



Demonglass

Rachel Hawkins

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Sophie Mercer thought she was a witch. That was the whole reason she was sent to Hex Hall, a reform school for delinquent Prodigium (a.k.a. witches, shape-shifters, and faeries). But then she discovered the family secret, and the fact that her hot crush, Archer Cross, is an agent for The Eye, a group bent on wiping Prodigium off the face of the earth.

Turns out, Sophie's a demon, one of only two in the world-the other being her father. What's worse, she has powers that threaten the lives of everyone she loves. Which is precisely why Sophie decides she must go to London for the Removal, a dangerous procedure that will either destroy her powers for good-or kill her.

But once Sophie arrives, she makes a shocking discovery. Her new housemates? They're demons too. Meaning, someone is raising demons in secret, with creepy plans to use their powers, and probably not for good. Meanwhile, The Eye is set on hunting Sophie down, and they're using Archer to do it. But it's not like she has feelings for him anymore. Does she?

Demonglass Details

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Author : Rachel Hawkins

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From Reader Review Demonglass for online ebook

Elena says

I literally read this in one sitting! Rachel Hawkins' books are so much fun and fast reads ! And the endings always leave me craving more.

Temi Panayotova says

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Jo says

3.5 stars.

Warning: Contains spoilers for Hex Hall....

“Somehow, my whole existence had become a really complicated world problem. I’d always sucked at those.”

Initial Final Page Thoughts.

WHAT. NOOO. COME ONNN.

High Points.

Still so very hilarious. I really want to have a picnic with Ms Hawkins so I can eat sandwiches and get sunburnt just sit and laugh with at her YA pop culture references and snarky wit. I can imagine her being great company. Sophie... still loved her, but *not* as much as in the first one. Jenna. Vampire Ponies. Gardening (*winkwink*). England.... REPRESENT. Or... um, not really (see low points). But still.. YAY for England. Rabid demons. A much better plot than the first one. And.. um, the ending?! Holy guacamole.

Low Points.

The whole love interest shenanigans... sigh. But I'll go into this later.

Not *everyone* in England speaks with “clipped” accents.

I really want to read a YA book where an unruly American teenager gets sent to a boarding school over here and when they get here they meet someone and hear them talk. Shocked, they will turn to their sarcastic, witty best friend and/or boy who is mean to them and will inevitably dry hump them in a later chapter and be all like "W-what was that?"

To which the best friend/ dry humper will turn and look at them solemnly and say "That, my dear, was what we call a Brummie."

And then she recoils in fear.

Not that I can mock anyone because of their accent.... I make Shaun Ryder sound like Stephen Fry.

I miss Hex Hall. Sigh.

Some of the 'reveals' at the end...hmmm, I'm not 100% sure. They have the potential to go either way. Also, this is probably because I read these two books within a week of each other, but the first few paragraphs were a bit '*Do you remember what happens in the first book? You... you do? OK, good. Well... I'm just going to tell you it again. Just in case.*'

Heroine.

Everything I have to say about Sophie I've pretty much said. She was still consistent (well, until the end... which surprised me a little. It was really out of character... but don't worry guys... I looked at the page, shaking my head in disappointment. That'll learn 'er.) in her snarky, funny ways without bordering on wise-assery.

I think Ms Hawkins did a great job with keeping Sophie as the character we all fell in love with in the first book but still allowing her to develop naturally.

She did, however, lose some well-earned Brownie points with her simpering simperiness when it came to the boys in her life.

Come on, Soph. Don't make me brand you as an AFP. Because once we go there... there's no way back. Pull it together, you're a demon for heaven's sake. If they're bothering you... zap them with your powers. Start with Archer... *shifty look*

Love Interest.

OK.

sigh

OK.... Right.

OK.

Right well... in my mind Sophie has three options when it comes to love interest. (Three? Wait, that's the same number of points a triangle has. A LOVE TRIANGLE. *scowls*)

Door Number One

Fawn over Archer Cross, who is mean to her, needs to fall off a cliff and a completely random non-entity character that adds nothing to the plot except to confuse our heroine and make her lose her head and make stupid decisions that could, I don't know... KILL HER AND EVERYONE SHE HAS EVER LOVED. But.. he's, like, a dreamboat so that doesn't matter.

Door Number Two

Hope to god that Cal grows a pair and fights for her and doesn't just stand in the background doing sweet F.A until right at the end when he realises that... Whoops, you might lose her better do something quick to make her desire you.

I really wish Hawkins would have written a few cute scenes between Cal and Sophie because I don't really see the connection between them....yet.

Saying that though, out of the boys, I am rooting for Cal.

Door Number Three.

Decide she's sick of ridiculous boys who are either sarcastic boneheads or strong and so silent they practically don't exist (seriously, those are her options?! Poor Soph, even a werewolf and a vamp look pretty good right now) and decide to become a lesbian with Jenna and raise vampire ponies on a ranch in Texas.

IMAGINE HOW FUN BOOK 3 WOULD BE.

Did I mention Door Number Three is bright pink?! And you get a cupcake when you open the door.

But you know.. whatever. It's your choice, Soph.

Best Friend.

WHAT. NOOO. COME ONNN.

Papa Mercer.

OK, I loved Papa M. I think Sophie's relationship with her dad was really realistic (or, y'know.. for demons), heart-warming and funny. (I'm glad to know that Sophie got her sarcasm from her British relatives) I think book three is going to be amazing in this respect... especially with what happened in the end. WHAT. NOOO. COME ONNN.

Theme Tune.

Abracadabra- Jessie J

Dear Cal,

I made you a mix tape. Of... um, one song. But yeah... this is exactly how I feel about you.

*Lots of love and broken plant pots,
Sophie.*

Mmmm, I love the smell of wishful thinking in the ~~morning~~ early evening.

Angst Level.

5/10. These points are for the ending which was all dramatic and exciting and WHAT. NOOO. COME ONNN.

But yeah... apart from that, this book is a one way ticket to f-.... I promised I wouldn't say that again didn't I?

Fine.

.....

ONE WAY TICKET TO FUN.

I'm not even sorry.

Recommended For.

People who have read and enjoyed Hex Hall. You'll love this one, too. People who don't have an adverse reaction to forced love triangles (adverse: stabbing violently at people who come close to you while you are embroiled in reading about one). People who don't mind cliff-hangers. People who think all British people live in country manors and drink tea high. I mean... um, high tea. (It's true...we do.) People who are looking for a way to travel into London while dodging the congestion charge. People who can't get enough of lesbian vampires. Demons that are looking for a rollicking beach read.

You can read this review and lots of other exciting things on my blog here.

Souma BookAddict says

Damn you second book syndrome! Damn you!

I am so very disappointed! *Le sigh*

This book was just boring. Not much happened throughout the entire book, and the mystery just wasn't that mysterious. Nothing really happened until the end of the book.

I feel like this book was just a set up for the next book .

Aj the Ravenous Reader says

This sequel to Hex Hall is...

KIDDING! Lol. It's the exact, complete opposite of boring. In fact, every chapter-ender plants a smile on my face or induces a pleasant look of anxiety for what's to happen next or invokes a crazy ugly squeal. **It's a total page-turner.**

The plot is even more adventurous and challenging and I'm completely engrossed especially because the narrations and dialogues are a whole lot funnier and the romance is a whole lot swoonier although I do empathize with readers' revolution against the love triangle. I really do. To prove it, I'll gladly take Cal into my arms just to rid the story of the unnecessary love triangle.

I honestly enjoyed this. I'm really very thankful to the author for making me laugh throughout the book. My 11 year old niece kept giving me this "my-aunt-is-definitely-losing-it" look because I couldn't stop myself from giggling while reading this.

There seems nothing that comes out from Sophie's mouth that didn't make me laugh. Even her reply to a romantic confession is downright hilarious.

"Wow, Cross. I think you missed your calling. Screw demon hunting: you should clearly be writing Hallmark cards."

The side stories, the new characters and other themes especially about friendship and family are delightful to read.

But that ending (or the lack of it)...I was like...

I know I promised several amazing people here (Melissa, Daiane and Jilly) that I'll read Angelfall right after this but there's no way I could do that now because this doesn't have an ending guys and I might really lose it if don't get my ending immediately. So, don't hate me okay. Bye!

Takes a plunge into the final book, Spellbound (Hex Hall, #3)

Jamie says

This is the sequel to Hex Hall. In order to properly enjoy this book, I highly encourage you to read it first. This is not a trilogy to read out of order.

In some ways I enjoyed this more than the first one, and in others a bit less. To start, I liked the writing better. I didn't feel the topics and style were geared towards teens only. While a young adult book, this one did not rub me in the annoying way the first book did at times.

However this book did not really grab and easily hold my attention either. Easily put aside and forgotten. Especially the middle of the book. I struggled to get through it. Nick and Daisy do not help. They bored me. The first book in the series threw some unexpected twists throughout the book. This one not so much. That is not to say it was bad or I didn't enjoy it. Just that it didn't jump out at me.

In this book, Sophie is sent off to spend the summer with her father. Lucky for her, Cal and Jenni get to go with her. She has a lot to learn about her heritage. From there, things go several directions at once and none of them play out in a way that drove my curiosity.

I am liking Cal's character more and more. I think he is my favorite character in this series. He may seem like the quiet, healing gardener, but it is easy to tell there is more to him. I have mixed thoughts on Sophie's dad. He is too career focused but I think he has a good heart. The other new characters were disappointing.

Now while much of the book was just so-so, the ending has me really wondering what is to come next. One cannot read this and just stop so kudos for an amazing cliffhanger ending!

Overall 3.5 stars

Elena Salvatore says

After Archer fled and Sophie saw Alice kill Elodie, she decides to go through the removal. She prefers to die herself then to lose control and kill someone else.

The only thing that's stopping her is her father who makes a deal with her. She will go to live with him in the summer to get to know him and her own powers better and if she still wants to go through the removal after, he will let her.

When they arrive at England, she finds out that she will spend time with a lot more people than just her father.

His second in command and Mrs Casnoff's sister, Lara, is greeting them and seems to be around

alot.

She also get's to meet two other Demon teenagers, Nick and Daisy, who are living with the counsil for years and don't remember anything about their lives before that,they don't even remember how they became Demons since Sophie's family was supposed to be the only Demons that were there.

After a night out in a club Sophie and the others come face to face with the "Eye" and more specific with Archer who tells her about all the mysterious things and dark magic that happens in Hex Hall and they try to find out what exactly is happening.

On top of all that Sophie and her father are trying to decipher the book who holds the page on how to create Demons, only to find it's page missing.

(view spoiler)

Honestly I left this review because I am sure that I won't remember anything about this series. It really was enjoyable and fast and easy to read, but it just wasn't really memorable and even tho it had potential it didn't deliver.

I still really liked it and would recommend it to anyone who is searching for a light/paranormal read that is funny and cute.

Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says

Honestly, this is a really fun series and I had no issues jumping right back into it even though it's been years since I read the first book.

Well written with a fast moving plot line and unforgettable characters, a must read for fans of the genre.

Neil (or bleed) says

In this sequel of Hex Hall, I am pleased to say that Sophia Mercer, our protagonist/heroine, was still sarcastic and witty as she used to be. The book itself, actually, is bewitching and exciting to read and it became more exciting and more bewitching because of Sophie. I really enjoyed her character, her personality, her sarcasm and her charm. All through out the book, even the scenes are made to be serious, she never forgot to showcase her wit and snarky-ness, which made the scenes slightly light to manage, though I still sense the tension onto them.

The plot has been managed to kept intact and went smoothly on the right pace. The character development are quite good too. I got the sense of their importance in the book. There are twists and revelations that constantly digging my mind when I'm reading this book. I mean I can't believe those were happen and those were the truth.

Moreover, I had to admit that I am really entertained on the sweet-yet-snarky romance of Sophie and Archer. I always smile, sometimes laugh, when they are talking to each other ~~and doing the other stuff. Hihi.~~ And, I am also happy that Sophie and her Dad got their own quality time bonding with one another even their bonding moments were dangerous and demonic in nature.

This is really an entertaining book. I didn't feel boredom or something.

Jessica says

Pre-Demonglass:

Dang! I just read Hex Hall, and I want to read this one now. 2011 is too long away.

How come so many people have already read this? NOT FAIR. (pout)

EDIT Oct. 22: COVER!!! WEDDING DRESS!!! AWESOME!!!!!!!!!

EDIT Feb. 14: Ya know, if they kept the orginal release date, it would be coming out tomorrow... I want it now.

Post Demonglass:

(SPOILERS TO HEX HALL, not this one though)

What I feel like doing right now is crying while banging my head against the wall while laughing. I knew going into this book that it was going to end on a cliffhanger with the end coming at least a year away. Yet I read it anyway. I'm hopeing to be one of the many people I hated who got an ARC for the next one. 2012 will not get here soon enough.

On to the book. So much happen, but I was happy with it. Sophie got some quality demon-time with dear old dad, found out who her betrothed was, met OTHER demons, and learned that not all monsters are technically monsters. They could be the good guys in disguise. Yeah, you heard me. Major twists are in this one.

That's one thing I love about these books, I do not see the twists coming. In everything I read, I can predict what's about to happen. Yet I never saw Archer with the Eye (SOB) Sophie a demon, or the who the big evil people raising demons were. I also did not see the whole "crushing on Sophie" crush by one of the other characters featured in Hex Hall. Did not see that and nor do I get it much. I'm so Team Archer.

Anyway, I just want everyone to go and enjoy. But, my little tibit of advice is this: wait as long as you can before reading it, cause the longer your wait for this one means the shorter and less aganonizing wait for the

third and final Hex Hall.

BTW: THANKS TO ALL who liked my review before this book came out. It totally made me feel special.

Flannery says

I usually don't give a crap about love triangles. When people are like "Team BLAH!", I just kind of half-heartedly smile because I couldn't care less. Except in this series, I actually do. Given the choice between a jerk douchebag maybe-traitor and a sexy, sweet lumberjack-type of dude, I'm gonna go lumberjack every day of the week. I remembered the love triangle from the first book in the series, Hex Hall, but I didn't remember a lot of the plot before I started the second installment. As it turns out, that didn't really matter because Rachel Hawkins reacquaints readers with all the characters and important plot points in a conversation early on. I was happy for the reminders but fans who remember more about HH might be a little bored for the first bit.

The majority of this book is interesting but not riveting. Hawkins has a great sense of humor but there were a lot of 2011-type jokes, (e.g. "Cryptic Dad is cryptic.") and I wonder if the humor will date itself in the future. In terms of plot, without spoiling the last book, Sophie, Jenna, and Cal go to England for the summer so Sophie can learn more about herself/her powers and spend time with her father. Aforementioned lame love interest Archer Cross has been sighted in England so it makes the situation more dangerous than it could be, as does the fact that L'Occhio di Dio (The Eye) has been more actively attacking Prodigium all over the place. Also, someone is raising demons . That bites.

Back to the love triangle. Archer is still all over the place in this one but I still didn't really enjoy him as a character. (view spoiler) Every time Archer showed up, I secretly hoped someone would just walk by and kill him. I laughed about that one for a while—imagining what books would be like if, out of the blue, some random person just showed up and killed a main character. Everything Cal does makes him more endearing, and there is a plot twist regarding him in the first few pages that surprised me and then left me a little frustrated throughout because there were several scenes dealing with it and I wish Sophie would just get over Archer. (view spoiler)

I said earlier that most of the book was interesting but not riveting. The last fourth or so of the book—RIVETED. There is just tons of action going on and I flew through it. I would've given this book 3 stars had it not been for the last section of the book. And that ending? Way to leave a series wide open, Rachel Hawkins. Who the hell knows where it will go next? I'll definitely be getting the next one.

Angigames says

Temevo il peggio, confesso, soprattutto quando dopo neanche due pagine scarse, l'autrice fa chiaramente intendere la possibilità della comparsa di una figura geometrica sopravvalutata e super sfruttata come quella del triangolo.

Fortunatamente, la Hawkins fa scelte intelligenti ed adeguate alla situazione. E infatti questo volume l'ho proprio divorato. La lettura non è appesantita dalla questione amorosa, ma è anzi brillante, divertente e sufficientemente misteriosa da farsi apprezzare e soprattutto da rilassarmi appieno, e questo è un enorme

pregio!

Sophie si conferma essere una protagonista irriverente, ironica e simpatica, che sa affrontare più di una situazione tutt'altro che convenzionale sempre grazie all'uso di battute mirate a sdrammatizzare e a far divertire il lettore. Certo, Sophie non è una super eroina, spesso si perde in ragionamenti molto (troppo) adolescenziali ma grazie alla sua freschezza naturale, questi difettucci passano in secondo piano e la lettura si gusta appieno. Mi è piaciuto pure il rapporto padre-figlia, si niente di così speciale, e forse un tantino superficiale (troppe questioni sono lasciate in sospeso tra i due), ma d'altronde è anche adattissimo ad un libro del genere. In realtà mi aspettavo molto di più da Archer, volevo che dimostrasse tutta la sua magica figaggine e così non è stato. Ma magari è meglio, in fondo il suo rapporto con Sophie è stato gestito con calma e calcolato alla perfezione e poi l'autrice ha a disposizione tutto il terzo volume per farmi innamorare di lui... XD

Sinceramente sul finale, avrei volentieri strangolato l'autrice. Cioè... finale TROPPO APERTO! MA COME SI FA?!

Non mi resta che attendere!

#uffa

Michelle, the Bookshelf Stalker Queen of the Undead says

[image error]

Rachel Maniacup says

Rachel Hawkins did it again! This book is just as good as the first and I love it!

In this sequel, Sophie meets her dad. I mean, really gets to know her dad and bonds with him in a unique way such as power developing/controlling. She also meets some more demons who didn't know/have no memories of why and how they existed. Sophie is also with Jenna (her bestfriend) here (I'm glad), and Cal who plays a more prominent role in this book.

I wonder who would Sophie choose: the one she's betrothed to, or the one that she loves? I know it s***s, right? 'cause I like both Cal and Archer! And if anything bad happens (hope not) to either one of them, I swear I'd be devastated!

So you see, this book is getting more and more interesting! So hard to put down even when you're really busy. I just wish that when I read the third book, I could finish it in just one sitting.. no distractions, no multi-tasking, no extra chores, no whatsoever! lol

In other words, this series really is so entertaining! Got to get to the third book now! ^^

Anne says

I have been anxiously awaiting Demonglass (Hex Hall #2) since I read Hex Hall last March. Demonglass picks up shortly after Hex Hall left off. Sophie Mercer attends Hecate Hall, or Hex Hall as the students have

come to call it; a school for delinquent Prodigium (witches, warlocks, vampires, werewolves, and faeries) who have had trouble controlling their powers.

In Demonglass, Sophie has decided to go through the Removal after discovering that she is a demon, not a witch like she always thought. The problem is that demons are rare (Sophie and her father are the only ones currently in existence) and volatile. Sophie has seen first hand what can happen if a demon goes rogue and she refuses to risk hurting anyone she loves. The Removal is the only guaranteed solution. It will strip her of all of her powers but it will leave her covered in purple tattoo like marks and could also end her life.

Now Sophie is off to London, with Cal (who I might add is delicious) and Jenna (her vampire best friend) in tow, to spend the summer with her Dad. He is determined to prove to her that the Removal is not her only option. If only that was her only dilemma. It turns out that Archer Cross, her former classmate and crush is an agent for The Eye, a group bent on wiping Prodigium off the face of the earth. Sophie hasn't seen him since she discovered his secret and he fled Hecate. But rumors say he has been spotted in London...

The Eye has always been a concern for Prodigium. But with the discovery that someone is raising new demons, the Eye have become more aggressive than ever. A war is brewing and the ones responsible may be closer than they think.

Demonglass was fantastic! This installment is packed with new information and new riddles. Some family secrets are unveiled as well. Although I will admit that Rachel Hawkins doesn't actually come out and tell you the last big revelation but I think you'll know. And what YA book is complete without a little love triangle action? Cal really starts to become a contender for Sophie's affections in Demonglass. I'm still rooting for Archer though ;-) Hex Hall #3 should be out spring of 2012. It will be a long wait but will you can bet I will be picking it up as soon as it hits the shelves!

Princess Bookie says

My Thoughts: Wow, Wow, Wow, what can I possibly say? I reviewed Hex Hall a few months ago and like I said before, I was hesitate about this series but than I read Hex Hall and I loved it. So of course I was looking forward to Demonglass but I wasn't sure if it would be as good. Demonglass outshined my expectations, it was even better than Hex Hall!!!! We are back with Sophie who has spent the last few months trying to get over that fateful night she lost a lot. Her dad's back in the picture, her friend is dead, her beloved Archer is missing (or hiding). Whats a girl to do?

Her dad shows up and suggests taking Sophie back to his house (or maybe not his house exactly) and she wants to bring Jenna with her. Her dad agrees and he also suggests a mystery guest as well. Who is the mystery guest? Cal! Remember Cal, he was the guy that was a few years older that stayed on campus when he graduated and more or less became the janitor. He heals people. Yep, that Cal. Why on earth is Cal coming I asked myself? Well, on page 18, I got my answer and I laughed so hard I thought I was going to cry. I loved that!!!!

Of course leaving the school, Sophie gets a strange feeling that all 3 of them will not be returning. Sophie and her friends go back to the mansion aka Thorne Abbey. There they spend the next few months discovering secrets about Sophie's heritage, and just how powerful she really is. The Eye is still out to get her as well, and Archer shows up a lot throughout the book.

Of course Sophie doesn't know who she should really trust. When it comes down to it, everyone seems hunky dory on the outside but Sophie starts wondering about her dad's "friends," who Archer "really" is, and just how many people she can really trust.

With a new set of characters, more intensity in Sophie's life, the fact that the school may not be what it seems, and the Eye out to kill her, *Demonglass* was a hit!

Let me finish by saying this, I really liked Archer in the first book but after getting to know Cal, my feelings started leaning towards him and I desperately wanted something to really happen between Sophie and him. And everything he sacrificed made me feel so giddy I wanted to jump up and down with excitement. But of course she's still got it bad for Archer! How do you choose between a super powerful warlock and a hot older healer? Decisions, decisions.

Demonglass was AWESOME! And of course it ends with such a cliffhanger that *Demonglass* will make people want to cry because as of right now, they can't run to the bookstore and get the next book! Write faster Hawkins!

Overall: Loved *Demonglass*!!! Love Sophie, Cal, Jenna, Archer, her dad, just everyone!!!

Cover: It's awesome. Love it. Its even nicer than *Hex Hall*! Beautiful cover!

What I'd Give It: 5/5 Cupcakes

Taken from Princess Bookie

www.princessbookie.com

Wendy Darling says

Still heaps of fun! I love a good paranormal book as much as the next person, but sometimes they take themselves too seriously. I'm happy to report that *Demonglass* retains the same sarcastic humor and a snappy, action-packed plot that is just as entertaining as the one in *Hex Hall*.

Sophie is spending some time on her father's estate to figure out whether she's going to keep her awesome but pesky powers, and she's still secretly pining for her missing demon-hunter crush, Archer Cross. Complicating matters is the revelation that cute-as-heck Cal has been betrothed to her for years (hey, they do things differently in the otherworld) and the afore-mentioned crush is part of The Eye, a group hell-bent on wiping out all of Sophie's kind. Kinda puts a damper on the relationship.

The politics and power struggles within the Prodigium (witches, shapeshifters, and fairies) and with the demon hunters is growing steadily more complicated, and Sophie and her father must develop her gifts before time runs out. It would be interesting to see more of the plotting ladies within the Prodigium and to have the tension ratcheted up with The Eye, but hopefully these will be further explored in future books.

The author does a fabulous job of moving the story along with cheeky attitude, however, while taking time out for real connections between Sophie and her BFF Jenna and between her and her dad. There are also some brief but swoon-worthy moments with her guy, and you really breeze through this thing rooting for everyone to be happy. I'm really enjoying Sophie and her smart and snappy banter, and this series has fast

turned into one of my fluffy and fun favorites.

The full text of this review may be found in The Midnight Garden.

? ??????? ? ????? says

My first thought about this book was that it was a lot sadder than the first. There were so many emotional turns in this book that it left me hanging. Sophie is as sarcastic and as strong as she was the first book but she still has her doubts about who she is and her powers. She hopes to find out the mystery of the Eye, Archer, Cal, Hecate Hall's leader, and the Council since there are many disappearances and demons being used for evil. Her budding relationship with her father and the bumps in the road before the major earthquake at the end also adds to the list of good things with this book, the list being:

Love Triangle

Awesome Main Character

Mysterious-Once-Good and Friendly-Characters

Demons

and much more that you'll have to find out for yourself

Anyway, you should read this and maybe reread it since the second time for me was better.

Vinaya says

You know how sometimes you just take a totally irrational liking to a particular character, and when the story doesn't work out in their favour, you just want to throw the book away? Yeah, that's what happened to me with Demonglass. (Also, why is this book called Demonglass when the demonglass doesn't play any major role in the book?) Before I start the review, I want to make some things very clear. Objectively speaking, this is a great book, and very worthy of four stars. Sophie is still as snarky and adorable as she was in Hex Hall. I'm a little bit in love with her father, and the plot has very many more twists and turns than the first book. It was an exciting, breathless read. SO what went wrong for me in Demonglass? Two words: Team Cal.

I know, I know, it's crazy. How can I prefer the clean-cut All-American boy to the dark, troubled rebel? Wasn't I the one who admitted to having a secret weakness for starcrossed lovers? And Archer's so hot and Sophie's so in love with him! BUT. What can I say, I still like Cal better. I swear I'm not doing it to be perverse, I just think I would have liked the book about forty times more if Rachel Hawkins had decided to make Sophie get the hell over her crush on Archer, especially since she knows he's helping to kill hundreds of innocent Prodigium, and made her slowly fall in love with the kinder, more compassionate and infinitely more mature Cal. However, this is not my book, and since Rachel Hawkins has done a good job with the direction she has taken, I will grudgingly admit, despite my blind partiality for Cal, that the book works well. There is some great chemistry between Sophie and Archer, and I like the fact that Sophie doesn't miss him and think about because of how hot he is, but rather because she misses talking to him and hanging out with him.

In Demonglass, Sophie finally meets her father, who persuades her to come to England to get to know him and learn more about her demon powers before going through with the Removal. She also discovers that she is betrothed to Cal, which makes for plenty of awkwardness. Sophie, Cal and Jenna go to England, where they also discover two other demon teenagers. Sophie discovers that the Prodigium is on the brink of war with the Eye and slowly begins to accept her powers, her future role as Head of the Council and her love for her father. Into the middle of this come several crises, including the reappearance of Archer in her life, the threat of someone raising demons and the knowledge that someone wants Sophie dead.

This book is not as simplistic as Hex Hall. The humor and snark are still there, but you can see Sophie growing up to be a more mature, more astute person. Her growing relationship with her dad, a mixture of sarcasm, admiration and eventually, love, is great to see. While the first half of the book was fun and interesting, the second half was heart-poundingly good! The plot takes several unexpected twists and turns, and what I really liked about the ending is the fact that the villains are not cut-and-dried 'I want to be the most powerful person in the Prodigium' warmongers; instead, they believe their path is the only way to save the Prodigium. It's so rare to come across shades of grey in YA literature that I'm always glad to see even a hint of it.

I have to admit that one of the things that really ticks me off is when strong heroines fall apart in crisis situations. I know it may be realistic and true-to-life, but personally, I like my kick-ass heroines to *be* kick-ass. This is one of the things that put me off Mockingjay, the fact that Katniss fell apart at the most crucial moment, the pivotal point at which her skill was most needed. I guess I think a heroine is only really strong if you show me she is, at the time she needs to be. Really strong people deal with things as they happen and give themselves the luxury of falling apart only later. So I was a little disappointed that Sophie ends up so passive at a point when she is supposed to be strong, and needs to lean on Cal after all. That's the sort of underlying reinforcement of the 'little woman' syndrome that makes me want to pull my hair out.

As for the romance, the only thing I have left to say is that if Hawkins was going to fall into the Triangle Trap, the least she could have done was twisted it differently. However, I must admit I am curious to see where the story will go in the next book in the series, and all in all, this was a fun, exciting read. I would totally recommend it.

Emily May says

I read this book in the space of just a few hours this morning. This was largely because there were some parts I had to skim-read. I am so so disappointed in this sequel to Hex Hall, it's been a wishlister of mine ever since I put the previous book down and I honestly believed I would love it - it's even set in my homeland after all!

But I couldn't get into the story... well, there actually didn't seem to be a whole lot of story. Basically, Sophie goes to hide out in the English countryside for family/demon bonding time, whilst all the time trying to half convince the reader that she's over her evil ex-crush Archer - but she has to do it in that pathetic pining way that lets you know that, not only is her mr sexy-traitorous guy still definitely on her mind, but she is also into that stage of obsessive love-you-till-I-die that seems to happen in so many young adult paranormal romance novels after the couple in question have had *one kiss*. At least they didn't quite have insta-love, that would have been too much to take.

What we do get is the suggestion of the inevitable love triangle (why, oh, why) with Cal now the other potential love interest. Let's face it - probably not gonna happen. Cal appears to be (unfortunately, this comparison must be made) the Jacob Black of this piece, where Archer is the Edward Cullen (except he does actually have a personality). The author seems to be going down the road of:

Archer = Great, never-ending love.

Cal = cute, nice guy who will probably get dumped and end up turning into a pervert obsessed with newborn babies.

Just forget it. This book wasn't interesting at all, we've moved away from the cool supernatural mysteries and gone into a story solely centred around love triangles and heartbreak. If I wanted this I would have read Hush, Hush and/or Fallen.
