



Night Pleasures

Sherrilyn Kenyon

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The Dark-Hunters are ancient warriors who have sworn to protect mankind and the fate of the world is in their hands. . .

He is solitude. He is darkness. He is the ruler of the night. Yet Kyrian of Thrace has just woken up handcuffed to his worst nightmare: An accountant. Worse, she's being hunted by one of the most lethal vampires out there. And if Amanda Devereaux goes down, then he does too. But it's not just their lives that are hanging in the balance. Kyrian and Amanda are all that stands between humanity and oblivion. Let's hope they win.

Night Pleasures Details

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From Reader Review Night Pleasures for online ebook

Gary says

the very first dark hunter book and still one of my all time favs. we are introduced into the world of the dark-hunters who protect us from those that walk the night praying on our souls, and to a hole cast of people that come to life as the books series continues.

Alp says

The story was utterly engaging and enjoyable, so much so that I couldn't put it down. Sherrilyn Kenyon has done it again! Her writing is practically flawless. I loved every single thing that happened in this book.

It broke my heart when I knew Kyrian's painful history. No wonder he wouldn't trust and love any woman since his wife had betrayed him.

By the way, There were some interesting characters whom I would like to know more in the other books. I was absolutely intrigued by this series!

Exina says

"Well, I'm not an expert, but that guy behind you looks like a Daimon to me."

Captivating writing style, appealing and lovable characters, and unique world-building make this novel really enjoyable.

The writing is professional. The information about the characters, the background myth, the world-building, the different kinds of beings, the story of Kyrian, and the significance of the secondary and tertiary characters are all built up very accurately and smoothly. As the story progresses, everything is unfolded.

Humor. Excellent, I really enjoyed it! :)

"Gary got a lead on that vamp pack," Eric said to Tabitha. "We're going to try and get the vampires before it gets dark. You ready?"

If Amanda rolled her eyes any harder back into her head, she'd go blind from it. "One day, you guys are going to inadvertently kill a human being acting this way. Remember that time you attacked the Anne Rice – Lestat reenactment group in the cemetery?"

Kyrian. Tragic past based on an intriguing and unique myth and history background. Still, somehow his personality remains in shadow. I just can't see him.

"What kind of life have you lived, little one, that everything seems to be a question of fair

and unfair? Life and death just are. Fair has nothing to do with it."

Amanda. She is spirited, sarcastic, brave, and loving. Her character is really special with her suppressed and finally activated abilities.

"For the first time, she saw the soul of the man who had no soul."

Desiderius. He is a powerful and unpredictable villain, but I don't understand his motivation. What is he driven by? Rage, revenge, bitterness, or simply pure cruelty? His erratic deeds make the action line random and incidental. He wants (view spoiler) What are his long-term goals? Anyway, although Desiderius' character is well created, sadly his motivation and aims are not clear, and finally his evilness becomes insignificant. There is no real drama at the end.

Secondary characters. Nick, Tabitha, Esmeralda, Talon, Acheron are professionally delineated, and very intriguing.

"Sarcasm, thy name is Nick Gautier."

Romance. As in every paranormal romance, the realization that they are in love comes pretty fast. But as they are not merely human, and possess supernatural abilities, I can absolutely accept it. The erotic scenes – as usual by Ms. Kenyon – are hot and sizzling.

Night Pleasures is an entertaining book of a really unique series.

Originally posted on my blog on December 2, 2012.

My favorite quotes.

Dina says

This isn't a review, it's a rant...

I know many readers love this series, but I'm beginning to think it isn't for me. This was my second book by SK - the first was Fantasy Lover - and I still don't know what all the fuss is about. The concept and the mythology of the **Dark Hunters** are very interesting, but SK's writing didn't work for me again. What annoyed me the most was how *all* her characters were constantly cracking jokes, no matter how serious and dangerous the situation was. *Everyone* was a smartass and it became too much too soon. I enjoy humor, but there's a time and place for it. The way SK inserted it into *every* single scene was distracting and prevented me from connecting with the story and the characters. I couldn't find myself bleeding over Kyrian's tortured past and, at times, I wanted to shake silly Amanda and tell her to shut up.

Based on what I just said, one might wonder why I'm giving this book 3 stars. Well, I didn't *hate* it. The story was interesting and there were some good scenes, like the one where Amanda dreams/sees Kyrian's past and death. Too bad SK's writing wasn't up to that level all the time.

The strange thing is, I like SK's writing as Kinley MacGregor. How can the same author have such distinct

effect on me? Oh well, the three-strike rule still applies and I'm going to give SK one last chance to win me. I'm OCD about reading series in order and I already know I'll have to work on that because it looks like the next book in the series won't be a winner either. I'll have to skip ahead and tackle either Night Play (Dark-Hunter, #6) or Acheron. Decisions, decisions...

Sophia Triad says

Kyrian of Thrace (Hunter) & Amanda Devereaux (Human)

Why Kyrian became a dark hunter: His older unfaithful wife betrayed him to the Romans and then sat back and watched him being tortured to death. He still has nightmares and phobias about it.

Amanda: An accountant who was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

One thing I loved: Amanda is given a special Barbie with knives that shoot out of her feet.

Settings: New Orleans, Louisiana

I loved the humor, the story, the characters, the mythology.

Favourite quote:

"So, you're like Angel?"

He rolled his eyes at her. "You watch way too much television," he muttered.

Then louder, he said, "Angel has a soul, I don't."

"Now, you're back to being scary again."

The look on his face reiterated his earlier words: Baby, you ain't seen scary yet.

Emily May says

This book sounded so promising, it was my first read by Sherrilyn Kenyon and I'd heard many people raving on about how great her Dark Hunter novels were; and as a fan of paranormal romance and urban fantasy, I couldn't wait to find another sexy, dark series to get into, complete with the usual array of vampires and mythology.

The problem with the paranormal romance genre, and even more so the urban fantasy genre, is that after you've read a few of them they all start to form a similar pattern with characters you begin to recognise from other books plus the same old storylines and ancient mythology (I'm getting so good at remembering greek gods). So, the trick is to give the reader what they came to get but put a unique twist on it, don't write the same story a thousand writers have churned out and surprise them with different characters (note: broody men aren't even that hot - sexy *Spike* always did so much more for me than sulky *Angel*). This story, unfortunately, had nothing new or exciting, it's hard to pick the plot and characters out of masses that I've read that are chasing each other round my brain. I couldn't get into the story or take much interest in either Amanda or Kyrian, their dialogue wasn't the cute, sarcastic banter that I love in good PR and UF but rather it was cliched and annoying - who actually says the words "made hot, sweet love" without laughing

afterwards?

I also had so many problems with Kyrian (the dark hunter guy), I really don't care to be told a hundred times how gorgeous he is, when an author does that it makes me think that's all there is to the character and I immediately lose interest. He's so beautiful, so well-muscled, so this, that and the other. Shallow. The author seemed to care far more about his "cute butt" than the rushed-out back story of his wife's betrayal and his weeks of torture at the hands of her new lover. It was almost as if Kenyon decided at the last minute that Mr Perfect sounded very two-dimensional (which he did) and she came up with some weak pity story that just didn't work. And, as for the brooding I mentioned, please stop feeling sorry for yourself - it's been **2000 years**, nobody realistically pities themselves that long.

I thought about giving it one star but decided that it wasn't that bad. It just didn't stand out from any other, and I know I'll find it easy to forget about. For that reason, I'm not going to bother with the rest of the series. But, I will say, I loved the Buffy references; if I met a vampire that didn't drink from humans, I'd say something like "oh, so you're like *Angel*!"

Ana says

This was an ok read. Buffy references are always appreciated.

Aestas Book Blog says

Just finished my reread and I loved this just as much, if not more, the second time. No PNR author writes 5-star stories with as much heart as Kenyon does IMO. Her books are the perfect blend of tortured heroes, strong heroines, engaging plot, intricate mythology, heart touching moment and the sweetest HEAs. I really love how she also clearly had an overall story arc from page one. During my reread, I caught a lot of things that set up books far down the series that I never noticed the first time. Best PNR series hands down :)

PS, I'd recommend starting the series with this book (not the prequel Fantasy Lover). It's not that I don't like FL, I really did, I just think it's not as good an example of what the series is like if you're trying to figure out whether or not this series is for you since it takes place in the world, but is not technically a Dark Hunter book since the main hero is not one. I personally read it after I finished book 6 and was very happy with that placement.

Dd says

Warning—This book is strictly for fantasy lovers and please do not attempt if you do not believe in Santa or big-foot!!!

He was a Dark-Hunter and she was an accountant. There had never been two more mismatched people

born.

A short-note for the readers--

Who or rather what are **Dark-Hunters?**

When someone suffers a horrible injustice their soul makes a scream so loud that it resonates through the halls of Olympus. When Artemis, goddess of moon hears it, she goes and offers the one who has been betrayed a bargain. One single **Act of Vengeance** against the ones who betrayed them and in return they will swear allegiance (giving their souls to her), and fight in her army against the **Daimon predators**.

And as for what are Daimons, they are pure evil. Born as Apollites (I'd rather not explain their history), they were cursed to have a life-span of 27 years. But Daimons chose to increase their life span by devouring human souls.

So the primary duty of Dark Hunters is to protect humans and of course their souls.

He is mad, bad and immortal--

With the strength of Ares, the body and face of Adonis and the sensuous gifts of Aphrodite, he was all things sensual and hot. A born warrior, invincible, he was respected and feared by all. He was passion and desire. He was the proud warrior prince, **Kyrian of Thrace**.

Until he was brutally betrayed. Betrayed by the one woman whom he loved more than anything.

And now, he is the Ruler of the Night. Neither man nor beast, he is solitude, he is darkness. He is a shadow in the night. He is a Dark-Hunter.

Beauty is sometimes best when it's lethal--

All Amanda Devereaux had ever wanted was a **normal, boring life!!** Really, is it too much to ask for?? She tries her best but with eight older sisters who deal with magic, voodoo, vampire hunting, etc., etc., etc., it is difficult. On top of that she has powers herself. Great, untapped powers. Lethal powers.

So it's safe to presume that her wish for a normal life doesn't get fulfilled as often as she desires.

Like in the very beginning—

The only thing she wanted when she went to her twin sister Tabitha's house was to let out Tabitha's dog (and that too grudgingly). But before she could process what was happening she got hit on her head and lost consciousness.

When she woke up she found out that **she had been kidnapped!!! And by a Daimon no less. And handcuffed to a gorgeous, yummy male vampire** (she did not know about Kyrian or Dark-Hunters then)!!!

And before long she finds that she has a vampire lover, a super evil Daimon who wants to kill her, Kyrian and her family, Dream-Hunters poofing in and out, enraged goddesses, other Dark Hunters....

And on top of that she is Kyrian's way out of this Dark-Hunter business and his only chance of having a normal life. She is the only one who can return Kyrian's soul to him. But it's extremely risky and if she fails Kyrian will become a Shade. He will be eternally damned.

Jeez...no pressure at all!!

Kyrian has to kill this special Daimon with more powers than he has ever encountered before. Of course he seeks help from the Oracles who help them in protecting humans.

But of course, them being Gods and all, they can't let their verses be deciphered easily—

*"Of Apollite birth and Daimon born, he is the one who will make you mourn.
Through the wine god's blood and bath, he exists as pure wrath.
To bring him under total control, you must find a Dark-Hunter with a soul."*

A Dark-Hunter with a soul. Impossible...or is it??

3.5 to 4 stars

To all my dear fantasy lovers, I promise a treat. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll love and sometimes bask in the silly, childish warmth of this story.

ENJOY!!!

Bobo, thanks for buddy-reading it with me!!

Floripiquita says

Me ha encantado este primer libro de los Cazadores Oscuros. El universo que crea la autora es muy interesante y me encantan su sentido del humor y los tiras y aflojas verbales de los dos protagonistas. Kyrian, además de ser supersexy, es un amor y Amanda es una gran protagonista femenina. Pero la escena álgida del final me ha parecido un poco precipitada y desmañada, de ahí que no le dé, por poco, las 5 estrellas.

Jilly says

There is a lot of hoopla about this series, so I will give it a few books before judging it as good or eye-rollingly tropey cheesey smut. There are tons of these type of things:

Stroking tongues

Moaning into mouths

Hot gazes

Hungry looks

And melting... lots and lots of melting...

O_o

So, yeah...

On the other hand, the world is really cool and original. I like the Dark Hunter origin story and the Greek mythology. Those Greek gods sure are assholes.

So we have Kyrian, a former Greek commander and present Dark Hunter, and Amanda, an accountant. A perfect match! There is a bad guy who introduces them by hand-cuffing them together. Talk about an awkward first date. And, of course they are magnetically attracted to each other, and of course she is now in danger unless he protects her.

There are many Dark Hunters, they are all gorgeous, and they all have sad back stories, and apparently they are all going to fall in love. And, the good news is that they seem to get all hot and bothered by average, somewhat chubby, everyday women. Lucky us! So, on to the next tortured brooding hot man.

Alkyoni says

[His wife betrayed him to the Romans and then sat back and watched him being tortured to death. (hide spoiler)]

Carmen says

SPOILERS ARE HIDDEN

Sherrilyn Kenyon is becoming a better author, but we still have a ways to go.

Kyrian is a Dark Hunter. Amanda is one of the 9 Devereaux sisters. Selena, the psychic from *Fantasy Lover*, for example, is her sister. They wake up to find themselves handcuffed together by an evil Daimon named Desiderius.

They fall in love and stuff.

...

THINGS I DIDN'T LIKE

- Kyrian is sarcastic and joking. While amusing, it failed to connect me to the character. I couldn't get worried too much about his tragic backstory because he was just so happy-go-lucky all the time.

- Frenching a man with razor-blades for teeth is not sexy. Opening the veins of your lover to drink blood is not sexy. Even though Kyrian never drinks Amanda's blood in the book, it IS romanticized and sexualized. That, to me, is creepy.

- Twice in this book, Kenyon refers to a man grabbing a woman's butt during a make-out session as something... I don't know... dirty and forbidden. As if "good girls" or "proper ladies" don't enjoy that kind of "dirty" behavior. As if "allowing" a man to manhandle you like this (LOL pun intended - I couldn't help it) is wanton and a reason to be ashamed of herself. I mean, her heroines "allow" their lover to do this, and enjoy the hell out of it, but Kenyon never lets it go without saying something about how shocking it is. Believe you

me, I can think of TONS of shocking or dirty or "this is shameful but I enjoy it so much, I shouldn't be doing this but it feels so good" behavior, but having a man cup your ass while kissing you (fully clothed!) is NOT one of them. Actually, I find this to be a benign and innocuous activity that is fun for both parties, doesn't spread disease, doesn't cause any pain... I guess I'm just confused by her attitude toward this seemingly mild act.

- Mindreading. I HATE mindreaders. I find this SUCH a violation of privacy, and can tolerate it when it's treated as a rape or as a serious concern, but I can't stand when it's supposed to be sexy. Being with a person who can read your mind is NOT sexy, it's flippin' scary as heck. I don't care whether the man or woman is doing it - if it's an unsolicited non-consensual mental connection, it's a violation of a person and it's wrong. Both Kyrian and Amanda read minds in this book and I hate it. (For an amazing, intelligent novel on this kind of thing, I highly recommend *Nexus* by Ramez Naam.)

- Valerius is a total a--hole who tortures Kyrian for a month, has sex with his wife in front of him, and crucifies him. He does other horrible stuff, too. Isn't this guy a hero in a future book? What the flip? (Edit: I found out that the Valerius who is the hero later is the grandson of this a--hole, not the a--hole himself.)

- Kenyon flip-flops around with her rules. She'll mention something, and then "forget" about it for a while. I don't know why she thinks the reader won't pick up on this and be confused. Two examples from this book are:

The mental powers. She's like: Kyrian is giving up his mental connection into Amanda's mind. But then he's still reading her mind for about 10 or 20 more pages. And THEN it's like: Okay, now this time for real! He can't read her mind anymore! o.O Just confusing and as if she's going back on what she said earlier. It's sloppy.

The climax clause. Kyrian and Amanda are told explicitly that Kyrian can't climax anymore or he'll lose his powers. So no orgasms for him! But then, a few hours later, they're going at it like rabbits and he definitely orgasms. No explanation for this is given. Even if Kenyon had thrown in a "Hey, they were just so horny they couldn't help themselves" I would have been satisfied. But it's never mentioned or addressed. It's strange. And also sloppy.

- Orgasm denial. What is it with Kenyon's obsession with denying men their orgasms? I don't like it. Here, it's stated that if Kyrian orgasms with Amanda ('cause of love and stuff - doesn't work with other women) then he will lose his powers. So... This is the second book by her where she's been like: "Hero! No orgasms for you! Suffer!" As a feminist this really bothers me. I feel sorry for her male characters when she puts them through a book like this. It makes me actually very sad, and I can't enjoy the sex scenes because I am too upset for the hero. :(I totally understand the need to empower females in a sexual way in your book. By all means, have the woman climax first and make the guy super-attentive and in love with going down on her and stuff. By all means. Give her 5 orgasms before giving him one. Fine. Wonderful! But please let the man come too! It's just so mean. :(

- The Barbie. Amanda is given this special Barbie with knives that shoot out of her feet. She loves the Barbie and carries it around with her for half the novel. o.O I find this strange and not at all appealing. Infantilizing a grown woman who's an accountant and doesn't even normally like dolls or collect them by making her carry a Barbie around is gross. Especially at the end when Kenyon stresses the "little girl" vibe. (End fight scene - if you read the book you know what I'm talking about).

- The final fight scene. OMG, so lame and silly. Just really dumb. I was incredulous. This is it!?!?

THINGS I LIKED

- Kenyon is funny. Not as funny as Gena Showalter, but she's funny. I like her jokes and her sense of humor. It's cute.

- Magical vagina that heals the hero's damaged psyche. I know people complain about this, but in romance novels I really enjoy the "damaged" hero or heroine being healed or set free by love and good sex. This was definitely a case of loving sex with Amanda "curing" Kyrian of his phobias and healing the wounds from his past.

- This is a spoiler: (view spoiler)

- Kyrian giving a prostitute \$500 dollars for no reason and not caring what she spends it on.

CONCLUSION

Kenyon is improving! Soon she will get a "3 real stars, 5 romance stars" from me! Just you wait! LOL

2 real stars, 3 romance stars.

~Tina~ says

It's actually unbelievable that I get such a kick out of these books. They are completely rushed, thick with cheese and very eye-roll worthy, and yet, I'm loving it.

Amanda wanted normality in her life, but sadly it's not in the cards for her. Mistaken for her twin, she is attacked and the next thing she knows she's handcuffed to a big, tall and sexy who she can't help but want...of course.

Enter Kyrian.

I don't know why I have such a thing for tortured past-brooding tempered- smoldering vamps, but at last, Kyrian is very tasty and I love that sexy humor.

I guess technically this would be the first book for the Dark Hunters. *Fantasy Lover* introducing the world and Julian's role, but *Night Pleasure* is the first one that has the Dark Hunters in it. It was good to see Julian and Grace again and we meet new characters as well, Nick and Acheron (Ash). I was happy to see Nick since he's the reason for these reads to begin with, wanting to get into Kenyon's new YA release *Infinity (Chronicles of Nick)*. Acheron seems like a promising character, very commanding and sharp. I look forward to getting to know him as I continue with the series.

I'm pleasantly surprised just how much I'm enjoying this world, it's captivating with crazy imagination.

Night Pleasures was another fun read. It's has some great humor and even some action, definitely still cheesy, but very sexy.

One thing is for sure, these books are great for sheer entertainment!

Arlene says

Circa 1999

The One where Joey Eats Rachel's English Trifle

cue Joey eating the trifle

I like it!

What's not to like?

Custard? Characters.... Good!

Jam? Plot.... Goooood!

Meat? Kyrian.... Gooooooooood!

Okay, this book is better than Rachael's meat, peas, onions, whip cream, jam and raspberry English trifle. Way better! It has all of the ingredients for a steamy, edgy, exciting and faced paced adventure.

Although it's definitely a read that's outside of my preferred genre, I feel Sherrilyn Kenyon has what it takes to hook most paranormal/urban fantasy fans with her Dark Hunter Series and **Night Pleasures** was a great installment!

I loved all the snarky dialog between Amanda and Kyrian. They make a great pair and not just in the convo department. There is definitely a lot of steam between these two characters. A LOT! But, the great thing about it is that Kenyon does a great job of developing their characters that you come to instantly like them, so reading the spice doesn't feel awkward or forced.

I really liked the secondary characters in this novel, especially Nick. I hope he makes more appearances in the upcoming books. He's funny, smart and loyal to Kyrian, which was admirable. He was an instant hit for me. I'd also love to read more about Talon and possibly some of the Dream Hunters. Great additions to the storyline.

The mythology that's infused into the storyline is done just right. I like to hear about the Greek gods and how they play a role in the current day conflict. I will admit, the paranormal lore can be a bit confusing and I was left wondering about the full extent of Amanda's powers. I would have loved to read more on that, but overall I enjoyed the ride and I'll definitely be continuing with this series. GOOD!!!
