



The Black Tide

Keri Arthur

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New York Times bestselling author Keri Arthur brings her Outcast series to a breathtaking conclusion as Déchet supersoldier Tiger races against time to save humanity from darkness and total annihilation....

Though Winter Halo—the pharmaceutical company behind the evil experimentation on both children and adults—has been destroyed, the danger is far from over. Not only do seven children remain unaccounted for, but some of the vampires are now able to walk in light.

The key to stopping the unthinkable lies in finding Ciara Dream, the last member of the trio behind the plot to give full light immunity to both the vampires and the Others. But Ciara, like Tiger herself, is a shapeshifter, able to take on any human form she desires.

To find her, Tiger will need to use every skill in her formidable arsenal, and even that might not be enough to save the city and the people she has started to care about.

Because the vampires are coming, and this time, the lights won't stop them.

The Black Tide Details

Date : Published December 5th 2017 by Piatkus

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Author : Keri Arthur

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From Reader Review **The Black Tide** for online ebook

Annie (Under the Covers Book Blog) says

In the last installment to the Outcast series, Keri Arthur really gives it her all. Packed with action, suspense, and intrigue, this series is not one to be missed if you are a Sci Fi or Dystopian fan. I'm really picky when it comes to series like this, but Arthur has really created a world that is both fascinating and dangerous.

I would highly recommend reading the series in order, but for the new readers, Arthur does give a little bit of a recap of what happens at the very beginning. I always appreciate this because I read these books usually before the books are released so some time has passed before I read the next one. With all the big events that happen in this series, it's nice to have that refresher.

For those of you who haven't read Arthur's writing before, this series stays true to her style but it does have a nice edgy twist to it that makes it more Sci Fi in feel. There's still that Urban Fantasy touch to it, but I'll be honest when I say that this world has been one of my favorites that the author has created.

I would absolutely love to have more books set in this world so I'm very sad to see this series end. If there was a spin-off series I think my heart would be very happy. I look forward to hearing what Keri Arthur has in store for her readers next!

Steph says

With **The Black Tide**, Arthur wrapped up the story of Tiger (déchet), Jonas (shifter ranger) and Nuri (human seeker and witch) and their battle against those who wish to destroy the remaining city.

"The wind whispers of a future without hope if you are not part of the forthcoming battle."

One's inability to see past their biases and tear down prejudices is a theme throughout the trilogy, which makes the ending all the more enjoyable.

Fans of Keri Arthur's UF series will enjoy this sci-fi-ish, post-world-ending-war trilogy. It features a variety of characters with abilities common in UF, a hint of romance and a lot of good-versus-evil fights and major final battle to save what and who remains in this world.

Selenity Jade (Coffee Addicts Book Reviews) says

Oh my word...

I received an ARC of this and I am in awe. I tried so hard to wait until closer to the release date to read this, but I couldn't hold out anymore!

What can I say about this book? It has all of the excellence you expect from a Keri Arthur novel. Great world

building, realistic and likable characters, and amazing plot. Is this the end to the series? Could be, it left me feeling finished.

My only complaint was the lack of romantic connection that the Riley Jensen and Dark Angel series had. The connection was distant though it was present and left me wanting more in that area.

Still, I couldn't put it down. Excellent! 4.5 stars!

Under the Covers Book Blog says

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*ARC provided by author

Reviewed by Ann♥ ? Don't want to miss any of our posts? Subscribe to our blog by email! ? ♥

Meels says

I was rather frustrated with the second book, but now I realize that what I saw as the main plot, the saving of the children, was actually a sub-plot. The bigger picture, we find out in The Black Tide. It was action packed, nice resolution. There is an HEA, but not EVERYTHING is tied up in a pretty bow, so there is some realism there...in as much as there can be. This is a pretty fantastical tale with some truly unique world building.

Yeah, in the end I enjoyed it and I'd give the series 4 stars as a whole.

Suz says

4+ stars

I know many will not agree with me, but I do believe this is the best of Arthur's stories. The world is original, the way it straddles multiple genres and defies being categorized is exceptional, the characters were likeable, the infuriating tropes were minimal, the angst was minimal.

It's an excellent trilogy. If Arthur decided to continue the series I would certainly read them.

Fangs for the Fantasy says

Tiger has finally taken the first steps against the sinister forces experimenting on children for their own dark aims. But more children are missing - and those experiments are gaining ground: the some vampires are walking in sunlight

To finally stop this she needs to bring down Ciara the sinister architect behind this. But Ciara can change her shape to look like anyone and apparently has influence at the very top of government.

This book is action packed - we open with Tiger charging into battle against these sinister facilities and it doesn't let up from there

And it's really satisfying to follow with this book of concrete action and results after the sometimes confusion of the previous books. We had a lot of random events before and a whole lot of confusion from the large scale, highly convoluted and multiple levels of conspiracy that was exposed but still pretty hard to follow in the last two books

Now we have answers. Now Tiger knows what she is up against and what needs to be done. And this born weapon is going to charge into battle and kill everyone she needs to do to bring this world ending conspiracy to an end. She knows who is responsible, she knows their sinister plans - now the investigation has finished and it's time to blow it all up.

And can I say now that I was pretty wary of Tiger for a while - the fact that she was designed to be a seductive assassin made me think of a lot of terrible tropes: but we dodge that. She is a lethal trained commando and warrior: we have no lethal seduction, but a lot of guns and explosions.

This does come with some interesting moral quandaries: especially in relation to the experiments here. I.e. the people these illicit labs have created, the babies, what they are, whether they can be saved, whether they should be saved, whether they're acceptable collateral damage. All of this is extra poignant to Tiger, an artificially created being herself who saw so many of her people, especially the children whose ghosts she still treasures, were destroyed as being unfit to live.

She and Jonas have also reached an interesting level. Their romance has been on the cards for some time and, no, I'm not a fan. But I do like that they are addressing their ancestral problems, their fighting on differing sides of the war, both being party to atrocities for their own side... it isn't just ignored. It is addressed, they do talk about it.

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Suze Lavender says

Tiger has destroyed much of the terrible work of the people she's trying to stop, but seven children are still missing. She's a déchet, created to win a war and trained to alter her appearance and deceive others. This helps her to gather information. Her main opponent is still standing, trying to execute a plan that is too terrible to think about. Tiger needs to find a way to stop this from happening, but her powers aren't unlimited, is she in over her head or will she find a way to succeed?

Tiger is no longer alone. There are people she cares about. She doesn't only want to rescue them, she also tries to keep the city of Central safe. Danger is quickly approaching and without Tiger it can't be stopped. She needs every skill, contact and brain cell to have a chance. Will Tiger be able to conquer her formidable opponent before it's too late?

The Black Tide is a fantastic adrenaline rush. Tiger's fiery personality, inability to give up and big heart are making her a fascinating character to read about. She's a clever fighter, she constantly pushes her boundaries and she isn't afraid to take risks. There are all kinds of assumptions about the déchet, but she's much more than just a fighting machine. Keri Arthur has again added more layers to her personality and I loved every single one of them.

Keri Arthur is incredible at writing series. I like the way she builds her suspense, the obvious love she has for her characters and the careful way she explores every part of their personalities. Her world building skills are impressive and each time she manages to surprise me with the depth and detail of everything she describes. She combines this with spectacular combat scenes and a spine-chilling finale. I was blown away by The Black Tide. Keri Arthur always manages to keep me on the edge of my seat and she's made me hold my breath numerous times. I highly recommend the Outcast series.

Niki Hawkes - The Obsessive Bookseller says

4.5 stars. A satisfying end to one of my favorite series from Keri. She gets stronger with every book and I can't wait to dive into her next series. Full RTC.

Douglas Meeks says

This trilogy was not what I expected when I started the first book, in fact I was mad at the way our heroine was treated by those who she tried to help. The second book carried a similar theme but a bit lighter since Tiger was being accepted at some level by those who she was trying to help but this final book makes up for any trepidation I had and I loved it.

As with any great trilogy there has to be romance, heroics, bravery, and epic battles and sacrifice and this book has everything, I can say I did not scan a single page (which only the very best of stories can hold me that well) and I was happy and sad at the end. Sad mainly because I wanted it to just keep going but this is a

story well worth reading and all 3 books are required to appreciate the battles Tiger had to face.

5 Stars for a wonderful story with an epic conclusion.

RachelW (BamaGal) says

3.5 stars. This played out very much in the same vein as the second book 'Winter Halo'. Another lab to find and destroy, more children to rescue. Towards the end the pieces began to pull together as Kat finally located and confronted Ciara Dream, the last of the forces behind the labs and the atrocities being performed there; and more importantly, the dangerous power behind the vamps. I did skim just a bit in the repetition of the early chapters.

This was an unusually short series for Arthur, only three books. (I think this is the end?). Satisfying plotline and character tie-up, though; and had a nice, if brief, epilogue.

Thank you to Mary Kate for the loan...

Keikii Eats Books says

94 points/100 (4.75/5 stars)

There are still kids to save and an operation to dismantle. And now the last owner left of Winter Halo know Tiger and Jonas are coming for her. While the goal is to give light immunity to vampires and Others, Tiger suspects there is more to Ciara dream than we had guessed before.

As always, I had to choose between reading something I'm loving slowly and savouring it, or reading it all in one go. And, as always, I chose the second option. I have no patience. I'm so glad I finally got to this series. I love seeing lonely people finally getting the family they crave. It may not be the family they expected, or started with, but it is family. It is home. I love it.

There are a lot of hard choices to make in this series. This was hard to read. There were so many things happening, and it wasn't all good. I kept holding my breath at scenes. Then bad things kept happening, and there were more things that had to happen. We couldn't dwell on what is happening, because there was more. There also wasn't time to regret any of the choices they had to made, which was also good at the time.

The Black Tide was all action, action, action. It felt a lot like Winter Halo, without as much personal parts to the plot. Things blowing up. People getting hurt. Tiger getting hurt a lot. Escaping from problems we got ourselves into in the first place. Running away from people who mean us harm. It actually got pretty complicated there by the end. Lots of threads to keep track of as everything from the entire series got tied together in a nice pretty present.

Tiger is amazing. Her life has changed so much since the start of City of Light. Never could she have guessed just how much it could possibly change when she went out to save that little girl. Maybe someday we'll get a short story or novella revisiting this world and how Tiger's life has changed after everything that

has happened. I will say I am upset because I was denied a chance to view Jonas in action!! How cruel, Keri Arthur. How cruel.

The ending wasn't at all what I thought it was going to be. I can't say I'm actually certain what I expected, but this shocked me. Despite knowing the ending was coming soon, I have to say it came really fast. I wasn't ready! I'm pretty happy with it, though, even though it didn't show much of anything to do with how her life after the events, just hinted at how it would be different.

I would totally recommend this series to others. I had a blast!

To read more reviews in this series and others check out keikii eats books!

Mechel Meek says

What a great wrap up to this series!

Liz (Quirky Cat) says

The Black Tide is the third (and sadly final) novel in the Outcast series. If you've read any of Keri Arthur's other works (I'll confess that I absolutely need to read more of her writing) then you already have a good idea of what her style is. For those that haven't read this series yet, I strongly advise that you go back to the first novel (City of Light), as reading them out of order will not make a lot of sense (I'm sure this is probably pretty obvious for most though).

What I love in particular about the Outcast series is that it's a blend of both science fiction and fantasy. Sure at times it'll lean more one way than the other, but the final outcome is a pleasant mixture that'll keep you on your toes throughout the whole series.

(view spoiler)

For more reviews, check out Quirky Cat's Fat Stacks

? BookAddict La Crimson Femme says

When it comes to ending a series, no one does it better than Ms. Arthur. In The Black Tide, it starts up where the last book left off. This can not be read as a standalone; it will make little to no sense. It is imperative to read the first two books in order before reading this one for the best enjoyment. Also better if the books are read closely together.

Tiger is carrying on the mission to prevent whatever the last of the unholy trinity is planning for the remaining human and shifter kind. Working for an underground rebellion, it is a race against time to figure out the opposition's final plans. Along the way, she discovers more human experimentations. This time it is worse - it is on infants and young children. Sensitive to children since she was created as a designated nurturer, this slays her. The indifference and clinical experimentation through torture and dissection is heinous. This happens on early in the book and sets the dark tone for this action packed conclusion.

The story moves along at a fast pace. A lot is happening. Tiger is opposed on several fronts which makes it difficult to foil the unknown master plan. She is not without allies and some questionable allies. I like how each piece of information is revealed and we learn there is going to be a catastrophic event that could mean the end of all. Ms. Arthur captures Tiger's frustration and at times helplessness so well. The ending comes swift with a few surprises and concludes in a happily ever after. I was surprised by the ending as usually, I'm left hanging and not only wanting more but feeling as if the situation is unresolved. IN this trilogy, I may yearn for another follow up story, but I am satisfied with how it all ended. This futuristic world is recommended to reader who enjoy paranormal creatures set in a dystopian world.
