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The Parasol Protectorate Boxed Set: Soulless, Changeless, Blameless, Heartless And Timeless



Synopsis

Alexia Tarabotti is laboring under a great many social tribulations. First, she has no soul. Second, she's a spinster whose father is both Italian and dead. Third, she was rudely attacked by a vampire, breaking all standards of social etiquette. Where to go from there? From bad to worse apparently, for Alexia accidentally kills the vampire -- and then the appalling Lord Maccon (loud, messy, gorgeous, and werewolf) is sent by Queen Victoria to investigate. With unexpected vampires appearing and expected vampires disappearing, everyone seems to believe Alexia responsible. Can she figure out what is actually happening to London's high society? Will her soulless ability to negate supernatural powers prove useful or just plain embarrassing? Finally, who is the real enemy, and do they have treacle tart? The Parasol Protectorate is a comedy of manners set in Victorian London: full of werewolves, vampires, dirigibles, and tea-drinking. This bundle includes the whole series: Soulless, Changeless, Blameless, Heartless, and Timeless.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This author is very clever at creating amusing situations, describing derring-do, and presenting us with a detailed world in the steampunk style. I want to emphasize the strength of her world

description because I'm going to spend a fair bit of time criticizing a different aspect of her writing that is weak. It is through comparison to another adventure series in the steampunk sub-genre (Buroker's The Emperor's Edge series) that I have been able to pin-point that which has been bothering me about this series. In essence, I think her characters lack depth. Too much effort is spent painting a picture of the steampunk world (she really does a great job of that) and not enough making the characters and their relationships 3-D/believable. The characters are not themselves, they are merely a "type": the intelligent-and-plucky heroine, the gruff and dangerous hero, the hopeless eccentric friend, the debonair gentleman's second. In contrast, Lindsay Buroker's characters are more real to me and I think that's why I'm finding Carriger's stories less satisfying. I have no trouble imagining what Buroker's characters do, what they're thinking about, or how they're feeling when they are "off stage". Characters of Carriger's Parisol Protectorate are not so confidently imagined. I have just spent a paragraph pinpointing the problem with the series which is quite unfair. It IS a good series: entertaining, fun, clever. I do not regret buying the set. Lots of fun books have stereotypical characters.

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