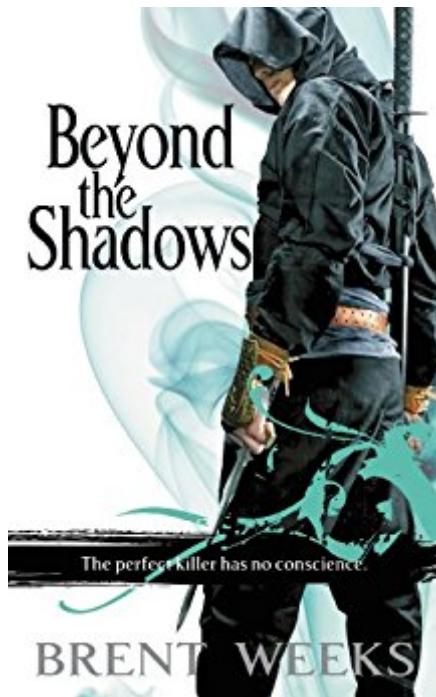


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Beyond The Shadows (Night Angel Book 3)



Synopsis

From New York Times bestselling author Brent Weeks... Logan Gyre is king of Cenaria, a country under siege, with a threadbare army and little hope. He has one chance - a desperate gamble, but one that could destroy his kingdom. In the north, the new Godking has a plan. If it comes to fruition, no one will have the power to stop him. Kylar Stern has no choice. To save his friends-and perhaps his enemies-he must accomplish the impossible: assassinate a goddess. Beyond the Shadows is the action-packed conclusion to the Night Angel Trilogy. *Night Angel* *The Way of Shadows* *Shadow's Edge* *Beyond the Shadows* *Night Angel: The Complete Trilogy (omnibus)* *Perfect Shadow: A Night Angel Novella (e-only)* *The Way of Shadows: The Graphic Novel* For more from Brent Weeks, check out: *Lightbringer* *The Black Prism* *The Blinding Knife* *The Broken Eye* *The Blood Mirror*

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Customer Reviews

Beyond the Shadows by Brent Weeks is the third and final novel in the Night Angel Trilogy. The first book in the trilogy is titled *The Way of Shadows* (The Night Angel Trilogy) and the second is titled *Shadow's Edge* (The Night Angel Trilogy). As I read this novel, I began to become more and more depressed; simply because I knew that with each page I turned I was that much closer to the end of

such a wonderful trilogy. While Mr. Weeks may be a new author, there is nothing beginner about his writing or stories. Here are my thoughts on this novel. The plot of this novel feels different from the first two books. Where the first two books were more intimate in setting and scope, in this book the reader is really introduced to the world of Midcyru. Readers begin to understand the vast and storied history of the world and each region within the world. The one aspect that I liked above all others in regards to the plot was things that were hinted at, and briefly talked about during the first two novels rear their head and are explained in great detail in this book. Normally, in this section of my reviews I give a rather brief idea of what to expect in terms of plot. However, with this novel, I don't think that's really possible as so many things happen in this novel. What I can say is if you have read the first two books in this trilogy and can think of a plot line that has yet to be resolved; it is resolved in this book.

This review is intended to cover the entire trilogy, although I will mention specific aspects of the final novel. Warning: spoilers within. I struggled as to whether to give the trilogy a 3 or 4 star rating. It is hugely entertaining to read. It never bogged down, the characters were engaging, and it was at least adequately original. I didn't hesitate to buy the second and third books after reading the first. But ultimately I'm not sure whether I will read more of Mr. Weeks' work. I had two complaints, both of which may seem like nit-picks... but in a fantasy genre with so many options available, I can be picky. 1. There are occasional, jarring shifts in the tone of the writing. I'm not talking about the liberal use of profanity - I find it quite realistic that criminals, soldiers, etc. in a fantasy world would swear just like contemporary criminals, soldiers, etc. However, outside of the profanity, Weeks generally uses the slightly anachronistic language common to fantasy novels. Except when he doesn't. And sometimes "except when he doesn't" comes at a sufficiently random time to knock me right out of his universe. 2. Spoiler... I objected to the deus ex machina ending. Dragging all the characters to the final battle felt forced and artificial. It seemed like Weeks himself felt that it was forced and artificial, with characters just showing up in the allies' command tent as if on cue. And it all wrapped up far too neatly, especially considering that the series was quite dark at inception. The picture-perfect ending also undermines the moral ambiguity that was one of the more compelling themes in the series. Throughout the series we were invited to question whether the ends justified the means.

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