



The Battle for Black

Tricia Owens

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Two men from vastly different backgrounds can't fight their attraction to each other despite the forces that seek to tear them apart.

While Black and Calyx work to deepen their relationship in the wake of the Consortium disaster, enemies and lovers from Black's past rise up to drag him and JC2 into a gang war against Genesis that will test everyone's loyalties and force Black to decide who he is and who he fights for.

The Battle for Black Details

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From Reader Review The Battle for Black for online ebook

Katherine says

I love/hate this series so much. OMG Tricia Owens, you can't leave it like that. These books are so dark and painful to read at times. And just when I start to feel sorry for a character, they do something to make me hate them all over again and vice versa. And this is why I love/hate this series. But I can't stop reading them!

Dani (??) says

Waaaaaaahhhh!!!

I just don't trust Dickhead....I just don't know what side he's on and it's making me crazy. Why is Black so stubborn when it comes to Dickless. I just don't know who I can trust and it's driving me mad. Also, all the Black/Starr scenes are just precious and great and hot and fantastic and I want more of those as well.

Why is this series so good. Why can't I stop reading this.

Samantha says

First reaction: AHH. NOOOOO. YOU CAN'T STOP THERE!

Another fantastic addition to the Juxtapose City series. Once again, Ms. Owens has left me with some questions answered, but hundreds of new and complicated ones festering within my head.

I loved watching the relationship between Starr and Black grow in this. The shifts in their behaviors weren't too abrupt/sudden. They seemed fluid and natural, or at least natural for the completely screwed-up relationship that these two have and I dearly love.

And oh, the angst. And the jealousy. It all stabbed me in the gut multiple times while reading this. I could feel what they were feeling, particularly Starr. There were moments when he would growl and I'd find myself making a not-so-pretty grumpy face at the same thing he was unhappy about.

But damn, I have no idea what else is in store, or where the twisted web begins and ends - or if it even does! And I can't stop thinking (view spoiler).

And to make it all even better, it is certainly not lacking in the hot department.

One thing is for sure - I'm going to go crazy while I anxiously await the next in the series.

Caryn A says

Loved this series!

Denise says

While Calyx and Black continue to slooowly inch closer to maybe possibly perhaps at some point sorting out whether their relationship is ever actually going to happen (it's not so much will-they-won't-they with these two, it's more when-oh-when-will-they-finally), old enemies, friends and lovers from Black's shadowy past come back to haunt him as Genesis steps up the game.

A lot more about Black's past is revealed in this installment, and we (and Calyx) finally learn what it is Dickerson has him do on their little nocturnal excursions. Have I mentioned that this series is addictive and the cliffhanger endings are evil? Next book please, thank you.

SueM says

Wait! You mean it finishes here? But...but... There has to be more... There are so many threads left unfinished, that while I loved it, it is also damned frustrating to read... Will just have to wait, I guess....

P Leslie says

If Black's secrets got out it could ruin him and give others power over him but what will Calyx do? Will he stand by Black or hate him for what he does?

Black's many layers are unfolding but what type of man is he underneath? Is he worthy of respect, trust and love?

There were moments my jaw dropped and I thought WTF is happening. So many twists, turns, ups, downs and unexpected surprises that will leave you in utter disgust and shock.

Things are spicing up between Black and Calyx - can't wait for the fireworks to explode.

Black is seriously naive and that in itself was frustrating. He becomes more bearable with each passing book - hopefully that will carry on.

Claudia says

this was definitely the best so far. can't wait to read more about the team and how everything develops

Ani Rid says

Pommes können in der Tat tödlich sein ... indirekt halt ... und ich finde immer noch er ist ein Arschloch, sorry Black ;-)

Tasha says

Enjoyable

It didn't have the kicker end like the others but still loved it. Can't wait to see Black and Stars progression though I think it's about to blow up.

Cat says

In this installment of the Juxtapose City series, Black's telepathy is back online following the rape and torture at the end of book two. Beginning just two weeks following the end of *In the Blink of an Eye*, Black is surprised by a blast from the past in the form of an ex-girlfriend and her merry band of telekinetics. During their meeting, she tells Black that another of his old friends, psypath Parker, wants to meet with him while also letting him know that Genesis is picking up the pace in wanting Calyx's head on a platter.

In an effort to protect the beautiful empath, Black conspires with Lieutenant Sundhill to take Calyx for a mini-vacation fishing on Sundhill's boat, and in return, Calyx gives Sundhill a dance club surprise and then a boat encounter he won't soon forget while Black slips away to remove the threat to Calyx as JC2's compound is attacked.

Black reveals what he does on his trips with Dickerson to Calyx, who is horrified but still willing to stand with and for Black. The two men go meet the leader of the Ortega Street gang, where Calyx meets Parker, a lover from Black's youth who is still clearly in love with the man, and who has secrets of his own.

This book provides so much insight into Black's character, and Calyx is helpless to do anything but fall further and further for the enigma that is his team leader. Black finally accepts that he wants Calyx, and the steam factor is through the roof. No one writes tormenting sexy times the way Owens does!

A battle with Genesis takes place, as well, in a fiery debacle that leaves the team reeling, both physically and emotionally. This series sucks you in and won't let you go. Despite the anger and frustration felt toward Black for his vehement denial of wrongdoing by Captain Dickerson and the naivete he displays in his blind dedication to the horror of a human, you are compelled to continue reading. Because this is a cliffhanger ending, it loses a star as per my rating policy. That is the only loss this book receives. It is a solid four stars of fantastic writing and continued character and world development.

Warning: This book contains flashbacks of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse that may cause triggers.

Macky says

Totally addicted to this series and getting withdrawal symptoms as I'm writing this review now that I've finished book 3. Talk about cliffhangers! Nobody does 'em like Tricia Owens. Bring on Book 4 ASAP.

The story begins again just after the fallout of book 2 and again we are caught up in the world of psypaths, JC2 and Black's nemesis - Genesis. As before the world built around Juxtapose City is filled with secrets and lies, misguided loyalties, SHOCKING revelations and the ongoing perverse but very hot sexy' romance ' between Calyx Starr and Black whose ST is off the wall - not forgetting Captain Dickerson, ' puppet master ' behind all the explosive situations that Black and the gang are manipulated into. I can't wait for Black to see what a complete SOB he is and watch him suffer the consequences, but that's obviously yet to come.

Tricia Owens has done it again. We learn a lot more about Black and his tortured past but just when you think you've got the answers she throws a curve ball and you're almost back in the dark again. Calyx is slowly breaking down his barriers but in doing so he has to do ' things ' that could in fact end up pushing them apart! Wow, this series of books is a hot bed of emotions and as I've stated before not for the fainthearted- if you want straightforward heroes and villains and a romantic love story then give this a miss because the only heroes in this come with the word anti in front and the love story is more than a little twisted! I LOVE it.

Mustn't forget the rest of the characters involved, every one of them are vital to the plot and are just like the story, complex, complicated and deep. Really good stuff. As stated in the heading, don't even try to read this as a standalone, they must be read in sequence to follow the plot, you'll just be confused if you don't. So do yourselves a massive favour - get them all, put your feet up and prepare yourself for a bumpy but exciting ride. I did and now I'm hooked!

Ayanna says

~~I think I've had a glut of this manga lit for now...~~

~~Maybe I'll come back to it later (no, I know I definitely will cuz it's a manga *shrug). But anyways...I just...really want more of Hadrian right now...~~

~~(Black's too much of an uke. Hadrian's kind of got the "everyone wants to fuck him" thang going on, but he's got more trauma and angst and THAT generally takes the foreground. Black...it's like he's defined by how many and who wants to fuck him...)~~

:D I was in the mood for some soap opera. But ooooh hot damn does the plot thicken!

There's so much psychological conditioning going on that everything's pretty damn murky.

Hmm...let me make a prediction/wish. I'm generally pretty good with my wishes turning into genuine predictions, something like that. (I can generally call who's going to top when. Dunno if other people can do that, though, so maybe it's actually a very common ability).

I really want to see Calyx crack. He's always the strong one and Black's always the one on the verge of a breakdown. I kind of want Calyx to have a breakdown (for whatever reason) and have Black be the one to pull him together and then they have this nice lovey-dovey tender moment and such. It's possible such a story already exists somewhere, as I think this entire series is mostly written out. It might also exist in one of

those AU/sanctioned-fanlits, if those exist for this series (not sure cuz I didn't check on her website).

Black is such a tool...

Sandra Walker says

Madness

The story continues with all kinds of crazy from all characters. Love the main characters their a hoot. Constant push and pull between them is hilarious.

JustJen "Miss Conduct" says

Gahhhh, still so many questions! Things are getting clearer, though not all in a good way. We find out more about Genesis/Phoenix/Black/Parker and even Mneumonia and how they are all connected. Still don't know who is on the good side, or even which side is the good side. There is the side that JCP fights for, ridding Juxtapose City of the drugs, etc., then there is the side of the Psypaths fighting for their spot in the City and their freedom, and then there is whatever the heck Captain Dickerson is up to - experiments on the Psypaths? He's trying to help them? Or is he trying to ensure he has the most power behind him when he takes over the City? We still don't know.

Poor Calyx still struggles to get through to Black, though it seems he's made a bit of progress. So many stumbling blocks are in his way, and then there is always the Sundhill episode hanging over his head. Every time Calyx and Black get close to something, the rug seems to get ripped out from under them.

And Black, with all of his secrets, and boy some of them are whoppers. He is just so mentally screwed up from the events in his life, due mostly it seems, to his dear old mentor/boss/pseudo dad, Captain Dickhead. I so badly want him to see the light before it is too late. Black's actions are a bit mind boggling, but I find myself right there with the rest of his team, trusting him and following blindly, just hoping he will come through in the end.

I have not enjoyed a sci-fi/paranormal series like this in a long time. I was very happy to find out there was so much more planned for this, and am eagerly looking forward to the next segment. I miss the guys already.
