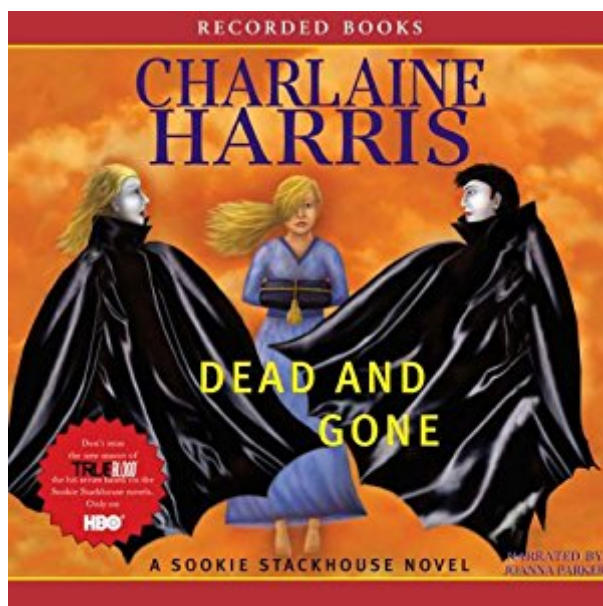


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Dead And Gone: Sookie Stackhouse Southern Vampire Mystery #9



Synopsis

Except for Sookie Stackhouse, folks in Bon Temps, Louisiana, knew little about vamps-and nothing about weres. Until now. The weres and shifters have finally revealed their existence to the ordinary world. And the backlash may have claimed the life of someone Sookie knew well. But her determination to find out who was responsible for the murder is put aside in the face of a far greater danger. A race of unhuman beings-older, more powerful, and more secretive than vampires or werewolves-is preparing for war. And Sookie will find herself an all- too human pawn in their battle...

--This text refers to the Audio CD edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This volume is quite a bit better than the disjointed # 8. Still and all, can we not have a novel conclude without another "war"? This time, two hostile coalitions of fairies, one led by Sookie Stackhouse's great grandfather, go at it, with humans and other supernatural creatures caught up in maneuvers. Indeed, the war brings out the reality of how the parents of Sookie and brother (now, also a werepanther) Jason drowned. And fairies were intimately involved. We have a number of crosscutting stories here: the witches living with Sookie; the shapeshifters going public--as vampires had done earlier; the hostile response in some quarters to the preceding revelation; Eric remembering his liaison with Sookie, his knife ceremony with her (the meaning of which is unclear to Sookie: Is she now his wife?); Bill's slow return to her better (if not altogether good) graces; coming to know better her fairy relatives; the murder of Jason's estranged wife; Quinn's brief return; and on it goes. . . . Much is happening here, as one can tell. The storyline, though, holds together

better than what is almost pastiche in # 8 ("All Together Dead"). The future? She wonders which vampire Niall (great-grandfather) refers to when he says at the close (Page 312): "The vampire is not a bad man and he loves you."). What about the knife ceremony and its meaning? Is Quinn out of her life completely? What will develop between Eric and the King of Nevada, who now controls Louisiana? Eric once more shared his blood with Sookie to help her heal from the torture inflicted upon her by fairies; What might the consequences be for her? Many questions yet to be answered. . .

I am sitting here trying to think what to write for this review, I keep thinking just how much more can Sookie take before she actually has her happy ending. Where do I start? The Fae's or Fairy's was a bit hard to read so much world building into this book. This book left me a bit sad, without giving too much away as to why, just didn't expect some parts to happen. But then when there is war things like this does. One bright note Bubba is back even for just a brief moment, I loved it- He is truly one of my favorite characters in this series. Bill redeemed himself big time in this book for me and I was happy to finally see it though he had tried in a couple others this one stood out. Wish could have seen more of Pam, that's another character that's high on my favorite characters in this series list. But what I did enjoy the most Sookie/Eric becoming or so it seems closer together. I just have a feeling it won't last. Overall these three books had me on a roller coaster of emotions which most of you know by now that is a big thing for me to connect on that level. I can't wait to continue on this journey with the characters of Bon Temps and Shreveport.

I Love Charlaine Harris! All of her books are amazing...but I love Sookie and Dead and Gone was such a fun and action packed book. I felt like I finished it in an hour. I actually received an early copy of the book and tried to pace myself so I wouldn't finish it so fast...that didn't work. Anyway I love this series and am so sad that I have to wait for the next book. You are amazing Mrs. Harris keep it up!

First of all, I love this series and although some books are better than others, I have never been disappointed - until now. I usually read these in one sitting, no matter how late it gets, but this one was difficult to get into. I kept waiting and waiting for the book to pick-up, but that didn't happen until at least half-way through. I have concluded that either Ms. Harris is bored with her own story, had a case of writers block & a deadline, or simply used this book to plant seeds for the next. A lot of good ideas and storylines developed but none were well-executed, or executed at all--which is unusual

for CH. With that said, this book seemed disconnected, pieced together and rushed - but if you're a fan, it's worth a read, just wait for paperback or the library.¹ All of the main characters were reviewed, whether they fit into the story or not. Quinn did not need to be in this, nor did Claude, they had little significance to the story, their roles could have easily been handled by an active character. Alcide and Hunter were only mentioned due to phone calls (why bother unless prepping for the next book?), Octavia's scenario could have been executed in half a paragraph, but instead she's reintroduced several times for no real reason. The whole Crystal issue could have been significant but seemed like filler in the end because when the truth was finally revealed - no one cared, nothing else was said about it.² It didn't seem to tie into past books at all, other than having the same characters - who, were very much out of character (almost ALL of them) including Sookie. Usually full of spit & vinegar, she didn't seem to care about **anything** this time. Half of the book was her moping like she was in desperate need of prozac. In fact, almost all characters displayed an "Oh well" attitude, rather than real emotions that might take a moment to describe.³ I think this book was written more as an intro to the next book rather than a stand-alone. The only explanation I can come up with for all of the incomplete characters, (kill offs) and storylines would be to open doors for the next book. For instance, what happened to the FBI? How did they improve this story? It wouldn't have been any different without them, but I have a feeling they aren't gone just yet. Same for Dermot, who's role was built up to be significant and turned out to be... not so much. As far as all of the write-offs and kill-offs, I'm wondering if we're approaching the last of the series? Quite a few people are gone after this book, unless they come back from the dead. Actually, I think more have been killed off in this book than after the explosion and nothing **that** significant even took place. Well, maybe it was supposed to be that significant, but again - just not feeling it. See below.⁴ The main events that were significant seemed very rushed and not much was said about them at all. (The gardening incident, the Neave/Lochlan incident, the Claudine situation). They were all rather brief if compared to the major incidents in other books which are usually detailed and well-described, enough to get a vivid mental image. In this case, there were several times that I actually flipped back a page to see if I had missed something. But nope. That was all. I wonder...did CH even really write this or was her story edited to death???

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