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Angelfall: Penryn & The End Of Days, Book 1



Synopsis

It's been six weeks since angels of the apocalypse descended to demolish the modern world. Street gangs rule the day while fear and superstition rule the night. When warrior angels fly away with a helpless little girl, her 17-year-old sister, Penryn, will do anything to get her back. Anything, including making a deal with an enemy angel. Raffe is a warrior who lies broken and wingless on the street. After eons of fighting his own battles, he finds himself being rescued from a desperate situation by a half-starved teenage girl. Traveling through a dark and twisted Northern California, they have only each other to rely on for survival. Together, they journey toward the angels' stronghold in San Francisco where Penryn will risk everything to rescue her sister, and Raffe will put himself at the mercy of his greatest enemies for the chance to be made whole again.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I started this book less than 24 hours ago and finished it before the day was up. Usually most Angel stories the Angels are the good guys but this time around, they are the bad guys and we still have yet to find out why. I love that the main character is a strong and determined girl. She doesn't go weak when she feels like things are not going her way and she continues to fight for what and who she believes in. Being able to have that consistency throughout the entire book is refreshing! There were a couple disturbing parts and with me having children it made me sad. To make me feel an emotion and relate it to my life makes this Author a great one. The book was very well written and there were almost no spelling or grammar mistakes. It's hard to read a book when you don't know who is talking or what is going on solely because of simple written mistakes. I am excited to read the

next book and see where the author takes us. I highly recommend this book!

This book is definitely not for the faint of heart; some descriptions of events shoot straight through to the horror genre, but I found myself intrigued enough to read the entire thing in just a few days time. The concept of having what are typically described as heavenly beings, the "good guys", actually be the ones wreaking havoc and killing humans, is an interesting twist. Even now, I'm not sure how I feel about it, as it's so ingrained in our culture to think otherwise. Little details enhance the story, like the angels' loyalty, eating cat food when no human food is available, and the behavior of desperate people. A few things are a little less believable, like the angels having no real idea why they're there, or Penryn's mom always being in the right place at the right time. Less believable, but they don't ruin the story. I struggled with what the angels did to Paige. Not just Paige, but to all those children. You just don't mess with kids, and brutalizing a kindhearted handicapped little girl is inhuman and grotesque. There's no possible way those kids can ever lead a normal life now, short of divine intervention. And given that that's how they ended up that way to begin with...I've already started the next in the series, and hope it lives up to the intensity of its predecessor. Here's hoping for a little less gore though.

Angelfall has been on my radar for a while now but it didn't occur to me to sit down and read it until more recently. Although I think the book is over-hyped, I'll definitely pick up the sequel. The first thing I noticed was the writing style. Some authors have a distinct voice. Some use lots of flowery language. Some are attempting to create the next great paperweight. Susan Ee kept hers light and easy to read, flowing from one scene to the next with little resistance but plenty of tension. The story moved along at a fairly quick pace but never seemed to lack anything. I've determined Penryn is exactly the kind of person I'd want on my side at the end of the world. She's resourceful and has a will to survive. If angels were to suddenly descend and attack the earth, you bet I won't survive without someone like her. As to her mother, that woman needed to just go. Hated her through and through. I understand that she's family but it seemed a smarter move to make sure she was safe and just leave if you're going to leave. But Penryn only has her family and it causes her to go on quest with the enemy, an injured angel named Raffaele, to get back the third member of her blood, her sister, taken by angels. Now Raffaele, he was an angelic god. Lethal but with an ease about him that read like the bad boy trope so common to YA (angel) books. Thankfully it didn't progress into the cliché romance between him and Penryn, though they definitely held each other in

a certain regard and I can see something happening in future books. Poor Raffe (and his wings). Raffe's brethren, as I mentioned, took Penryn's sister, sparking the entire plot of this book. The plot was solid enough but I couldn't help but think throughout the entire book that from a survival aspect it would be smarter to accept her sister as dead. Heartless, I know, but like I said, I'm thinking in terms of survival which is a main factor driving Penryn's actions. One of the things I docked stars for included the blatant sexism that appears later on in the story. Women designated to laundry while the men soldiered about. Women reduced to nothing but pretty faces and slutty attire to please men (angels). It was unnecessary but at the same time fitting. This book isn't afraid to get dirty when it comes to the darker aspects of living in an apocalyptic world. Especially considering what Penryn discovers about the angels and the work they've been doing. I loved that this book didn't focus on everything that seems to take over in young adult novels about angels. Off the top of my head, I can think of three sitting on my shelves and none of them stand out from the other. To be honest, I don't even think I could tell you what happens in them anymore; they all blend together. But not *Angelfall*. I picked this book up as an eBook along with the rest of the series but I'll definitely be investing in physical copies because these books are keepers.

This seems to be a very popular series judging by all the glowing reviews and five star ratings, many of which are by my own GR friends. So, once again, I find myself on the outside looking in, scratching my head, and wondering what all the fuss is about. I didn't find anything remarkable or noteworthy about the story of a 17 year old girl on a mission to rescue her little sister from the angels who have, for reasons as yet unknown, invaded the human realm. It certainly seems like it'd be a cool story but the execution of it all felt quite formulaic to me. The writing was simplistic and some of the dialogue exchanges, which I can only assume were meant to be examples of witty banter, were just embarrassingly bad. For whatever reason, the YA genre seems to like propagating the idea of centuries old men/beings becoming sexually and romantically attracted to underage girls and this book is no exception. Apparently jailbait is only repugnant in real life but gains levels of hotness in works of fiction. In this case it may not matter as the centuries old being in question doesn't act or speak any differently than the 17 year old girl. I will say that Penryn, the underage heroine du jour, is nowhere near as annoying as the majority of her YA counterparts and I liked that she remained firm in her mission to save her sister. Unfortunately, when all was said and done I just didn't feel invested in any of it. This is the first in a trilogy but I'm not feeling motivated to see how it all ends.

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