! Any day now this thing will totes be a book for reelz, guyz.

Sarah says

Interesting story but perhaps a little violent and dark for my preference.

Beth Cato says

I received an early copy of the book in return for my honest review. My honest opinion: WOW.

Marks holds back nothing in the final volume of her trilogy. The stakes are high from the start, with Aidan's power outed in public and demons rampaging throughout Los Angeles. Aidan desperately wants to save his sister Ava from the horrible evil that she is bringing to earth, even as he's faced with saving the lives of his beloved friends. Aidan loves many people; they are his vulnerable points, and Ava knows it.

Rebecca's powers also grow as she gains confidence and contends with her serious attraction to Connor. It's so refreshing to read a series where the male and female leads are in relationships but NOT with each other. I love the twists that come into play for Rebecca--and for her father, who, it turns out, has been hiding some things.

In case it's not clear from the synopsis: this book is DARK. It deals with some pretty grim and gory fight scenes and goes into psychologically dark places, too. This probably isn't a book by flashlight when the power is out! It's a fantastic, tense read, so the pages flip by fast. At the end, I was relieved that it was over and sad, too, because the series has been incredibly fun.

Zann says

Man, am I disappointed. This trilogy really kept my attention and I read all three books back to back. Unfortunately the ending was anticlimactic, at least for me.

THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS CONTAIN SPOILERS.

It was difficult to get my hopes up and cheer them on when considering all the powers available to them, these teens sure got their asses handed to them on a regular basis. Even a "win" was mostly just luck.

The next to the last time Aiden died, and while he was in the spirit world, he was told this was the last time he would come back to life, but then we're led to believe he died again and sank into the depths of the ocean and he seemed okay with that....welcoming death...and then the next thing I know it's 3 months later and he's alive and there is no explanation given!

Ava's ghost hangs out with Aiden at the end of the book and they're all sweet and chummy. Huh? Ava had become pure evil yet when she died her spirit reverted to sweet Ava again. If something like that was possible then wouldn't all ghosts be "good" because then everyone who chose evil or was turned evil would, after they died, revert to being the "good" person they were before they chose evil. There was no precedence for that to happen in these books and no explanation for why it happened to Ava.

And Eric...who was Aiden's guardian angel...this is a guy who should've had formidable powers! And yet he was captured and slaughtered right in front of Aiden. How utterly disappointing and pathetic.

Even though I liked many of these characters I found that when they died, or I thought they had died, I really didn't care. Now that's odd. Usually after spending 3 books with characters I'm invested in their wellbeing but not this time. In fact, the only one I was sad about was Rebecca's dad and luckily he didn't remain dead thanks to Aiden.

Even though I was annoyed with some stupid behavior by some of the characters I reminded myself that most of them were teenagers and teens often don't have the best judgement. The same can be said for adults sometimes so there ya go.

Well, I'm not at all sorry I read this trilogy. The writing was very good and there were some wonderful story elements.

Book #1 I gave 4 stars

Book #2 I gave 3 stars

Book #2 I gave 2 stars.

Rysa Walker says

Excellent conclusion to The Dark Cycle, which I've enjoyed from the beginning. Marks wraps things up nicely, with some intriguing twists and turns along the way.

Susan says

Wow

A great finale to a great series. Very exciting and fast paced. An exciting conclusion. I won this book through Goodreads

Eleanor Shepherd says

Heart racing...

Your heart races to the final revelation. You can't wait to get there. It builds into a huge crescendo that crashes to the shore and leaves you on the beach in the cold prickly sand. You understand, but it hurts. Loved the trilogy.
