

Swallowing Darkness Laurell K Hamilton Meredith Gentry 07

Swallowing DarknessSwallowing DarknessDarkness RisingDarkness UnboundGender WarriorsA Lick of FrostFantastic HopeBulletA Kiss Of ShadowsSeduced By MoonlightDivine MisdemeanorsThe Publishers WeeklyThe Mammoth Book of Best New HorrorThe Year's Best Fantasy and Horror 2007Best New HorrorDigital Talking Books PlusWhat Do I Read Next?Talking Book TopicsHooked on HorrorA Shiver of Light Laurell K. Hamilton Laurell K. Hamilton Keri Arthur Keri Arthur U. Melissa Anyiwo Laurell K. Hamilton Laurell K.Hamilton Laurell K. Hamilton Laurell K Hamilton Laurell K. Hamilton Laurell K. Hamilton Stephen Jones Gavin Grant Stephen Jones Neil Barron Anthony J. Fonseca Laurell K. Hamilton

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i am meredith princess of faerie wielder of the hands of flesh and blood and at long last i am with child twins fathered by my royal guard though my uncle taranis king of light and illusion claims that he is the true father since he abducted me from my home betrayed and defiled me and now he has branded my guards as a threat to my unborn children bearing an heir has placed me halfway to my aunt s throne that much closer to my reign over the unseelie court and well ahead of her son my cousin cel in this race now i must stay alive to see my children born and claim my

place as queen but not all in faerie are pleased with the news and conspirators from every court in the realm plot against me and mine they seek to strip my guards my lovers from me by poisoned word or cold steel but i still have supporters and even friends among the goblins and the sluagh who will stand by me i am meredith nic essus and those who would defy and destroy me are destined to pay a terrible price for i am truly my father s daughter to protect what is mine i will sacrifice anything even if it means waging a great battle against my darkest enemies and making the most momentous decision ever made as princess of faerie

merry gentry is not your average private investigator half human half faerie she s caught in a struggle that threatens not only her life but the lives of those she desires and holds dear her very existence and her rightful place on the throne of faerie have long depended on her ability to produce an heir and now after many failed attempts the services of her royal guards have found her pregnant it is a triumphant moment but revelation follows revelation for merry carries two babies and she knows they have more than one father and of course there are those of her own flesh and blood who want merry dead but she is a fighter and wields a wild magic and this is her world where the magical and the mortal intertwine where folklore fantasy and erotically charged adventure collide

the sexy thrilling adventures continue in bestselling author keri arthur s new dark angels series starring half werewolf half aedh risa jones risa will go to any lengths to avenge her mother s murder even if it means making a pact with the most evil vampire she s ever met lethal and powerful madeline hunter is leader of the vampire council and will put her resources behind finding the killer for a price the venerable vampire requires the assistance of risa s psychic powers quid pro quo someone or something is targeting the elders of the local council cursing the immortal vampires to rapidly age sink into madness and die risa must track down the vengeful being responsible but risa s father a rogue aedh priest also enlists her in a dangerous mission and not even the great madeline hunter may be able to protect her from the shadowy forces that desire nothing less than risa s destruction

the fight against darkness rages on for the next generation in new york times bestselling author

keri arthur s exciting new series set in the world of the guardians being half werewolf and half aedh risa jones can enter the twilight realms between life and death and see the reapers supernatural beings that collect the souls of the dead but she soon makes a terrifying discovery some sinister force is stealing souls preventing the dead from ever knowing the afterlife reapers escort souls not snatch them but risa is still unnerved when a reaper shadows her in search of someone risa has never met her own father an aedh priest who is rumored to be tampering with the gates of hell for a dark purpose with the help of her aunt half werewolf half vampire riley jenson and an aedh named lucian who may have lost his wings but none of his sex appeal risa must pursue whatever shadowy practitioner of blood magic is seizing souls and somehow stop her father before all hell breaks loose

gender warriors reading contemporary urban fantasy offers classroom ready original essays outlining contemporary debates about sexual objectification and gender norms in urban fantasy and examining how those cultural categories are reinforced and unraveled the essays explore the foundations and evolutions of urban fantasy and presentations of gendered identities in a wide variety of sources focusing not only on popular examples such as buffy the vampire slayer and underworld but also on less studied works for instance penny dreadful and anita blake the authors address the sociocultural institutions that bind gender to the body and shape our views of gendered norms inviting students of all experience levels to engage in interdisciplinary conversations about both theoretical and embodied constructions of gender and the production of genre and generic conventions the text unpacks cultural norms of gender and addresses issues of identity construction within an endlessly evolving genre this collection demonstrates the way that representations of gender and the kick ass female urban fantasy warrior have upended and reinforced a broad range of expectations and tropes making it a fascinating text for any course such as first year studies literature film gender studies sociology cultural studies history and more

i am meredith gentry princess and heir apparent to the throne in the realm of faerie onetime private investigator in the mortal world to be crowned queen i must first continue the royal bloodline and give birth to an heir of my own if i fail my aunt queen andais will be free to do

what she most desires install her twisted son cel as monarch and kill me my royal guards surround me and my best loved my darkness and my killing frost are always beside me sworn to protect and make love to me but still the threat grows greater for despite all my carnal efforts i remain childless while the machinations of my sinister sadistic queen and her confederates remain tireless so my bodyguards and i have slipped back into los angeles hoping to outrun the gathering shadows of court intrigue but even exile isn t enough to escape the grasp of those with dark designs now king taranis powerful and vainglorious ruler of faerie s seelie court has leveled accusations against my noble guards of a heinous crime and has gone so far as to ask the mortal authorities to prosecute if he succeeds my men face extradition to faerie and the hideous penalties that await them there but i know that taranis s charges are baseless and i sense that his true target is me he tried to kill me when i was a child now i fear his intentions are far more terrifying

a collection of sixteen sci fi and fantasy stories edited by no 1 new york times and sunday times bestselling author laurell k hamilton and author william mccaskey a child s wish for her father comes true the end of the world has never been so much fun conquering personal demons becomes all too real it s not always about winning sometimes it s about showing up for the fight it s about loving your life s work and jobs that make you question everything in this anthology seventeen authors have woven together brand new stories that speak to the darkness and despair that life brings while reminding us that good deeds humour love sacrifice dedication and following our joy can ignite a light that burns so bright the darkness cannot last laurell k hamilton and william mccaskey are joined by kevin j anderson griffin barber patricia briggs larry correia kacey ezell monalisa foster robert e hampson john g hartness jonathan maberry l e modesitt jr jessica schlenker sharon shinn m c sumner patrick m tracy and michael z williamson in this collection

i am back in st louis and trying to live a normal life as normal as possible for someone who is a legal vampire executioner and a us marshal i have my lovers my friends and their children school programs to attend in the midst of all this ordinary happiness a vampire from my past reaches out she was supposed to be dead but the mother of all darkness is the first vampire and it s hard to kill a god the mother of all darkness believes that the triumvirate created by master vampire

jean claude with me and the werewolf richard zeeman has enough power for her to regain a body and to emigrate to the new world but the body she wants to possess is already taken and if the mother of all darkness can't succeed in taking over my body for herself she means to see that no one else has the use of it ever again

laurell k hamilton's anita blake vampire hunter novels have established her as a force to be reckoned with her voice is fresh her style sensual her characters leap off the page and her blend of the contemporary and the supernatural is both original and exciting now in a kiss of shadows she introduces readers to an unforgettable new heroine meredith gentry a los angeles private investigator with a strange speciality supernatural crime merry has an even stranger secret she's a faerie princess in hiding and on the run from her own otherworldly realm for her aunt the malevolent queen of air and darkness has dispatched her chief bodyguard back to the mortal world to fetch meredith back whether she likes it or not she is to be the pawn in a plot that will transform the future of the seelie and unseelie courts her role to enjoy the constant company of the most beautiful and immortal men in the world of the sidhe her reward the crown the penalty for refusal death rich sensual and full of earthly pleasures dazzling magic and memorable characters some as deadly as they are beautiful a kiss of shadows is an unbridled tour de force of the imagination where folklore myth and legend come together with thrilling erotically charged adventure

i am meredith gentry p i and princess merry heir to the throne of fairie now there are those among me who whisper i am more they fear me even as they protect me and who can blame them i've awakened the dazzling magic that's slumbered in them for thousands of years but the thing is i can't figure out why my aunt the queen of air and darkness is no longer distracted by her usual sadistic hobbies her obsession has turned unwaveringly to me the mission to get me pregnant and beat my cousin prince cel to the crown is taking longer than expected even though i spend each night with the queen's ravens my immortal guards no child has come of our decadent pleasures but something else is happening my magic courses through me uncontrollably and as i lock my half mortal body with their full sidhe blooded ones the power surges like never before it all began with the chalice i dreamed of it and it appeared cool and hard beside me when i awoke my guards

know the ancient relic well its disappearance ages ago stripped them of their vital powers but it is here with us now my touch resonates with its force and they re consumed with it their sidhe essences lit up by it but even as they cherish me for this unexpected gift there are those who loathe me for it me a mongrel only half fey and part mortal the unseelie court has suffered for so long and there are some who would not have it weakened further by an impure queen my enemies grow in number every day but they do not know what i am capable of nor for that matter do i in seduced by moonlight laurell k hamilton brings the dark erotic reign of the immortal fey to a startling new depth full of sensuality and the consuming anticipation of latent powers unleashed this world of gods shapeshifters and immortal souls is unveiled in all of its supreme magnificence and its treacherous deceptions

you may know me best as meredith nic essus princess of faerie or perhaps as merry gentry los angeles private eye to protect my unborn children i have turned my back on the crown choosing exile in the human world with my beloved frost and darkness yet i cannot abandon my people someone is killing the fey which has left the lapd baffled and my guardsmen and me deeply disturbed i thought i d left the blood and politics behind in my own turbulent realm but now i realize that evil knows no borders and that nobody lives forever even if they re magical

for twenty years this award winning compilation has been the nonpareil benchmark against which all other annual fantasy and horror collections are judged directed first by ellen datlow and terri windling and for the past four years by datlow and kelly link and gavin j grant it consistently presents the strangest the funniest the darkest the sharpest the most original in short the best fantasy and horror the current collection marking a score of years offers more than forty stories and poems from almost as many sources summations of the field by the editors are complemented by articles by edward bryant charles de lint and jeff vandermeer highlighting the best of the fantastic in respectively media music and comics as well as honorable mentions notable works that didn t quite make the cut but are nonetheless worthy of attention the year s best fantasy and horror twentieth annual collection is a cornucopia of fantastic delights an unparalleled resource and indispensable reference that captures the unique excitement and beauty of the fantastic in all its gloriously diverse forms from the lightest fantasy to the darkest

horror

by identifying similarities in various books this annual selection guide helps readers to independently choose titles of interest published in the last year each entry describes a separate book listing everything readers need to know to make selections arranged by author within six genre sections detailed entries provide title publisher and publication dates series names and descriptions of characters time period and geographical setting review citations story types brief plot summary selected other books by the author similar books by different authors author title series character name character description time period geographic setting and genre sub genre indexes are included to facilitate research

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Merry Gentry ex private detective and full time princess is now the mother of triplets a rarity in the high ranks of faerie and not everyone is happy about it including Taranis king of light

and illusion he's using the human courts to sue for visitation rights claiming that one of the babies is his to save herself and her children merry will use the most dangerous powers in all of faerie a god of death a warrior known as the darkness the killing frost and a king of nightmares they are her lovers and her dearest loves and they will face down the might of the high courts of faerie while trying to keep the war from spreading to innocent humans in los angeles who are in danger of becoming collateral damage

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Introduction

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