



Quiver of Cobras

Helen Harper

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One wondrous faery with stupendous magical skills and a superior mind (not to mention incredible modesty). One drop dead gorgeous, green eyed stud muffin and his evil Fey brother. And the end of the world. Maybe.

Madrona might still not remember anything about her past, and she might be more of an evil villain than a fabulous super hero, but that doesn't mean she can't also be a super spy. With Rubus desperately searching for the magical dragon sphere which can return the faeries back to their homeland - and cause the apocalypse in this land - she doesn't have much choice.

Someone with wit, intelligence and strength has to step up and save the world ... and if that person happens to look super sexy while doing it then that's just an added bonus.

Quiver of Cobras Details

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From Reader Review Quiver of Cobras for online ebook

Tiffany Bruce says

Loved it!

Such a great gasbildikins book!! I love Madrona she is a great character, funny, little bit crazy and little bit superhero and tiny bit bad! I am pretty sure we would be best friends forever if I met her!

JadeShea says

Quiver of Cobras begins not long after the cliffhanger ending of the first book. Now, Mads is with the evil Rubus, and she's trying to be a spy. However, that may not be working out so well. Especially, when she figures out more about her self that she still doesn't remember.

Mad will have to figure out what to do next to save their current world.

This book was really good! I loved Mad's humor, and I enjoyed the love story, as well as the rest of plot. This one was a huge twist, and had another cliffhanger that left you pulling your hair out wondering what happened.

The only thing I really didn't like about this one were some of the choices Mad made during the beginning. It was just beyond frustrating, and I was so annoyed with her. But, it was great learning more about her past, and her past relationships.

I'm super excited to read more now!

L.B. says

Book 2 in Harpers new urban fantasy series was much appreciated after that cliffhanger at the end of book 1! This one takes the amnesiac Madrona's tale into deeper mysteries, adding more questions about a past she can't remember and expanding to world-scale issues. It's a humorous and fascinating ride as the cocky filter-less antagonist bumbles without apology through maintaining cover well enough to infiltrate the ranks of the man trying to destroy Earth, Rubus, and convince his brother, Morgan, on the other side that she's not loyal to Rubus all while still trying to learn who she is—Magic's?—and what she's done—murderer? Is she good or is she bad is the concern. With her amnesia the Madhatter has the chance to sort of reinvent herself—something a reader might relate to wanting—and I thoroughly enjoyed the trail with all the hilarious banter with side-characters that Harper is great at. Madrona is full of surprises. The world-building is also great—interesting take on paranormal characters and fantastical realms. As with the first, the cliffhanger is killer, so be ready to crave book 3!

Anne (The Reading Life) says

4.3/5

I received a free copy for an honest review.

I have several problems with this book. One of the most prominent ones is our main character, Madrona. Again, the heroine possessed the classic witty “arrogant” (but in a funny way) narration that is usually fun to read and extremely common in indie books. However, I feel like Harper this time took it too far with Madrona. Madrona’s “attitude” included moments where she took too so far that it had just become annoying instead of funny. Madrona is a “misunderstood villain”, so she does have a lot of character depth for discovery and growth. She’s also (supposed) to be a very humorous character. But because she apparently doesn’t have the normal human sense to know when and when not to crack a joke, it deprived any potential humorous factor of the jokes.

It wasn’t even this bad with the first book, but as I spent more time with her, it’s really starting to wear on me.

However, I’m very happy to say that say that at least to this point, by book 2, it’s very clear that this book is not an instant love. It does have a decent slow-burning pace, which is a HUGE redeeming factor in this book for me (<3 Morgan forever).

I also want to talk about Rubris. I’m quite disappointed with his portrayal. As such a legendary villainous character from the first book, his attitude, characteristics, lack of intimidation, immature, annoying, and just being a completely unredeemable character was such a letdown. From his character’s reputation to the general villain potential he had, he could’ve EASILY become the next Darkling - a character evil enough that even the readers have to admit despite loving him because of how lovable, ship-able, and villainous he was.

However, I have to applause Harper for that ending. It was a perfect twist that was done so well, it kind of redeemed Rubris for me despite all his problems. This means A LOT because of how disappointed I was with Rubris as a character. The twist was not weak at all - it was strong. Very strong. The evidence and hints that were subtly scattered throughout the entire book as well as how evenly they were managed really impressed me. If the story quality originally was 7.5 or of 10, the ending itself can bump it to an 8 out of 10.

Damn Rubris. Damn.

Patrícia says

THIS ONE IS EVEN BETTER

CAN'T WAIT FOR THE THIRD!

Sara Oxtan says

Quiver of Cobras by Helen Harper a five-star read that will set your heart a quiver. This is the second book in the Fractured Faery series and what a series, they are funny and will make you chuckle and cross your

legs. I love the whole Madhatter and Morgan back and forth they really are amazing, but the other characters are also so fantastic they really are amazing. The insults are some of the absolute best including one that involves a skull... mmmm the visual of that one, Finn you make me blush. But they don't stop there honestly Helen Harper where do you come up with some of these names, al-dente noddle and the broom had me laughing like Muttley the dog from Wacky racers!!

Helen says

Eh. The main character, like in the first book was dumb and annoying instead of smart and funny only more so in this book. And for the most part all the other fairies are complete idiots and act like small children! It also ended on a cliffhanger that had a messed up scene! She asks for someone to hand her something that she was already holding and they dig it out of their pocket to give it to her. Normally that's just an annoying oversight but the reasoning behind them handing it to her was a big part of the scene so it made it even more aggravating. Thankfully there's only one more book in this series and I've gotten them all for free. Otherwise I'd give up after this book.

Sabine says

I know - that was a really fast read but I kind of sped through this book, looking for answers and now the joke is on me because the last one isn't out yet.

Madrona is back with Rubus after the showdown in the end of the first book but it seems she isn't as bad as she herself and anybody else thinks she is. We have villain here who is quite immature and acts like a brat ('I'm better than my brother' - 'I'm so much more badass than my brother'.. yada yada yada). You can hardly listen to him and like Madrona you want to do an eyeroll and say: Do you want to measure who's got the bigger one?! The Mendrax thing was quite genius and I never saw that coming and of course we are left with another cliffhanger. Good grief!! Thankfully, I discovered this series late and so the wait is not so much longer.

I'm really curious now how this will all end in the last book - will they get back to Mag Mell? Will they discover how to reopen the barrier and if they do, will they all go back and leave our demesne for good? And of course: will there be finally a happy ending for Morgan and Madrona? The second book was better than the first but maybe this was because I already knew what to expect and it wasn't as strange as in the beginning. 4 stars for an entertaining story

Maggie says

I always take a point off for cliffhangers as there are excellent series that don't have to resort to this type of endings for their stories.

Jayne says

The story was entertaining, as was the first in the series. However, the use of the "catch-phrases" was borderline excessive/annoying in this book. I'm hoping the third book in the series tones it down a bit.

Vannessa says

This is the second book in this trilogy and was as good as the first one! Madrona is still suffering from amnesia and is no closer to getting her memories back, but she does experience things which she believes are linked to her past and draw her to certain places. She is now secretly working for Morgan to try and end his brother Rubus' plan to open the borders back to Mag Nell, the faery homeland, but Rubus has yet to fully trust her. She has to gain his trust, doing things she despises now, yet ones she did willingly before.

Several secrets about Madrona's past are revealed in this book, some quite surprising too. The twist at the end with the dragon was very unexpected - don't know why I didn't think about it before, but it completely took me by surprise!

Maddy was just brilliant again in this book and trying to play both sides will eventually take its toll on her I'm sure. I do hope for more between Madrona and Morgan - I think they will be great together, whether she regains her memory or not.

So looking forward to reading the last book in this trilogy which is out very soon. Thank you so much to Helen for sending me an ARC of this book to read!

Rebecca says

I gave the first book two stars, which begs the question - why am I reading this second one? I guess the main thing is that I did actually want to know what was going on with her amnesia and what the backstory was, so to speak. Also, while I wasn't impressed with the first book overall, it did end on a high note. I still don't know what to make of this author's style or the story itself. The thing is, I'm interested enough to want to know what happens, but don't like this enough to actually read it thoroughly, so I ended up skimming a lot of it. There's only so much egotistical snark you can take from a character anyway and I never actually thought it was charming or funny. Madrona is kind of like that annoying loudmouth in class that you wish would be a little less loud because you're really more interested in the people sitting around her. Morgan's character, as far as I'm concerned, had potential for half of book one and is now flatter than a pancake and about as interesting as mud; you might as well just insert generic "hot" love interest with no personality except some vague do-gooder save-the-world intentions. The villains are almost like stock cartoon characters - actually every character is like a cartoon character, as is the world itself, so I suppose that was exactly what the author was going for.

Oh, and like the first book, I have no idea what the title actually means or how it relates at all to the book. It's possible that it was actually explained somewhere (I skimmed large chunks of both books) but as far as I can tell, it's just some random phrase that doesn't really mean anything OR have anything to do with the main storyline. I mean, I guess a "quiver" is what you call a group of cobras, but...I don't think there were cobras involved in any meaningful way, anywhere.

?Jamie? says

4.5 Stars! Wow! What a ride. The Madhatter is back and determined to spread her crazy around. Lol. Please don't read if you haven't read book one. This review may contain spoilers.

Summary:

Sadly, Madrona must accept that she's not quite superhero material, and she still can't remember anything about herself or her past. But life must go on. There's a whole world to save, and she's got a plan. Now that she's in the evil clutches of her former boss, Rubus, she'll undertake the task of super spy. Sticking close to Rubus is less than desirable, but his determined search for the dragon sphere and plan B threats give her no choice. The alternative is an apocalypse in the human world. Being a spy isn't all fun and witty comebacks, though. It takes smarts, strength, and good looks to blend in just right, and Maddy is just humble enough to get the job done. When Maddy is enlightened about a few things from her past, questions are answered, but the race to secure the sphere becomes crucial. Breaking into Rubus's inner circle is hard to do when he's never trusted you and you can't remember anything about him. With Morgan's help, Maddy will have to try to stay one step ahead of the cunning drug lord, while trying to suss out what he plans next.

Quiver of Cobras (QoC) had me on the edge of my seat throughout most of the book. Maddy was as crazy as ever, and I adored her. She's hilarious and you never can tell what will come out of her mouth. Her over-the-top ego endeared her to me, and I appreciated the journey of self-discovery she seems to find herself on. Despite her amnesia, or maybe because of it, Maddy has the unique opportunity to look deeply at who she really was, is, and wants to be. She often struggles with the how and why of the actions of her old self, while in turn, that struggle colors the choices of the new her. It'll be interesting to see how the old and new Maddy reconcile in the end. The reader is privy to a bit more information about pre-amnesia Maddy in this book, and that, added to Maddy's struggle and perceived personality helped to ramp up the anticipation. I loved the stronger hint of romance in this installment. Morgan and Maddy took a few hits and have a lot of history to overcome and accept, but I do like them together, and hope to see more progression in their relationship in the final book. In the end, this book held me spellbound. I had a tinge of wariness and disappointment at some of Maddy's choices, but I also understood what she was trying to achieve. My only other issue was that the humor wasn't quite at the level of book one. I still laughed and grinned a lot. It's impossible not too when Maddy is involved. The difference, I think, is that in book one there was one crazy situation after another. QoC had its fair share of laugh out loud moments, but it seemed to focus on the dialogue. Maddy seems to be an expert at sarcasm and snark. It wasn't bad. Just different, and I wanted more "laugh until you cry" situations. The addition of Rubus added mystery and danger to an already engaging plot. Humor, a bit of romance, magic, and a surprising twist are hard to resist. And the ending? If you thought Box of Frogs left you wanting more, then QoC tops it by about a million. Lol. Thank goodness book three is not far behind because I cannot wait!?

Christa says

In another hilarious book, Madora struggles with not remembering her former evil ways.

"Maybe I was evil. I had no desire to be indiscriminately evil, though; that would be a complete waste

of energy.”

That’s the truth. I’m not an evil mastermind, that’s too much work.

She’s having to work with her old boss Rubus, who she is not a fan of.

**“‘Rubus was looking very dark and handsome just now, don’t you think?’ she twittered.
‘Just about the only time I find him handsome is when it’s dark,’ I retorted.
Lunaria squinted at me. ‘But when it’s dark you can’t see him properly.’”**

Sarcasm is wasted on some people.

She’s also learning more about other supernatural species.

“What was the point in being a dragon if you weren’t going to stomp around and breathe fire? All this supernatural business seemed like over-blown hype to me.”

So if you like funny urban fantasy, you will like this book. Like Madrona, I’m always right.

“Of course I was right. I was always right. Almost always right, anyway. Over fifty percent of the time, which was almost always in my book.”

Free on kindle unlimited.

marieke says

DNF

Apparently, I can’t handle a story stretched over multiple books.

After 25% in this book I started thinking: ‘I want this to be over with.’ I had nothing to do so I continued for a while, but I finally gave up at 66%.

The thing is: if you are going to make me buy three books I start questioning everything to see if you really couldn’t tell the story in say 500 pages.

And now I have all these questions that I feel won’t ever be answered (obviously I did not finish the series so I could be wrong here).

Not sure how spoilery they are because for all I know the story took a turn after I stopped reading, but I will hide them anyway.

(view spoiler)

In the end, I couldn't be bothered anymore and I just gave up.

It makes me quite sad, because I had just finished the Slouch Witch series and I loved it so much I wanted to read other books by Helen Harper. Maybe I'll look for one without a cliffhanger.
