



Choice of the Cat

E.E. Knight

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The alien Reapers have ruled Earth for forty-five years. David Valentine is a member of the human resistance, who is now being trained as a Cat-an elite stealth warrior. His first mission is to investigate the threat of the Twisted Cross, a mysterious new force under Reaper control.

Choice of the Cat Details

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Author : E.E. Knight

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From Reader Review Choice of the Cat for online ebook

Ozsaur says

This one gets off to a slow start but once it takes off, the action is almost non-stop. Choice of the Cat is less episodic than the first book, so the plot is more cohesive, especially when the investigation into the Twisted Cross begins.

There are fewer pastoral descriptions than in the first book, but there is more about the occupied lands, and the way things work outside the free territories.

Valentine's new trainer, a Cat named Ali, is a great character and I would have loved seeing more of her. I wish she had been given more screen time. I also liked the new Grog character, a Golden One. He gave a different perspective on the conquest of Earth.

Still like Valentine, but I do hope he either gets into a long term relationship or quits the random female turns up for sex. I guess I'll see what happens in the next book.

MICHAEL Jones says

Solid follow-up to Way Of The Wolf. David Valentine learns that even in a post apocalypse world your bosses will screw you over to protect themselves.

Benny Kiser says

More Sadness, but a bit of hope.

Fantasy Literature says

David Valentine returns home for a break in Choice of the Cat, but his rest is short-lived, as he quickly becomes the victim of military bureaucracy and is given a special assignment: he is to partner with a special agent who goes by the code name Smoke. Smoke, a small, attractive female killer with mild psychotic tendencies, is a specialized soldier called a Cat. While we learned a little about Cats in Way of the Wolf, we get to see what it's like to be one in Choice of the Cat. Valentine (now code-named Ghost) and Smoke are assigned to gather intel on a group of Nazi-like super soldiers who are under Kurian control. These "Twisted Cross" soldiers are capable of organized destruction and have been known to wipe out entire fortified cities overnight. This may sound a little silly, but if you've read the first book, ... Read More:

<http://www.fantasyliterature.com/revi...>

Happy Bookaholic says

Pre-read...preview?

Back for more punishment, but only because as awkward as the first book was, it showed promise and I just want to return to the time of the first F-ing scene. This is BS, Knight. Next time start at the beginning. F—. My hopes for excitingly violent scenes were raised by the opening chapter and the rest, though decent and at times good, did not live up to its promise.

Now about this "beautiful" Cat... Love schmove from the first book. Where is she? Conveniently killed off so he can shag, er, fall in love with other hotties? Let's call lust what it is. Calling it love only adds guilt and that ruins sex, not entirely, but it taints the memories a smidgen after you've gotten your rocks off and get to thinking.

Please kill much, sex little and for Grog's sake entertain me.

Justin says

David Valentine returns home for a break in *Choice of the Cat*, but his rest is short-lived, as he quickly becomes the victim of military bureaucracy and is given a special assignment: he is to partner with a special agent who goes by the code name Smoke. Smoke, a small, attractive female killer with mild psychotic tendencies, is a specialized soldier called a Cat. While we learned a little about Cats in *Way of the Wolf*, we get to see what it's like to be one in *Choice of the Cat*. Valentine (now code-named Ghost) and Smoke are assigned to gather intel on a group of Nazi-like super soldiers who are under Kurian control. These "Twisted Cross" soldiers are capable of organized destruction and have been known to wipe out entire fortified cities overnight. This may sound a little silly, but if you've read the first book, you know what you're getting into (and if you are contemplating reading the *VAMPIRE EARTH* series, check out our reviews of *Way of the Wolf*).

The story format E.E. Knight chose is the same as the first book: Valentine is placed in one tight situation after another, and usually cracks a few heads to get his way out. It's fun, a tad bawdy, and exactly what you want from this type of book. There are books that enlighten you, make you cry, or try to change you for the better. Then there are the books that just kick ass and chew bubble gum, and are all out of bubble gum (thank you Duke Nukem). *Choice of the Cat* is that second type of book. There are no elves, no fairies, and no magical glades of wonder. Guns, explosions, punches to the face, and just a touch of the human spirit are what you get in the *VAMPIRE EARTH* series.

I listened to *Choice of the Cat* on Audio CD by Brilliance Audio. The novel is once again read by the talented Christian Rummel. (Go back to my *Way of the Wolf* review to see exactly how I feel about Rummel.) Suffice it to say that he fails to disappoint in this sequel. As the number of characters increases, so does the range of voices he has to cover, and he manages all of it without ever breaking you out of the narrative flow. This is a fun book and a very nice addition to Brilliance Audio's library of titles. Highly recommended to those who like action-adventure type SF&F.

You can also learn more about EE Knight's books at the Fantasyliterature EE Knight page

These books also remind me somewhat of the Deathlands series. Though EE Knight is a much better writer. My review of Deathlands is here: Pilgrimage to Hell

Jim says

Typically I'd rate this as a 4 star book. The first book of a great series gets an extra star for introducing me to a wonderful world & this book gets an extra one for introducing two more characters that continue through the series & add a lot. One is a female action hero, the other... well, I don't want to spoil the surprise. Read it!

Again, the world is realistically, but quickly drawn. It's a fairly fast read, but contains enough detail to paint the world in perfect detail. Knight does well with horses, the trials of travel, & with human ingenuity & spirit.

I could babble on, but if you liked the first book, Way of the Wolf, which you should read first, you'll love this. If you just have this one, I think it would stand alone fine, though. If anyone does that, please let me know how it went. Knight certainly doesn't bog down with a lot of rehashing of the previous book, but does fill in where needed.

Again, Knight gives a brief foreword that's great, as is the reader. I can't recommend this series highly enough in either written or audio format.

Unwisely says

Opened in a completely unexpected to me way; but still managed to hold me. Okay, I guess we're going through all three of the fighters? Sure, why not.

The male-ness of the romantic plotline got over the top in this one. Also you realize that the author wants to make women and men equal, but can't quite actually envision it. I sort of appreciated the effort, but the way David gets his panties in a twist about Alessa defending herself from sexual assault and spend the rest of the book saying how broken she is gets really tiresome. (How many people have you murdered, guy? Maybe he who is without sin should cast the first stone, dude who was raised by a priest?)

Despite this, I downloaded book 3 immediately after finishing it.

Stephen says

3.5 stars. Very good follow up to Way of the Wolf. This book focuses on Valentine joining and learning the ways of the Cat (the spy/assassin/intelligence gathering arm of the resistance. E. E. Knight has created a superb, post-apocalyptic world as the setting of a terrific battle between the surviving humans and the vampiric, life aura stealing Kurians. Post-apocalyptic, vampire, military SF at its best. These books are a lot

of fun.

Norman says

I REALLY wanted to like this book a lot more. The first book in this series was a lot of fun, and made me care about the character and the situation that Earth was in (being over-run by these aliens that fed off of life energy). But the first book seemed to me to be one story that just kept flowing from episode to episode. The writing in this novel felt more as if it the episodes were distinct, and were set in chronological order so as to make one story.

Don't expect anything to surprise you in this novel. It's very formulaic, once you get beyond the basic (yet very intriguing) premise. Just because of how interesting I find the premise, I do plan on picking up at least the next book in this series. But if that one feels as flat as this novel did, it'll probably be the end of my reading for this series.

Paskal says

Meilleur que le tome 1 à mon avis. On suit avec de plus en plus de frénésie les aventures de Valentine ses errements et ses bravades

Sensitivemuse says

It's best if you read Way of the Wolf before going into this one, as events flow from one book to the other. It was off to quite a slow start although I thought the idea of the Twisted Cross was interesting and worth the read. The action does pick up but not for a while as the reader follows Valentine through his training to be a Cat (uber stealth soldier).

I'm still on the fence about Valentine. Actually, let me take that back. He's starting to annoy me. However I can't just drop the book because I find the main character annoying. Why? because the supporting characters in this book actually help and made my reading rather entertaining. I'd have to say Duvalier is awesome. She's just what this series needs. She may not be perfect (she does carry baggage with her) but she provides that bit of life to carry on the plot and made it interesting. She's definitely got grit. Now what got to me was Valentine trying to get into her pants or admiring her from every angle possible. Oh for crying out loud. Seriously? Is this series going to be like James Bond where he has to do at least one female character in every book? because if it is, I'm afraid of pursuing this series further.

Another character that really stood out was Ahn-kha. He's hard to describe, although he seems to be this rather large, hairy sasquatch looking furry thing but really overall seems to be such a gentle giant. I liked him from the start and was rather glad he joined the plot as well. I suppose, it was his gentle manner that endeared me to him. Not only that but well, he's really like a talking Chewbacca. How can you not like him?!

The plot as mentioned before, was off to a slow start, but it does pick up its' pace with battles here and there. It seems to be the standard method of these books but it helps carry the plot along. It's not too bad, as the

action scenes are well written, but I'm sure it's going to get old quickly and hopefully things will change as the series progresses. The ending leaves off to the reader looking forward to another adventure and wondering where Valentine is off to next.

Fans of Way of the Wolf will probably enjoy this one just as well. Otherwise it might not be for everybody. I thought it was all right although I'm in no rush to get the next one. I'm just getting ready to roll my eyes at the next love interest Valentine has. Seriously, I do not find the appeal in Valentine. All I see is a robotic super soldier. (Unlike some book crushes I have) :P but that's another story. I'd say take it or leave it with this one. However if you do pick this up, read it for its' great supporting characters, because Valentine just gets annoying after a while.

lonnie fairfax says

This is a great continuation of valitines great adventure's

These adventures are action packed with all kinds of wonderful characters. It's worth it to read all the books in this series.

LadyCroft86 says

I enjoyed this second book of the Vampire Earth series more than the first book. This one had a constant story and didn't skip around. We also get to meet Ali, a Cat Hunter and see what that is all about. There is no stop to the action in this book, there's always something going on, which means bad guys dying! I really enjoy Ali's character, she is amazingly violent which makes for exciting fight scenes, but there are times where you really want to smack her and yell "hey stupid". (view spoiler) Other than a few things about her, she is a pretty awesome character.

Not only is Ali pretty awesome, but Valentine does a good job as a one man army and blows some stuff up and kills lots of people! It will be interesting to see if he eventually gets to try out being a Bear, since he has been a Wolf and now a Cat.

There wasn't really anything serious that I didn't like about the book, the same awesome action scenes, world building and characters. We get to meet an awesome character towards the end that I think makes an awesome addition to stories to come! (view spoiler) Overall, 5 out of 5 stars, and that is a rating I don't give out lightly!

TinaMarie says

David's road fighting the Kur takes a new twist, trying to uncover the secrets of the new threat by the Kur. His sense of honor and need to help others leads him to the path of the Cats. It's not a pretty world, but it is interesting reading.
