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Paranormal



View Edit

BLACKWELL

Author(s): Alexandra Weis, Lucas Astor

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Set in the late 1800s, Weis and Astor's latest is artfully done — an intriguing, dark tale complete with vividly drawn characters, and a uniquely compelling character in Magnus. One highlight is the storytelling, which seamlessly blends mystery, magic and matters of the heart to create an enthralling read. The contrast between the angry, brooding Magnus and the compassionate Jacob heightens the conflict driving the story. Readers will be engaged from the start of the story to its climactic ending.

At Harvard, on his way to a school reception, working-class architectural student Jacob O'Conner meets wealthy fellow student Magnus Blackwell, who becomes a close friend. It is during their second year that Jacob is introduced to Frances McGee at a social mixer. Frances at first only has eyes for Magnus, but Magnus' indiscretions, coupled with her growing friendship with Jacob, leads Frances into Jacob's arms instead. Magnus is infuriated and refuses to let Frances go. A year later, Jacob and Frances marry, and Magnus, not able to be around the happy couple, takes a trip to New Orleans. A chance meeting with author Oscar Wilde and voodoo high priestess Madame Simone Glapion leads Magnus down a dark road to a depravity that pulls in Jacob and Frances and puts all three onto a path of destruction and revenge. (VESUVIAN, Jan., 300 pp., \$25.99)

Reviewed by: Melanie Bates

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RT Rating:



Genre:

Paranormal

Sensuality:

Mild

Publisher:

Vesuvian Books

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