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# **Servant Of The Bones (Anne Rice)**



## Synopsis

In a new and major novel, the creator of fantastic universes of vampires and witches takes us now into the world of Isaiah and Jeremiah, and the destruction of Solomon's Temple, to tell the story of Azriel, Servant of the Bones. He is ghost, genii, demon, angel--pure spirit made visible. He pours his heart out to us as he journeys from an ancient Babylon of royal plottings and religious upheavals to Europe of the Black Death and on to the modern world. There he finds himself, amidst the towers of Manhattan, in confrontation with his own human origins and the dark forces that have sought to condemn him to a life of evil and destruction.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Her first book since *Memnoch the Devil*, Anne Rice takes us now into the world of Isaiah and Jeremiah, and the destruction of Solomon's temple, to tell the story of Azriel, Servant of the Bones. He is ghost, genji, demon, angel--pure spirit made visible. He pours his heart out to us as he journeys from an ancient Babylon of royal plottings and religious upheavals to the Europe of the Black Death and to the modern world. There he finds himself, amidst the towers of Manhattan, in confrontation with his own human origins and the dark forces that have sought to condemn him to a life of evil and destruction. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Neither a vampire nor a witch nor a mummy, but a genie provides the focus of Rice's latest (after *Memnoch the Devil*). The queen of high-decadent gothic deviates from her formula of interlacing

spirituality and carnality here: only in the novel's latter pages do lusty sensuousness and brisk pacing leaven a series of cerebral metaphysical struggles. This unusual approach arises from the central dilemma of the story. "Servant of the Bones" Azriel is a "genii" who, until his emergence in 1995 New York, is only a shell filled with spirit, not a corporeal presence ripe for Rice's usual dark eroticism. In the novel's first half, Azriel tells his tale: born a Hebrew in Babylon at the time of Cyrus, he is sacrificed in order to free his people, his body boiled down to golden bones. He then is cursed by a necromancer to be bound to the bones. Over the millennia, he is a spirit at the beck and call of a series of "Masters" who possess his casket. When Azriel calls himself into human form in the present day, he encounters plastic, airplanes?and the Temple of the Mind, a cult of computer-created creed that threatens to kill two-thirds of the earth's population. Azriel's emergence as a sensual being and the suspense generated by the Temple's Last Days project will help readers to forget the book's initial 300 pages, in which they must track Azriel from swirling particles to thickening flesh. Yet Rice's impeccable research into science, history and Jewish scholarship will probably leave readers impressed and entertained. 1,000,000 first printing; BOMC and QPB main selections. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This was a major improvement after the book, "Memnoch the Devil." It's actually narrated in the first person by two different characters, the first is Jonathan who was chosen by Azriel to write his story. A good portion of the book is an exchange between these two characters which works wonderfully and flows very well. Once we reach the point in Azriel's story which takes part in modern day the book becomes difficult to read for long periods at a time, almost mimicking the conflicting feelings Azriel has for Gregory Belkin and their interactions. It has nothing to do with any of the other books in any of her series, which makes a nice break if you are trying to read her entire vampire and witch collection at one time. Jonathan does not have a big part in the book as the book is titled Servant of the Bones it is entirely about him with a small portion dealing with Jonathan

This book is completely cerebral! You must stay with the story to understand it. Anne did wonderful research on the ancient middle eastern religions and the Jewish Hasidim. As always, lush imagery. The central character is a beautiful and tragic young Jewish exile who is tricked into a nightmare situation from which he cannot escape. You may just find yourself falling in love with his fictional character. The Jewish author with whom he is sharing his story is fascinating in his own right. This tale isn't peopled with unnecessary characters or mundane scenes. There is some erotica near the

end of the story, but unlike some of the other tales she tells, it does not dominate the plot line. A very vivid mystery of biblical status. If you are at all interested in a good piece of literature, you will find this book won't disappoint you, but it is a really quick read. Definately on my top 10 list of all time great works by Anne!

This is a book of hope; of change, of determination and yes, surprises too. I had this in hardcover and read it 3 times; loaned it out, and never got it back. So I ordered now so I can read it again....and again if I wish to do so. Excellent, but look who wrote it! It isn't a book you read a little and put it down....it is one that you want to savor and talk about.

If you liked Anne Rice's "Mummy" or Vampire books you'll like this one too. Typical Anne Rice immortal being with super natural powers who struggles with good vs. evil inner conflicts. There's also the requisite historic and exotic locales woven into a fascinating story. Anne Rice is a great story teller who's tales are almost believable.

Gripping and passionate. I wish she would write more about Azriel

An absolutely wonderful book. Just as with her book the Mummy, we read our first copy 'til it fell apart. We LOVE this book!!

This is one of my favorite books by Anne Rice. But if you are looking for vampires, you will find none here. You will meet Azriel, who is an absolute delight.

The story itself is beautiful and unforgettable. I would have given it 5 stars, but it has more than a few typographical errors. I read the kindle version, so I don't know if the errors can be found in other published versions. Other than that, it is truly a great story. If you enjoyed any of Anne Rice's Angel Time books, the Witch books, or Memnoch the Devil, you will love this one too.

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