



Kiss of Death

Rachel Caine , Cynthia Holloway (Narrator)

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A new chapter in the *New York Times* bestselling Morganville Vampires saga.

Vampire musician Michael Glass has attracted the attention of a big- time producer who wants to cut a demo and play some gigs-which means Michael will have to enter the human world. For this, he's been assigned escorts that include both a dangerous immortal as well as Michael's all-too-human friends. And with that mix of personalities, this is going to be a road trip from hell...

Kiss of Death Details

Date : Published April 27th 2010 by Penguin Group USA Inc. (first published January 1st 2010)

ISBN : 9780451229731

Author : Rachel Caine , Cynthia Holloway (Narrator)

Format : Paperback 246 pages

Genre : Paranormal, Vampires, Young Adult, Fantasy

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From Reader Review Kiss of Death for online ebook

Victoria ? says

Taking computers were my limit. After that it felt like a waste of my time reading these books. I really liked the first 3/4 books in the series...kept going thinking that eh it's a long series there's bound to be a few bad ones but I just give up. It just kinda got confusing and pretty stupid. If I'm ever struggling to reach my goodreads goal catch me reading the rest but until that desperate day nope.

Literary Ames {Against GR Censorship} says

Road trip, baby! This one takes us out of Morganville and into the "real" world, but perhaps the real world is scarier than Morganville. The road trip is innocent enough, until the group are given a chaperone who insists on stopping in a small town in the middle of nowhere. Cue bad luck and horror movie action.

I love the you-can-never-leave-Morganville thing so stepping out of it was new. For about 5 minutes. Then, I began to miss Myrnn's quiriness, Amelie's smooth self-control, and damn, even Monica's bitchiness. The entire first half of the book was very teen-in-love tongue-in-cheek. Too sickly sweet for me.

The real action doesn't start until well in to the book, perhaps this was to give the characters a rest, a well-earned vacation from the upheaval of the last 7 books. But I love that upheaval, the action and the politics, and as a result this felt like a filler book to me. I didn't truly enjoy it until the last 100 pages and then it ended.

The ring scene was VERY Buffy & Angel but I can overlook this for the significance of the ring to Shane. He's serious about Claire, and that's what matters, but I'm wondering when their happiness is going to be shattered. Is Myrnn going to make a move on Claire? Is Shane going to become too overbearing and protective? Which brings me to Eve and Michael, is it going to last? I have a feeling Michael may break it off in order for Eve to have normal things like children, which he can't provide.

Claire makes progress with her parents; she gets to move back into the Glass House again. Plus, she turns vampire slayer with a crossbow to a stunned Oliver which spawns a hilarious scene ending with Claire promising she won't hurt him!

Shane's changed too. In Michael's own words, *"The universe explodes, hell freezes, and Shane does something reasonable."* In fact, Shane does quite a few reasonable things. He doesn't move first and pick himself off the floor later any more, he's learned to restrain himself in dangerous situations. I'm impressed.

Spoiler

There was one thing I didn't understand: the reason for the diseased rogues. Bishop was clean. He didn't suffer from the vampire virus, which is why his blood helped cure it, so how come he infected the vampires he made?

Overall, there were some great lines but this was probably the weakest of the series so far, though I am rubbing my hands together in anticipation of Ghost Town set back in Morganville for more mysteries and conspiracies.

Olivia says

The Morganville Vampires has slowly become one of my favorite series. This past year I read them non-stop, so I read Kiss of Death sparingly until deciding to finish it yesterday.

First of all, it was great to see Michael, Eve, Shane, and Claire out of Morganville. After books 6 and 7, it was time to have some happy thoughts. Knowing Rachel Caine, however, I knew it would not last long (and I love her for that). One thing I have to say about the Morganville Vamps series is that it never, ever stops moving. If it's not one thing it's another. I felt this book--for the most part--kept up the pace.

Okay here's where the SPOILERS come in.
SPOILERS SPOILERS SPOILERS

Kiss of Death continues the theme of breaking down the once-strong town of Morganville. Rachel Caine has created an amazing, interesting society and world of vampires and in these past few books I've been shifting between sad and happy to see it destroyed. Sad because I do enjoy the vampires and want them to lead good lives (only drinking donated blood mind you) and happy because of course I want our main, human characters to break free from the oppression of the vampires. Between Bishop and Morley, the delicate town that Amelie built has slowly fallen apart and we continue to see that in Kiss of Death as Morley and his crew take their leave.

One great part about this book is I finally saw Claire really change. When it hit me that she had changed (when she shoots Morley) I also realized that over the course of the series she had been slowly evolving as a character. It was in that moment, though, that it just all fell into place. I think it hit me because she **finally** stood up for herself, full force. And it was great. Claire is smart, resilient, and resourceful--but now she is also dangerous. One thing I always hated about Claire was that she never seemed to make the first move. She always just reacted when Monica finally made good on her threats, instead of moving first. This time Claire hit first and I'm hoping that we'll see more as the series continues.

Kiss of Death was needed in order to remind the readers that the characters we love and want to leave Morganville no longer belong anywhere else. Claire, Eve, Shane, and Michael caused trouble in each town they went to until they were able to actually do good in the town crawling with feral vampires. Even when they finally make it to Dallas, Michael mentions that their trip and happiness is only temporary--and that's the way it has to be.

That thought is soon reinforced when Amelie calls to remind the group that Morganville is where they belong, whether they like it or not. This is where my favorite moment of the entire book comes in. This one moment made the book for me. Oliver is one of my favorite characters in the series. He reminds me of Snape from Harry Potter, because I still don't know where he stands. Is he a good guy, but simply realistic? Or is he truly evil? I'm still not sure. What I do know is through the past few books in the series, I have begun to see different sides of Oliver that will hopefully help me find the answer.

As Michael, Claire, Shane, and Eve are frozen by Amelie's cruel warnings, Oliver tells them to be ready in the morning and enjoy the rest of the night while it lasts.

At the last moment, Oliver turns and quickly says, "And I am sorry."

It was so out of character and out of the blue that I was actually taken aback by what I had read. But I loved it! I think that moment showed that if Oliver could somehow prevent Claire and her friends from ever stepping foot in Morganville he would (probably, hopefully) do it. Then again I'm still confused as heck about Oliver's character but I'm going to enjoy this Nice Guy moment while I can.

All in all Kiss of Death really surprised me. I thought leaving Morganville behind would mean leaving the action and story behind, as well. I was wrong.

Stacia (the 2010 club) says

Needs more ~~cowbell~~ vampire bunny slippers.

I wanted more of my favorite mad scientist Myrnn and his awesome slippers. Alas, my heart was fractured just a tiny little bit.

This installment of Morganville has us headed out of town for a crazy and dangerous road trip. The book was full of peril and bizarre happenings as usual, but I have to admit that I prefer our little dysfunctional family when they're actually raising hell in their own town.

I was happy that it was easy enough for me to come back to this series after a year plus break (I read the first 7 so close together that I overdosed for a while) and be able to pick right up where I left off. Rarely, can I do this with series without having some memory lapse issues. This was not the case and I'm glad for it.

Part of me got to thinking as I was reading this book that Claire has really grown up. I almost feel guilty for giving book 1 such a low rating because I hated Claire back when I first read about her. It's easy to see now that the author intended for our lead to transform herself with time and experience, to which she has - in spades. The girl who started out as a mousy pushover is now smart, cunning, sweet, loyal and strong. Claire's growth as a character has been slow, steady and impressive. I should probably reward that by going back and raising my rating on book 1. Maybe I will at some point, but not today.

Why do I like the series? Because no one is pining away for the cool kid vampires. Oh no...people are SCARED of the controlling vampires. Oppression kind of sucks for our crew of friends. And in Morganville, you don't get to run far because you'll get caught. In a way, I get why the road trip was a nice little break from being inside of town, but honestly, I never felt stifled by having to stay in Morganville. Half the fun of the series is watching these young adults try to outwit the vampires who watch their every move. Plus, Ms. Caine only adds to the dynamic by adding in some awesome dark humor. I have yet to make it through a book without finding several moments which make me crack a grin.

She thought of all the times she'd seen Myrnin go off the rails - the times he'd begged her to put him out of his misery. The time he'd actually given her samples of his own brain - in a Tupperware container.

Nothing else to say other than this...I'm hard pressed to believe that you can kill a vamp with a pencil. That must be one sturdy pencil.

Random comment to the MV fans : I know everyone is a huge Shane fan, but for whatever reason, there is something about Michael's protective nature which makes me like him best right now. Please don't send hate mail, I should be free to love as I choose!

Ashley says

YOU GUYS!!!! IT'S APRIL 27TH THAT IT'S COMING OUT!!!!

The Flooze says

****3.5****

Rachel Caine handles suspense quite well. *Kiss of Death* is no exception, as the residents of Glass House head off on a road trip that includes some unexpected and terrifying detours.

There are a few things beginning to bother me about Morganville, however. One is the need for a new story arc. Now that vamp-Alzheimer's has been cured and the Bishop threat obliterated, Caine has yet to establish another major storyline. As a result, there seems to be a lot of focus on relationship drama, and that's not as interesting to me.

Claire and Shane are adorable, but there's only so much gooey young love I can stomach. Eve and Michael are irritating. No, strike that. Michael is fine. Eve is irritating. She's so melodramatic and bratty that I want to strangle her most of the time. I do wish she'd take her mood swings down a notch and find some common sense.

That said, this story has harrowing scenes that kept me turning pages. Once again, these four kids find themselves battling to save lives. It's a wonder they ever manage to survive. To mention what they're up against would mean giving away spoilers, but there are several plot twists in *Kiss of Death* to keep the action and suspense rolling along. There are also some exchanges with Oliver that make me wonder if there might be more to the cantankerous café owner's personality.

Not nearly enough Myrnin, though I suspect he *may* be the center of a future storyline (which would make me a very happy camper). On the whole, not the best Morganville has to offer, but still an entertaining ,

strife-filled read.

Amber says

Well, once again Rachel Caine did not disappoint! I love how she can throw you for loops and make unexpected turns and then conclude in such a strong way! Every book seems to end with you longing for more! (SHANE!!)

Kiss of Death was another fantastic tribute to The Morganville Vampire series. If anything stands out that makes me just love this series even more is the bantering between the characters. I mean, the stuff they say and the come-backs are pure awesomeness! I think it really makes the books so much more fun to read.

This book gave me new perceptions of some of the characters and it has opened doors for lots more Morganville fun!! If you aren't already head-over-heels in love with Shane, well, you will be after this book. He just leaves me all giddy...

~Tina~ says

Wow, did I ever miss these guys!!!!

Reading a Morganville book is like welcoming home friends you haven't seen in six months, the visits are always too fast and you wish they'd stay forever.

So what's going on with our favorite foursome?

ROAD TRIP...*Morganville style*;))

...Dallas wants Michael to go and record some of his music and despite the fact that they need to get passes to Morley and his flock, Michael, Eve, Claire and Shane are finally, FINALLY going to be able to leave hells-town and set off to find some adventure and maybe even some fun. Oh, wait, I forgot to mention that they'll be needing a *chaperon* to accompany them and let's just say-- "go figures"...

Of course it's never that easy for the fabulous four and soon enough our friends find themselves in trouble, once again...

I've said this before and I'll say it again. I love, adore and worship this series! Caine's signature characters; Michael, Eve, Claire and Shane have got to be some of the funnest and funniest characters I ever did read. Their slams, wit, banter and sarcasm has always left a per-a-smile plastered on my face, while some of the romantic moments always makes me gush like a teenager.

Fast paced and action packed (did you really expect anything else?) **Kiss of Death** is yet another Caine perfection that I couldn't get enough! Crazy entertaining and exciting! This book was a total blast!

Six more months till Ghost Town and I'm already counting down the days:D

Terri ♥ (aka Mrs. Christian Grey) says

Quick review:

Cover: Not Liking It

Rating: PG-13

Thumbs Up: 4

Overall: Better than a few previous books

Characters: Well Done

Plot: Getting out of town and into trouble

Page Turner: Yes

Series Cont.? Sure

Recommend: Yeah

Book Boyfriend: Oliver

SUMMARY (50 words or less)

What can I say? This book was better than some others. Some of their actions were stupid but then again these are new adults with the exception of Claire. They got themselves into a bunch of trouble with the local folks and then had to save the day.

For a full review and yummy pic, see my blog post at:

<http://mybookboyfriend.blogspot.com/2...>

Audio Review

Cynthia Holloway does a good job with this series. I actual have paired her voices with these characters. So when she reads another book by another author, I'm always brought back to Morganville. It's not a bad thing.

Arlene says

Wow! What a GREAT sequel!! I did not want this book to end. It was full of action, crazy vamps, snarky dialog, and constant twists and turns. For a portion of the book, I felt like I took a turn into Night of the Living Dead, and I loved every moment of it. INSANE.ABSOLUTELY.INSANE!!

In this book, Michael gets a recording deal in Dallas and is granted a leave from Morganville. As part of the agreement he's made with Amelie, he is able to have Eve, Shane and Claire join him on his road trip. Just when you think they are out of the danger zone when crossing the Morganville city limits, things could not get any worse for the Glass pact. They get caught between a war of vamps and zombie vamps as they stumble into the town of Blacke where Bishop left behind a group of infected vampires that are turning the town upside down.

I loved the dialog in this book between the four main characters. Shane gets honorable mention in this

installment for his hilariously snarky lines. He was sheer perfection in this book. Every single word that came out of his mouth had me squeeing like a fang-girl. LOL I missed some of the Morganville characters, especially Myrmin, but it was nice to see a change in scenery. I was a bit surprised by Eve's vulnerable side as she lacked a bit of her badass edge, and I found myself missing that part of her. Claire was great and Michael was his perfect self.

What a great sequel, with a more subtle cliffhanger than the other books, but it's not going to ease the pain in having to wait for the next book. Morganville is an awesome series for true die-hard paranorm fans and Kiss of Death does NOT disappoint.

Pri says

Oh boy.... I just.... didn't quite like it. That's what usually happens when you have so much anticipation. But I thought I would like it much more than the previous ones, which I really loved

Well, the whole road trip idea was cool and all, but what annoyed me the most was MUST EVERYTHING HAPPEN WITH EVERYONE EVERYTIME??? That is really annoying, I mean, I know you can't have a regular road trip in an action book, but these guys don't get any break at all!!! Just like Hermione tells Harry in the HP books: "It seems everything only happens to you, right, Harry?" (I don't think that's the actual quote but you get my point).

So, I got these conclusions from the book:

1 - I'm sorry, but Shane has to go. He is now a mere sidekick, with no further development (he is that stereotyped character that only says "shit!/that's bad!/I'm not doing that!/great idea, man!". Besides, never liked him and Claire as a couple. He simply has no future and has nothing more to offer (to her and the series).

2 - Eve also gotta go, and soon. God, what an annoying and retarded girl!!!! She has turned from smart and hip best friend to a redneck zero-personality girl (this is back from book 07 already), who never knows when to shut up and only brings the gang trouble because she is so damn self-centered. Besides, she is way too clingy for Michael's girlfriend - he is the cool rockster, needs a cool and open-minded girl, which she proves she isn't.

3 - Oliver is so cool, I wish I knew more about his past and all.

4 - I absolutely love Myrmin and I totally think he is completely fallen for Claire - besides, they are the best possible couple, they are both intelligent, always bickering at each other, he is old, powerful, beautiful with the right amount of insecurity.... they would rock together!!!! She is also starting to think about him more than she intended, so I think this is the way the author is heading them. Maybe that's why I am so bitchy about this book - there is almost no Myrmin at all.... God I love him!

5 - Michael should stop being so bland and robotic, doing only what he is told.... he started the series as a great character with great possibilities and I think he is being left out too much. Maybe Amelie would pair up with him after he kills Eve ***evil smile***

6 - I still think Monica and Claire will become the bestest of friends, and I think Monica was like a supervillain at the beginning (which I thought was kinda way too much - I mean, killing people at will!!! A teen! And everybody knows!!!) and now she is showing that there's more than evil there.... I like her as a character.

In short, the series is still awesome and my favorite - and I know there are always the annoying books in series. This one, together with book 02, are my least favorites so far. But I will continue, waiting for more Myrnin!!!

Caty says

It was OK.

I'm not saying that as a bad thing, this book was absolutely better than Fade Out (which in case I hadn't say it enough was awful).

On the bright side we get a lot of Shane and Claire, that just made me realize how much I've missed them and their relationship, the witty dialogues are back and I even had a couple of fuzzy moments remembering how much I love the four main characters of this series.

Regardless of that, I still think the plot was weak. Sure, after the first 100 pages things got interesting, but somehow it didn't feel completely right, to me it was a little overdone, like if, getting them out of Morganville to yet another vampire-infested remote town could really refresh things...

It is so sad, Morganville Vampires used to be one of the most fun, enjoyable Young-Adult's reads out there, but random adventures don't make a strong storyline, it works for short stories, but on a series, I don't like this sense of going nowhere.

I think it is a shame when publishers push authors for more books, even when stretching things that way ends up hurting (or even killing) the story.

BBBTerri says

How the heck did I get sucked into the Morganville Vampires?? This is teenage, brainless vampire smut at its finest. Seriously! I'll tell you how it happened to me.

It was such a mindless easy read...I flew through the first book in a day. I must give credit to the author, Ms. Caine. She led me into a clever trap at the endings of the first few books. I couldn't walk away without knowing what happened to these stupid, annoying teenagers in the Glass House. I went straight to my iPad Amazon store and in 1-click had the next book. Then there I was....hooked again. It was like a bad drug. I've now finished #8...there was no dangling ending and I said "Whew!" I'm off the drug and I'm not going back!

There is no academic or thought provoking redeeming quality to the Morganville Vampires. She built the

characters of Morganville and the story line quite well. The teenage romances going on in the Glass House was syrupy yuck! Thank you Ms Caine for wasting my time...but, truly, I can't blame you... it's no fault but my own.

Alaina says

"My dad used to say that life's a journey, but somebody screwed up and lost the map."

So I have no idea if I woke up on the wrong side of the bed this morning, didn't have enough coffee, or I'm super annoyed at the people who decided that 6am was a fantastic time to cut down a tree outside my house but long story short these characters just annoyed me for most of the book. I feel like this series is just going to be meh now for me. I mean everything has been pretty consistent lately and I either like or dislike everyone. I'm glad that Claire went from annoying as fuck to someone I could tolerate during small moments throughout the book. They all get in trouble or put themselves in dangerous situations throughout the book which doesn't surprise me one bit. I'm hoping the next book will be better or at least keep my interest. Maybe? Hopefully? Please?

Maria V. Snyder says

I enjoyed this book even though it was a bit thin on plot and Clare should know by now that she isn't going to die. I just love these characters so much, they could be hanging around the Glass house reading the paper and I would be happy - they get into so much trouble - it's nice to see them have a little fun for a change.
