

ANDREA CREMER

SHADOW DAYS

A NIGHTSHADE *Novella*

PHILOMEL BOOKS
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Shadow Days, told from Shay's perspective, chronicles the days before the start of the *New York Times* bestselling *Nightshade*, when Shay is taken away from the friends he loves and forced to live in his uncle Bosqu Mar's mansion, where the gargoyles seem to move, magic seems real, and nothing is as it should be.

Shadow Days Details

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From Reader Review Shadow Days for online ebook

Jillian -always aspiring- says

(Actual Rating: 2.5 stars)

Well, one thing's for certain: even from his own POV, I can't stand Shay. That pretty much sums up my feelings about this novella. If it had been any other character in the Rowan Estate, I would have likely given this story four stars; as it is, with Shay as protagonist, I could not nestle my way into the tale as I would have liked. My opinion about this just goes to show that reader reaction to characters has a lot to do with individual reading experiences.

Jessica Olson says

This short story was so good. Shay is my favorite book character, and it was amazing to read a story from his point of view.

Laura's Book Addiction says

Awesome add to the nightshade story still team ren sorry shay

Lisa says

This novella was a quick and easy read. Personally, I wasn't the biggest Shay fan so when I heard this novella was about him I put off reading it. The other day I stumbled across it again and decided to pick it up. While I still prefer Ren to Shay, I was able to learn a little bit more about Shay and he's starting to grow on me.

While I'm sure if I had a Uncle like Bosque I would rebel like crazy, I still felt bad for Shay being under complete control of his uncle. Leaving all his friends behind to move to a new place and then being left completely alone for weeks at a time is cruel. I really felt sorry for Shay and now I'm glad that Calla and him become friends in Nightshade.

I felt that things moved a little fast in this novella and that left us missing the rich detail and highly developed characters that Andrea Cremer does so well. There were many instances I felt were rushed and not fully explained. I understand this is a novella though and not a prequel novel.

I'm glad I read this novella as it gave me some insight to Shay and his background. I wonder when I read Wolfsbane if my opinion of Shay will change at all. I let you know!

Carrie Kaut says

GOD i thought shay was annoying in the book! jesus hes even worse when the book or even a short freakin story takes place from his point of view...GOD i hope Calla chooses Ren cuz if she goes for shay i might just freakin lose it!

MischaS_ says

Tak aby bylo jasno. Nikdy jsem ho nem?la ráda a ani mít ráda nebudu. Díky téhle knize? se mi totátl? znechutil. P?iznávám, že jsem ten konec skoro ne?etla, p?eskakovala jsem. A ten kluk je ták otravný, jak si kontroluje blogísek, jestli mu nenapsal n?kdo n?jaký komentík... GRRRRRRRR

Amber says

Have you read *Nightshade*? Well, now it is time to read *Shadow Days*! It is a novella that is the prequel to *Nightshade*.

The really cool and special thing about *Shadow Days* is that it was interactive. In the novella, Shay reaches out to the friends he has made in all of the places he has lived through Facebook and his new blog to help him figure out some of the mysteries of Rowan Estate, especially those that exist in the library. He notices that many of the books he finds in the library have strange, black ink patterns across the pages and unable to solve the puzzle alone, he sends many of the books out to his friends to look at. This is where the fans came in. Six weeks before *Nightshade* was released (which, awesomely, was about the same amount of time Shay was stuck in Vail without school, but with the mysteries), an email address was set up and some lucky fans who emailed later received packages in the mail of old books with these strange patterns in them so that they could help Shay figure out what they meant. Even better, these fans's names were used in the novella as Shay's friends (they also received a special thank you at the end of the novella). A Facebook page was also set up for Shay just like in the book and he had his own blog posts and webisodes. As readers read *Shadow Days*, they not only get the sense of Shay's first few weeks trying to solve mysteries in Vail, but also get the sense of "realness" interwoven into the story because of fan participation. How cool is that? It really got fans involved. More on fan involvement here.

Read the full review [here](#).

Sarah says

Shadow Days is a free prequel novella set the weeks leading up to the beginning of *Nightshade*. This is Shay's story and I enjoyed reading from his perspective. Shay has just turned 18 when he receives a call from his uncle telling him he has to move from Portland to live in the family estate in Vail, Colorado. Not at all happy about having to leave his friends Shay is dreading making yet another move and having to fit in at a new school for his senior year.

When he arrives at the family estate Shay feels isolated as he doesn't know anyone so he uses facebook and his blog to keep in contact with his friends from Portland. As he waits to start his new school he spends his time exploring the creepy estate and sharing what he finds via his blog.

This is a great prequel that I'm sure any Nightshade fan will really enjoy. I feel like I know Shay a lot better now and I like him more because of that. It was great to get more information about the Rowan estate and it makes things clearer about how and why Shay had broken into the forbidden library.

If you've already read Nightshade I'm sure you'll enjoy reading Shadow Days and if you're not sure if you want to try the series or not I'm sure this will help you make your mind up

Jenna says

I can't believe I was able to read this. IT was full of SHAY! SHAY! SHAY! THE title even shouts SHAY! (SHdow+dAYs= SHAY)..because it was SHAY narrating! wow. Anyway, I tried to read without biases and read as a "professional reader" (there's no other term for it,haha..). I admit that I pitied Shay because he was so alone in that giant freaky mansion, but my pity doesn't change the fact that I still hate him (note, i pitied him pre-Calla days, when he didn't yet disrupt the ORIGINAL Ren-Calla love team haha).

Anyway, Shadow Days shows us Shay's perspective, and basically everything that happened to him immediately before meeting Calla. My friend and I were thinking that making this novella was one of Andrea's way to buy back people from team REn to team Shay. But, it didn't work for me, I'm still solid team Ren!

IT'S ONLY FAIR IF REN HAS HIS OWN NOVELLA RIGHT? SIGH...

Mundie Moms & Mundie Kids says

Shadow Days is a great prequel to Nightshade. Andrea does a brilliant job at introducing us to Shay. Shadow Days starts when Shay receives a phone call from his Uncle, informing him he will be leaving Portland in a few days to move to the Rowan Estate in Vail, CO.

Not too happy about moving his senior year of high school, Shay moves into the Rowan Estate. His only tie to his friends he just left behind is the blog and facebook page they started for him. Andrea did a great job at creeping out, as Shay gives a great in-detailed description of his Uncle's house, the eerily portraits that line the hallways, and the weird statues. Not to mention what lies between the pages of the books in the forbidden library.

I admired Shay more after reading this, as he isn't concerned about his Uncle's wealth. It seems that Shay could have what ever he wants, and he doesn't abuse that power. What I admire most, is that Shay is determined to find out what's going on around the Estate and it's evident nothing will stop him in finding out the truth.

If you haven't picked up Nightshade yet, I highly recommend it! It's a phenomenal read and I'm really looking forward to finding out what happens next in Wolfsbane

Janus the Erudite Artist says

Shadow Days is a short story on Shay's point of view. This novella was about what happened to Shay before he met Calla. There wasn't really anything much into it that you won't know if or when you read Nightshade, well specifically on the idea of the creepiness of Bosque's house anyway. So I don't really have anything else to say about it.

I've read both Nightshade and Wolfsbane, and now that I've read this I'm still on neutral territory over the whole Shay-Calla-Ren relationship.

Shadow Days really hasn't anything special to it for me. I would like to see a novella with Ren's perspective though, and I'm still really eager to read Bloodrose.

For more of my reviews, please visit my blog:
The Blair Book Project @ www.theblairbookproject.blogspot.com

Annie Brewer says

So excuse me while I throw up!!! But this was whore shit!! Okay, first off....I should have read this before Nightshade maybe I would feel differently....yea I don't think so. But still, I tried to swallow my hatred long enough to stomach this, this ridiculousness!

Secondly, in some instances I felt the slightest sympathy for Shay *puke*....see I can't even type his name without this reaction. I felt sorry for him then BAM.....my hatred is back and I wished he'd died then! Now I know this is harsh and I am sorry to any fans, I am not normally so negative. Ever. But this time I can't be any other way!

Okay enough about that...so the fact that she wrote this short story for HIM shows she never had any intentions of REN having anything good in his life! Jesus I am getting pissed again! All of my pent up anger is resurfacing!!! Shit!! I can't contain myself!! *SOB SOB*

WHERE IS REN'S STORY??? WHERE!!!! WHERE IS IT??? Its only fair to have his story after the bitch left him for that snake!!! Not that I'd get through it without sobbing my eyeballs out!!! UGH! I'm done! I should have given this a ONE...but undeniably she has good writing skills. Whatever. I am glad I finished it, time to get it out of my head!

Navdha says

So I totally enjoy it when there is something from the male protagonist's POV since these YA's have almost everything from the female's POV. It was really good to read how Shay was totally freaked out about moving and his Uncle and the mansion before the whole deal started. I am in the minority for liking Shay and how his character grew in the series. Most people love Ren, it was Ren, right?

So yeah, Shay was brave from the start. You would expect any other person to move or totally freak out but

he actually went to the library and wasn't too self-absorbed to think that he could do everything on his own. He took help from all his online friends all throughout and that was pretty smart. It was actually longer than I expected it to be. But overall, I really liked it. So 3.5.

Maja - BibliophiliaDK ? says

Pointless! That's the only word that can fully describe this book. Completely and utterly POINTLESS!! I did not understand why this book was written at all. It had no connection to the first Nightshade novel. Except for the characters, that is, but that isn't really enough to make the two books seem related. Not one of the things happening in this novella are mentioned in the first novel, so what's the point really? Besides making me angrier than angry! Argh! I'm frustrated to no end and mad at myself than even let myself read this!

Katieb (MundieMoms) says

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