



## Descent

*L.A. Starkey*

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**Descent** L.A. Starkey

The path of truth lies hidden deep,

To find the light the climb is steep.

But in despair resolve is sound,

What once was lost will now be found.

All is lost and the prophecy seems null and void. Samantha is dead to the living world, and Marcus and Nicolas completely destroyed, but things aren't always as they seem. To save the one they love, the boys will have to traverse the Descent, a darkness that all will enter and few will ever leave. The interference of gods and goddesses on the chessboard of blood has left the door open for a new player to enter the scene, and she holds the most powerful gift of all—sacrificial love.

Will the exit clause be invoked, dissolving of the chain that binds the trio together?

Will the Descent be the final setting for their love story or will they rise again?

As the curtain draws closed on this tale of old, who will rise and who will fall?

And what if their choice is no choice at all?

## Descent Details

Date : Published February 25th 2015 by BrixBaxter Publishing

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Author : L.A. Starkey

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## From Reader Review Descent for online ebook

### Kristen Cansler says

I've been so excited for this book! And L.A. Starkey did not let me down with *Descent*! As much as I don't want this story to be over, I felt like *Descent* was a perfect and satisfying good-bye to a group of characters that I've grown so close to!

Looking back to the first book in this series, I'm amazed at how L.A. Starkey has written this journey. The characters have grown in ways that I wouldn't have imagined when I started this series. There are so many twists and turns that kept me on the edge of my seat while racing towards the end. *Descent* is the stellar ending that this series deserved.

I'm torn between being sad that the story is over and happy that I got to follow it. *Descent* is a bittersweet ending for me. I'm not nearly ready to let Sam and the others go. But what a brilliant journey that they've been on thanks to the author's wonderful prose. This series is incredible, and I recommend it to all paranormal and fantasy fans!

\*\*I received this book for free in exchange for an honest review with no compensation.

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### Barbara says

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. Where to start?

The main story concluded exactly how I wanted it to. So why only 3 stars? I was disappointed with the final leg of the journey. There was a lot of build-up in the book. Hades kept hinting at how powerful Sam and Elos were, and that he knew how the prophecy ended, Pandora was there for a minute and then she just wasn't anymore. I felt like we were building up to this epic ending and we were going to find out how truly amazing Sam was and we were going to see some butt kicking or something-- anything! Alas, it's almost as if the author forgot about all the build-up, and was in a super hurry to give us a happily-ever-after. All in all-- I enjoyed the story, but the end fell flat for me. I was like Ralphie in 'A Christmas Story' after he gets his decoder pin in the mail and decodes his first message. Feverishly excited until I reached the anti-climatic end. I guess what I'm trying to say is that I wish it was a little more.... more.

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### Courtney says

Short version: DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME WITH THIS BOOK. You'd be better off imagining your own ending and tossing this out the window/deleting it from your tablet. All I can say is thank god I only had to pay 99¢ for the trilogy.

Actual review: This was a HUGE let down for an otherwise great series. I was really looking forward to hearing more about Hades & Persephone, seeing the aftermath of Aphrodite's trial, seeing what everyone meant when they all mentioned Sam's alleged "power," some info on the Pandora/Poseidon love affair, and an ending that was actually satisfying. Instead, what you get is an ending thrown together in a few pages at the last minute, and the worst ending possible for Nick, the best character of the entire series!!

That said, I can't say I didn't see the Sam & Marcus thing coming. There were too many hints and occasions in which both Nick, Sam, and other characters alluded to Marcus's "regal" nature (obv a future king would be regal) and Nick himself repeating throughout the whole series that he'd let Marcus have her. (That said, why not at least let Nick reunite with his added-absolutely-nothing-to-the-plot former love interest, Marianne?)

Also...why are the Parkers never mentioned in this entire book? Are we really expected to buy that Sam disappeared for a weekend to Seattle and never returned to them, and they were okay with that? Way too many loose ends and a rushed ending. The only reason this even gets one star at all is because of the strength of the other two books. I definitely won't be reading this author's other books.

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### **Jeanette Rucker says**

Wow - what a great ending. I have extremely enjoyed reading about Samantha's journey and discovery of who she is really! As I finished this one, I kept thinking this would make a GREAT movie. I love the mythology that was brought to life for me for the first time. The ending was not expected, but OMG - it was AWESOME. I also love how Hades and Pandora came into the story. Made me want to know more about them! I definitely look forward to reading more from Ms. Starkey!

If you haven't started the series, then go grab the first two, something to drink and curl up for the best adventure. You will fall in love with the characters. You will be surprised by the twists and turns. You will hate for the series to end.

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### **Regina Goad says**

#### **Entertaining**

I enjoyed the trilogy some things were left out like her parents after she went to Seattle, when she learned who her father was and who was in the yellow hoodie. I also thought it could have been completed in one longer book not 3. The story was told well and kept me interested.

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### **Kelly Vidito says**

A great ending to the series. One of the best paranormal stories I have read in a while. It's a must read! I received an ARC for an honest review.

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### **Gabriela Bragg says**

Wow I could not believe the ending on this series, I cried, love the way it went down, loves does conquer all and to this characters, love is the greatest of all even for the king of the underworld. Love the twists and turns the characters had to endure in the story, no easy task this three had. I truly recommend this book.

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**Kristen Lewendon says**

This was a very emotional ending. It's schmaltzy and sentimental and plays heavily on everything that tugs on the heartstrings, but I kind of love it even more for being 'in your face' in that way. I knew there had to be a way for this to work out in everyone's favor, however I didn't see that particular ending coming. It actually left it open for there to be more stories to come in this universe, and I think I'd be interested in reading every one of them.

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**Jennifer says**

The conclusion to Marcus, Samantha, And Nick's story was amazing. I was enthralled by these characters and their story. I had no clue how this would conclude, but I was very pleasantly surprised. I highly recommend this series.

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**Natashasiberian79adgmail.Com says**

There has to be more. This was left so open ended.

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**Keeley says**

Okay so I'm not even close to being okay with that ending. I need more Persephone and Hades. I need more Nick and Sam and Marcus. Why does it have to be over?!?!?!!

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**Enrique Herrera says**

So here we are, Descent! The long awaited continuation to Destroyed. It was certainly quite the journey, reading about everything Samantha had to go through. Like the two previous predecessors, the ending is quite surprising and heart grabbing. This whole story had like a romantic adventure feel to it, with all the drama, and action, very suspenseful I'd have to say. The word choice throughout this story is just marvelous; I really enjoyed the rising plot, from start-to-finish you weren't bored with any details of what occurred. Descriptive, the single word to describe this novel, it was so detailed, someone wouldn't have a hard time making a movie out of it. I'm also glad Hades has a prominent role in this area of the novel. Sometimes the most villainous characters don't see much of the spotlight. I always wished I could visit Mount Olympus, despite all the constant quarrels and chaos; it certainly seems like the place one could vacation at. This enchanting tale has finally unfortunately ended. I'm sad now, I was fortunate enough to be introduced to this series through the author herself, and look at this story now. It began wonderfully and became something far greater. I don't know if I should feel happy or sad about the ending. Perhaps a mix of both, you know an author did their job properly, if you actually thought it was a true story. I wouldn't look at this as the ending, but merely as the beginning of a new chapter. If the story would ever continue, call it, Dreamland. It was a

lovely journey, I look forward to your future works, and I just found it amazing how with just a bit of words, how quickly they can influence ones' emotions. That's what I seek out in authors, good stories, with heart pumping plots, and emotions combined with an excellent taste of scenery to tie it all together. I would of course recommend that you read the conclusion to the Soul Keeper series. Because this series, are certainly, a "Keeper!" Until then, I thank you for the journey you have written for us humble readers! ;D

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### **Juanita Arquette says**

#### **Great story**

I have not read about the gods before so I'm very pleased with this story. I would like to read more.

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### **Tina Gressley says**

Read the whole series. Loved the books. Very detailed oriented !! The ending was horrible. The ending was done in like two pages. No detail .. nothing. Will think twice bout reading any more books by the author.

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### **K.S. Marsden says**

With the "death" of the Soul Keeper the race is on to rescue Sam from Hades, and to finally complete a millennia old prophecy - will Sam chose Marcus or Nick; will Zeus or his titan brother Prometheus succeed?

I have loved this series, it has been an awful lot of fun. Despite it being an adventure on an epic scale, and very serious; it has maintained a good level of humour throughout.

This third and final instalment definitely holds its own. The many threads of the story come together, and its revealed exactly how deeply all the plotting and counter-plotting goes. As well as "The Big Answer", you also get answers over all those hidden drives and schemes that were built up in the first two books.

I loved the Hades and Persephone storyline - I have to say, I wish that there was more about them. Or at least, more about where they go from here, you get the feeling that the dynamics in their relationship really shifted in the end.

If I'm very honest, even though this was a good book in its own right, I wasn't as smitten with it as I was with its predecessors. With Sam being caught between life and death, and her mind losing focus, naturally she is no longer our key narrator. The others step up to the mark, but I missed Sam.

And with a lot more of the focus shifting to all of the gods that are manipulating the story, I sometimes found it confusing keeping track. Also, on a more minor note, I wasn't thrilled with the unvarying voices of the gods. I know that it keeps it very accessible, but it felt like they could be transferred into a generic high school setting. Ok, with all the torture, murder and scheming, maybe college instead.

The only other thing that... not quite upset me, but definitely puzzled me, was the premise that was set out in the first book when the prophecy was awoken. That the fate of humankind rested upon a teenage girl choosing between two brothers. Until she chooses, the fate in charge of creating life on earth, is in a coma, putting the human race at risk.

The rest of the trilogy quickly corrects this threat, and moves on to other games. It just made me wonder why it had so much emphasis put on the consequences in the first place.

What I did love was the ending. I can't imagine a better outcome. I didn't want it to stop, though! I wanted to see what happens with Sam and Elos - what are their powers? Do they ever take the throne?

Anyway, I would definitely recommend this series to everyone - especially as the first book Deceived is available free!

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