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Dead Magic (The Ingenious Mechanical Devices Book 4)



Synopsis

Immanuel wants nothing more than a peaceful life as a scientist, but his happiness is short-lived when his past demons refuse to go quietly. As body-snatching spirits attack and creatures rise from the dead, he fears his sanity is slipping. Burdened with strange new powers, he struggles to hide them from his lover for fear of losing the only person he trusts. But the woman who shares his soul has a secret of her own. Disillusioned with her life, Emmeline turns to a handsome suitor who offers her a world of limitless possibilities at an exclusive club. Rumors swirl of occult rituals and magic, and Emmeline soon fears he wants more than just her love. Something wicked is heading for London that threatens to destroy everything Emmeline and Immanuel hold dear. And it wants more than secrets.

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Customer Reviews

After just having finished Dead Magic, the fourth book of the Ingenious Mechanical Devices series, I

have all the feels. All of them. This book had me on pins and needles, it made me laugh, and it was heartwarming—often all at once! In this book, Immanuel (whom we first met in *The Gentleman Devil*) has just moved to (Victorian) London. He's staying with his lover, Adam Fenice, and has a prestigious new job at a museum. Everything seems to be going according to plan, except Immanuel has issues shaking his past—and his past doesn't seem to want to let go of him, either. On another side of town, Emmeline Jardine—the girl who by a strange twist of fate shares Immanuel's soul—struggles to find her own place in the Spiritualist Society. When a dark temptation lures Emmeline away, the only way to ward off evil means cooperating with forces beyond our protagonists' wildest dreams. As with previous books in this series, I thought the entire cast was splendidly portrayed. In *Dead Magic*, though, Kara Jorgensen has gone above and beyond in creating characters with depth and nuance. By the end of the book, there wasn't a single character I didn't like—not even the main villain, Claudia Rose. It ended up very conflicting, considering half of the cast was constantly at odds with the other. While there is at least one character's fate I will never quite forgive Kara Jorgensen for, I applaud the author's skill for making me care so much about them. Beyond the characters and plot, there were also so many little details that I loved about this story. The academic squabbling at the museum. The power games at the Spiritualist Society. The magic-worldbuilding. And, of course, the most adorable resurrection of all time. It saddens me that this book is over. My consolation lies in the fact that the next book in the series has just been released, and so I won't need to wait long to find out what happens next!

Continuing the pattern established in previous books, *Dead Magic* leaves behind Eilian and Hadley Sorrell to once again focus on the lives of Immanuel Winter and Emmeline Jardine. *Dead Magic* marks the series' grand entrance into the world of (you guessed it) magic. Though hints of magic have occurred throughout the other books, this novel dives deep into the rules of magic and its practitioners. Both Immanuel and Emmeline must learn to harness the magic within themselves as well as prevent a darker magic from consuming them—and the rest of London. As always, Jorgensen's characters are complex and well-crafted. Though I'd already spent much time with Immanuel and Emmeline in previous novels, Jorgensen still manages to reveal more about them through the obstacles they face in *Dead Magic*. It was deeply gratifying to see Immanuel start to heal and watch his relationship with Adam Fenice grow. Likewise, I appreciated that Emmeline remained her headstrong self, even when her stubbornness led her astray. Despite being separated by Immanuel and Emmeline's perspectives, the plot of *Dead Magic* perfectly weaves together. The story contains a perfect balance of physical action, magical action,

romance, and introspection. While I can't say any of the events were huge surprises, the story held my interest from the start, and I enjoyed every page. With each novel, Jorgensen's deft skill with words deepens. She has a great ability to write in a way that is both clear and lyrical. Overall, Dead Magic is a wonderful addition to the Ingenious Mechanical Devices series. I feel like every time I read one of these novels, I pronounce the latest installation my favorite, but I have to do it again here "the series just keeps getting better and better! Highly recommended for readers who enjoy steampunk, Victorian era London, historical/dark fantasy and a dash of steamy romance.

I have followed the series from the start and enjoy how Kara has developed her characters into people I would like to know (well maybe not all of them, some are quite nasty people!) The plot twists keep you involved, I particularly liked the introduction of the cat....you'll have to read the book to see why! Looking forward to the next book!

If one is fan of historical, steampunk fiction, magic, suspense with touch of suggested horror, romance, mystery, magic. This series will grab you and pull you into London rich beyond other things.

What can I say? I've been a fan of the Ingenious Mechanical Devices series from the start, and not a single book has disappointed me. This book, the fourth, continues the adventures of Adam, Immanuel (yay!) and Emmeline. Miss Jorgensen knows angst and personal self doubt well. It flows out of each protagonist. I personally don't read magical fantasy, but here I trusted the author and she carried me away to a macabre London, a nifty dreadpunk escapade of dark sigils and heartless knaves. Her particular style of mysticism seemed different from the usual D&D norm, which I found refreshing. London is beautifully rendered from cemetery to museum. The internal tragedies of the characters I find the best, where Jorgensen punks modern young sensibilities into the encrypted heart of Victoriana. Fantasy fans, this is perfect for you. Steampunks, get Book One and enjoy the ride. Literary fans, this is Dickens with some rather fancy appendages. I am psyched for Book Five. Excellent, Miss Jorgensen. Don't stop!

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