



Shaker of Earth

Jordan L. Hawk

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Charleston is reeling beneath the onslaught of demons unleashed by the vampire spirit Drugoy and his human host Yuri. Alone and drained almost to the point of death, Gray and Caleb must make their way across a city gone mad in hopes of putting an end to Yuri and Dru. But the other drakul isn't the only enemy they have to worry about.

After the death of a rogue agent at Gray's teeth, John's faith in his lovers has been badly shaken. But when SPECTR Chief Barillo orders the vampire destroyed by any means possible, John and his allies find themselves in a race to find Gray and Caleb before their fellow SPECTR agents.

Because their only hope of stopping Yuri and Dru is by working together. And if they fail to unite, the streets of Charleston will run red with blood.

Shaker of Earth Details

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From Reader Review Shaker of Earth for online ebook

Sherry says

This was quite a roller coaster ride, phew. Going in I had no idea how John and Caleb/Gray would be able to stop Yuri/Dru so I couldn't read fast enough to get my answers. It was very gripping, but there were also a few parts that felt a bit too stretched out, or like the story was going in circles. What irritated me a bit was that the agents knew that a bullet to the head would stop a drakul for a short time but they didn't aim at the head at all. I know the story would've been over too fast, or slowed down unnecessarily if they did so early on but I couldn't stop thinking about it. Thankfully as the story reached its climax, John made use of that fact so I'm appeased.

I wasn't worried at all that John and Caleb/Gray wouldn't be able to clear the air between them again, I even I liked that they were forced to act separately because of Yuri/Dru's scheming.

I have to say that I feel a bit sad for Dru, though. He must've felt so lonely without Gray and I kind of understand that he wanted to have him back.

We got an interesting piece of information in this volume (view spoiler)

Hollygirl1030 says

Great!

I loved it and did not want it to end!!! I cannot wait for the next books to come out.

Kristin says

Shaker of Earth cannot be read as a standalone and the reader needs to have read the previous books in the series. The WHOLE series – One and Two.

In my review of Breaker of Chairs, I ended with the statement: *Dear Ms. Hawk – please don't make me wait a YEAR to find out what happens!*

Ms. Hawk came through in less than a year AND with an installment that was fast paced, engaging, and (in my humble opinion) brought out the best in all our favorite characters.

Shaker of Earth picks up right where Breaker of Chains ends. Caleb/Gray are feeling betrayed by John's rejection after a Massive Misunderstanding. Now, John did walk in on Gray eating Eriksson, but hey...there was a daemon involved. Still Caleb/Gray know they must take down Drugoy/Yuri before the Earth Drakul destroys everything in his quest for revenge.

John and Zahira continue to stand up for Gray in the face of fear, bigotry and sexism. John – slowly –

realizes how much he was trying to put Gray into a proverbial box in an attempt to smooth over poor internal relations with SPECTR. He sincerely regrets his final words to Caleb and Gray, and only hopes he'll have the time to make amends.

As I noted above, Shaker of Earth moves smartly along. This was almost a "read in one sitting book" for me (alas, it was late, I was tired, I fell asleep and it wasn't the book's fault).

Plot-wise, character-wise; *everything* came together in a most satisfactory manner for me. The antagonists had their proverbial butts kicked, we had reconciliation, we had old favorite characters making a re-appearance (to help with butt-kicking), the humor was back, and we had farewells.

Ooo...I left that one hanging vaguely, didn't I? *Hehehehe*.

My two minor complaints are: I would have liked to have seen more from Zahria. I really liked her character, her rapport with Caleb/Gray, and her attitude. I felt she was relegated to the back seat in this one, and I would have preferred to have seen her in a stronger role.

I also felt the intimate moment between John, Caleb and Gray as they were reunited at SPECTR was...off. Everyone stinks of smoke, blood and ichor, Caleb/Gray just came back from the dead, they're on a cement floor in an exorcism room, everyone is exhausted – and they have sex. I can't think of a more un-sexy situation or place. The scene just didn't work for me.

Ultimately I thought this was perhaps the strongest book in Series 2 and I can see myself reading this again in the near future.

Review is cross-posted at Gay Book Reviews

A copy of the book was provided by the author in exchange for an honest review. Thank you!

Teresa says

I could not put this book down. I practically read it in one sitting! So exciting, and even though Caleb, Gray, and John spend so much time apart, the times together make it worth it.

This was a great conclusion to this story arc. I love this series and eagerly await the third part.

Chris, the Dalek King says

It's not the fall that kills you...it's the landing.

Caleb and Gray have lost everything. SPECTR is gunning for them, literally. Yuri and Drugoy have betrayed them. And worst of all, John told them to leave and never come back. They have been in some dark places before, but stuck to the earth with rebar and chains, after Dru had bled them almost dry, is probably as close to a permanent end as they have ever gotten.

And if that isn't bad enough, Dru and Yuri have unleashed hell onto Charleston, infecting dozens upon dozens of people with NHEs as they wreak havoc on the city. With the city in chaos and no hope of backup, Caleb and Gray must find a way to stop the drakul before everything they hold dear is left in blood and ash. Because even if John never wishes to see them again, Caleb and Gray refuse to let him fall to anyone's hand.

Back after one hell of a cliffhanger, Shaker of Earth uses the last book in the SPECTR second series to throw everything at our three main characters. Jam packed with action, this story feels very much like the finale episode of a TV show's season. Not a great place to pick up the series for the first time, but instead a reward for everyone who has stuck with the series as it has grown over the previous ten books. All three of our MCs are forced to fight tooth, nail, and gun with a wide array of NHEs as well as Dru and Yuri. Lives are on the line, and with the guys separated it quickly becomes clear that this time a happy ending might just be too much to hope for. That being the case, each scene draws the reader in, and keeps them there with bated breath, as each second can end in catastrophe.

But that doesn't mean the book doesn't know when to take a breath. Interspersed between fights with Grendels, werewolves, and Dru, there are moments where the story takes time to make sure that the reader still has reasons to care. I especially liked the scenes with family from the car. They not only brought some levity to the story, but added a much needed human element. Readers are going to care about John, Gray, and Caleb no matter what, but having a group of people who need to be defended added an extra bit of tension and weight to the fights that connect to them.

While I don't think this book on its own is perfect, as a final chapter to this series it was great. I would suggest rereading at least Breaker of Chains before picking this one up, though, since this is the culmination of all the major events in that story.

Having greatly enjoyed both Series 1 & 2, I'm thrilled to know that a Series 3 is in the offing. And after the ending in this book, I'm very curious about how things are going to play out in this new situation. Until then, I'm happy to report that this series closes out with a bang you are not gonna want to miss.

4.5 stars

This book was provided free in exchange for a fair and honest review for Love Bytes. Go there to check out other reviews, author interviews, and all those awesome giveaways. Click below.

Lisazj1 says

scrrreeeam SPECTR 2 is finished!!! *Runs off to read Mocker of Ravens* *dustcloud*

edit

This is one review for all 5 novellas in the SPECTR Series 2, posted on each novella in this series, because I am wiped out.

I waited 3 years for this second series of SPECTR stories to be finished and they were completely worth the wait. And here I am, already waiting for Series 3. *sigh*

A lot happens with John, Caleb and Gray, and some of it is damn hard to read. All of them are hurt in this series, and worse, they hurt each other. For a while, it seemed like they might actually lose against the bad guy, who seemed, unbelievably, to be much stronger than Gray. There were times when I thought Gray and Caleb were actually done, it was pretty freaking scary. But the thing that hurt most was John losing faith in Caleb and Gray, (view spoiler).

The love and the bond between the three of them isn't something that's easily destroyed, though JLH made us suffer for it this time. I loved the additions to the series, namely Kurt & Zahira, though Barillo can GTFO as far as I'm concerned.*I'd be ok with Gray eating *him** And I'm super excited about the direction SPECTR 3 seems to be going. I CANNOT WAIT!!! *sigh* *sits down to wait*

Alisa says

Super entertaining. Full review to come.

And praise the book gods for new covers for this series!

Loves says

I've read Patreon's ARC. If I have to summarize my experience, it would be "highly enjoyable, but...". This installment is written and executed like an action movie, with few breaks on the action. Technically, it is beautifully done. Fast and intense, but with small stops for humor, banter and romance that were so sorely missing in the previous book. When you leave out the execution and focus on the plot itself, or more precisely, on the motives and behavior of the heroes and (especially) the villains, well... there's a problem there. The problem began originally in the previous book, so if you've enjoyed it maybe it wouldn't bother you so much. It did bother me. I've felt the author had dug such a deep hole in the previous book, that climbing out of it had been... less graceful than usual (major spoilers ahead, so if you did not read the book, go on and do it. If you got this far on the series you'd most likely enjoy it).
(view spoiler)

Erin *Proud Book Hoarder* says

The conclusion to the second offbranch of the series. As always well written, but short, and the characters are separated quite a bit. I really liked the new family and finally hope they are getting away from the annoying SPECTR environment a bit. Will be happy when the third series comes out.

Fritz42 says

Oh, this was so good. I swear it was nail-biting from the first page to the last. I lost track of the times I was freaking out, worried about how Caleb/Gray and John would get out of a horrible situation. The climax of the story had my heart pounding as I tried to read faster than my eyes would go.

I love where the book ended, and the fact that there will be a SPECTR Series 3 makes me a very happy person.

Dana says

Reviewed for Rainbow Gold Reviews. A copy was provided in exchange for an honest review.

The cover – I don't always talk about covers, but the author just created new ones for the series and they are worth mentioning. I liked the previous covers, but there is something cleaner about the new images. I feel like I get a better idea of what the characters are supposed to look like. The stories are what matters, but I do believe the new covers are more pleasing to the eye.

The story – When I finished reading the previous book, Breaker of Chains, I was out of my mind with the need to know how Gray, Caleb, and John would handle the situation they found themselves in. I needed this book as soon as possible, and Jordan L. Hawk didn't make us wait too long. Thank goodness!!

At the end of Breaker of Chains, I didn't know what would become of Caleb and Gray. Their situation was dire! I was so keyed up inside that the ease in which they escaped death was a little bit of a let down. It's hard to say that because I don't want in any way to make this book sound like it's not good. It was great. And not one moment that could be considered boring. Though Gray and Caleb were rescued fairly easy, they still had to deal with a crazed, powerful drakul they used to think was their friend, SPECTR was against them, and they had no reason to hope their relationship with John could be worked out.

This story is a non stop action scene. Every time that I thought Gray and Caleb were in prime condition, something would knock them back down. Whether it was Yuri/Drugoy, or a non-human entity (NHE) that possessed some random bystander, or a corrupt SPECTR agent who would rather see them die than reveal his mistakes. It seemed like Gray and Caleb couldn't get a break. While Yuri and his counterpart, Drugo, were damaged in some fights, they seemed like they would come out the winner at times, so needless to say, I was freaking out a bit while reading the book. Even to the end, there was some uncertainty.

I haven't mentioned John much, so let me remedy that. John is a wonderful character. He loves both Caleb and Gray, which is good because they share a body. And up until the last book he has taken their side and backed them up at ever turn. Yuri and Drugoy did more damage than just physical to John, Caleb, and Gray. Their machinations did damage to the trust between the three main characters. John's desire to keep the peace at his job played a part in the problems between all three of them too. He was willing to sacrifice Caleb and Gray's happiness and (without knowing) their safety at risk in order to not make waves. John does realize his faults, though. A very mean spirited part of me wanted even more guilt from him, but ultimately I had to forgive him because he is just one of those truly good characters.

A few side characters were also important in this story. I liked Karl, an empath that helped John out. Zahira, the SPECTR agent that worked with John, Gray, and Caleb in the past is in this book and she is always a great character. I feel like her ethnicity adds more depth to the story. And she is one of the few women shown to work for the agency. And a surprise return from a character that was a supporter of Gray and Caleb, who luckily shows up just in time to help save the day. This author's works are not only great because of the main characters, but also the ones that she surrounds them with. I always wish I could be one of them.

The end of this story has new paths and jobs in store for the group. It is calm and quiet for the most part, but I know that the author has plans for more series inside this larger series. I will miss some of the other secondary characters that made series 2 what it was, but I absolutely can't wait to find out where Gray, Caleb, and John will go in the next book(s). For all that things seem like a happy for now, I know that this author will entertain us with a lot more action and suspense to come. I definitely can't recommend this book or series enough.

9.5/10 Pots of Gold (95% Recommended) – Compares to 4.75/5 Stars

Shelby says

This was a satisfying end to this arc in the story of Caleb, Gray, and John. I'm really happy to know that there will be more to come. I'm actually really enjoying the way this series is structured. It's kinda like a serial story with shorter installments, but they're all fulfilling.

After the ending to the last story in this arc the world was crashing down. This was a fast paced race of destruction and reconnection. I was dying right along with Caleb and Gray at the end of the story. John needed to get back with his boys and realize how awful he'd treated them. Of course everything coming to a head in this story was just as crazy as was expected.

Love this story! Can't wait to see the next arc to begin.

MariF says

I'm amazed by Ms. Hawk's talent. She totally does it for me with every book I've read.

This book is low on romance but high on much needed action-adventures after previous installment that has ended in cliffhanger.

We were left with Caleb/Gray at the death door and Yuri/Drugoy(means The Other/Different in Russian) on rampage in Charleston and humans are in a mortal peril of being overtaken by NHEs Drugoy is pulling from the ethereal plain and pushing into human hosts without discrimination.

I was on the nail-biting, edge of a seat ride the entire time through the last page.

I never knew what will happen next, will Caleb/Gray get a chance to reconcile with John, who repudiated them because they drained the dirty SPECTR agent and broke the honor-code of the agency that John holds above everything else.

Will Yuri/Drugoy get rid of John and Zahira while they are vulnerable with Caleb/Gray incapacitated or will they be able to fight back with their limited paranormal skills?

Will Caleb/Gray be able to save human family they picked on the way while searching for Yuri/Dru or their efforts are futile against something that's stronger than Caleb/Gray?

There were very tender/humane moments while the action was in full speed that made this tale close and personal instead of abstract fight among alien monsters.

I'm in awe of this turn of events and can dismiss a couple of things that did not make sense.

Like why would Barillo try to destroy the only thing that stood between humanity and total destruction by Yuri/Dru? Even if he is one of Yuri's Renfields, he is still a local SPECTR director and in charge of protecting civilians against the NHEs.

Renfields are not blind followers here, they still have a mind of their own.

Why would Kaniyar let Barillo's prejudice ruin the agency's most successful partnership of field agents and alienate the most important asset they had?

Why would she interfere and save Caleb/Gray from Barillo and not let Gray feed to restore his strength first, when the means are easily available, and draw his blood later?

Leaving Caleb/Grey weak and even more vulnerable when Yuri/Dru can wreck more havoc on the city and attack SPECTR headquarters is not very smart or tactically sound.

Why would Isabelle follow Yuri/Dru blindly, bomb SPECTR headquarters when she is aware that civilians are hiding there and only stopping her support when she learns that her sister was one of the victims?

Nonetheless, this book is a perfect end to the series and feels like a non-stop action movie on page.

I'm excited that series 3 are in the making and can't wait for the continuation of John and Caleb/Gray adventures.

I hope that Zahira will be appointed as their handler since she is the only one who truly cares and is able and willing to help when the need arises.

Janice says

Non-stop excitement. I can't wait to see where Jordan takes Caleb/Gray and John in the next series. This one is going to be hard to best.

Chris says

Yup, an instabuy... really enjoy this series and look forward to the new direction Caleb, Gray & John are heading. No spoilers but Thank god those workplace bullying fuckers have seen better days and our delightful trio can move on in peace ! Gray can now eat all the "baddies" he wants !
