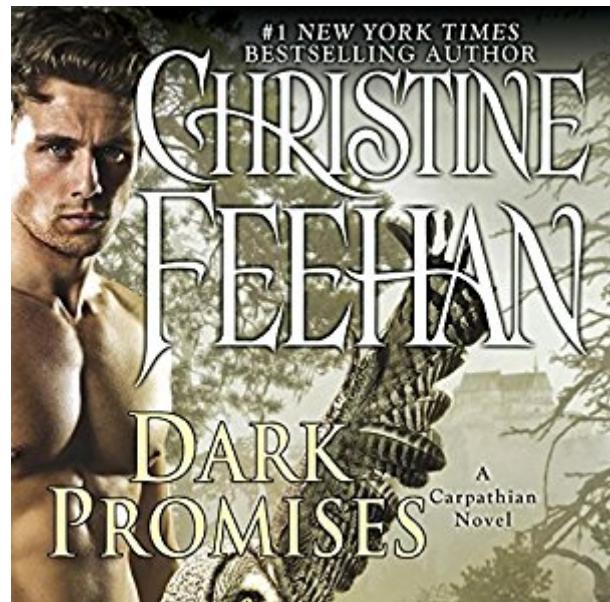


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Dark Promises: A Carpathian Novel



Synopsis

Gabrielle has had enough of battles, of wars, of seeing the man she's engaged to nearly lose his life when it isn't even his fight. Once Gary was a gentle and very human researcher. Now he's a fearless and lethal Carpathian warrior with the blood of an ancient lineage coursing through his veins - a man Gabrielle still needs and dreams of with every breath she takes. All she wants is a life far away from the Carpathian Mountains, far from vampires and the shadows cast by the crumbling monastery that hides so many terrible secrets. But Gabrielle soon learns that promises made in the dark can pierce the heart like a dagger. And she isn't the only one in search of answers in the corners of the unknown.... Trixie Joanes has come to the Carpathian Mountains in search of her wayward granddaughter, fearing that she has been lured there by something unspeakable. Instead Trixie has stumbled onto the path of a desperate woman on the run. And they're all fated for the lair of a mysterious ancient with revenge in his soul and the undying power to make bad dreams come true.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dark Promises bk 29 in The Dark Series by Christine Feehan is a great disappointment. Leaving me in utter despair. I felt the author has been misleading into what this story was actually about. I thought for over a year now that this would be Gary Jenson's story with Gabrielle Sanders as his lifemate or her as a featured character in the story along with Trixie. I never once believed that instead I would be reading a story with a great grandmother Trixie finding her lifemate Fane who we just briefly met in bk 28 Dark Ghost. Trixie is being portrayed as an uneducated Black woman with a

nonsensical temper. I know who Trixie is modeled after and let me tell you she is very intelligent and highly educated. I do believe in older people "Like Myself" finding love and having a sexual relationship, But I don't want to read about it. I know what my 65++ body looks like with its wrinkles and sagging skin, sorry but its true. So I don't want visuals about older people having lots and lots of sex. Some things should be left to the imagination. Gabrielle Sanders part of the story was truly disturbing!! She is lifemate to Alexie and Ancient Carpathian residing at the Monastery. He was Physically Abusive to Gabby and he hurt her many times physically and mentally in the story!! I wanted a Vampire to STAKE ALEXIE!! He treated Gabby worst then a Vampire would have treated her. He was not a real Carpathian who loves and treasure and worship there lifemates. My poor Gary after being a character in this series since 2008 Bk4 Dark Magic, has very little to do with this story. Why mislead fans? I what to tell Ms. Feehan don't burn the Bridge tht Brought You!! You can't cross it to get back!! I am not the only one who thought this was Gary Jenson/Daratrazanoff's story. Dark Promises have virtually no storyline. The one story about the Human Hunters is at most 5% of the story. The Dark series world and storyline has not moved in years. I have been an huge Fan of Christine Feehan since Lair of the Lion back in 1998. I was one of the first people to sign up for her Community page and create a wall of my own there. Meeting and chatting with friends from all over the world. But with Great Sadness I say Goodbye to the Feehan world and all my wonderful Feehan Friends. I Cannot in good judgement support this author's work any longer. Not when I don't believe myself that she is writing her books anymore!!With a Heavy Heart and Sadness I am Signing Out and Off from the Feehan World!!Deb "The Rose Lady" Allen

I agree with many others that this was not Christine's usual writing style. Most of the book was BDSM which is not ok at all. Her other books had romantic love. This was not the case for this book. It was all about the dominate and submissive and not about love and romance. If Christine Feehan writes more books like this then this will be the last book I read. I have been a long time fan and have read all of the other books in the series. This book was a shock to read and not in a good way. If I want to read stuff like this I would just watch porn. Because this book is pretty much porn with no actual story for it... It's a real shame because Christine Feehan is the first author I read books from. And was the start of my reading addiction to other romance novels. Now? It's like the Dark Series has dried up. And I'm sad to see this happen :(

I'd like to begin my review by mentioning that I have been a huge fan of Feehan's work for nearly 2 decades. I've been reading her books since the very beginning; she was the first author I started

"following," and was my favorite author for the majority of the time I've been reading her novels. If I were going to be biased, it would be in her favor. But, the past couple of years, I have noticed a huge difference in her work. Where I used to anxiously await new releases from her, now I dread them because I know they will bring me one step closer to saying goodbye to her stories forever. But, let's bring the focus back to Dark Promises instead of grouping it with the Carpathian series and her other works. What I found most disappointing was the lack of story. The beginning started out with potential. Gary and Gabrielle had both previously been human and shared a strong human bond but, as Carpathians, love isn't enough. They literally have to find the other half of their souls! Dark Promises would show the difference between human love vs. Carpathian mating, and the intense bond that goes with it- the sharing of thoughts and the almost obsessive devotion between lifemates that supercedes everything else in the couples' life. What is actually shown to us, though, is that human love is real and Carpathian mating is purely sexual. How utterly sad and disappointing is that? Then, there's a threat to the Carpathians in the form of human hunters led by a Master Vampire. The possibilities for plots there is endless- fight scenes, showing off the Carpathian's supernatural skill set, and maybe an abduction? Ooh, what's going to happen? Uh, nothing. I don't even remember what happens to the humans, other than Trixie, and the encounter with the vampire at the end was merely a setup for Gary's novel (which fans were led to believe this one would be.) Do not waste your money on this garbage! Wow, I never expected to write that in a Christine Feehan review. That's more shocking to me than anything that happened in the novel. But save your money and let me tell you the story now: Gary and Gabrielle attempt to bond as lifemates, but are unable to and he quickly loses his ability to see in color and notices his emotions start to fade. Gregory sends him away to help the ancient Carpathians in the monastary and Gabrielle follows him to try and convince him to share a life with her for 50 years before they attempt to find their lifemates. They get there and she is immediately claimed by one of the ancients, Aleksei, who then calls her a slut for loving Gary and chooses to die in the sun. Gary is taken back to the Carpathian mountains and not seen again until the end of the book. We learn there are human hunters, under the influence of a vampire, hiking up the mountain and another couple, Andre and Teagan (from Dark Ghost) are supposed to head down the mountain and stop them. Teagan learns that her GRANDMOTHER, Trixie is part of this hunting party, and that's why she wants to be involved. They head off and Aleksei (who decided sex was better than death) and Gabrielle have sex- Many, many times. Trixie somehow shows up at the monastary by herself and meets Fane, who turns out to be her lifemate. Then we are treated to a horribly stereotypical crazy black woman persona, and old lady sex. Aleksei and Gabrielle have more sex. Trixie and Fane have more sex. Trixie and Gabrielle

have a talk about their lifemates and sex. Aleksei and Gabrielle fight, and then have more sex. Trixie and Fane have more sex. Aleksei and Gabrielle travel down the mountain to town, where he becomes jealous of her feeding off a human male,- which he doesn't allow-, they overhear the human hunters having a conversation and return to their cave for...guess what....MORE SEX! Finally, the group gets together to heal the Ancients/find their lifemates, and to eliminate the threat of the hunters. The men take off to be manly men while the women wait behind like good little girls. But surprise, the vampire somehow gets past the safeguards of several ancient Carpathians and attacks the poor helpless women. Gary shows up to save the day, and then we are teased with glorious possibilities for his story in a blatant attempt to get us to buy the next book. The book ends with- you guessed it- more sex. If you're horny and need some reading material, this is the book for you. If you want a story with an actual plot, and characters you can fall in love with- don't waste your money because you just read the book in this review.

Don't get me wrong, I love Christine Feehan. The book was 2/3 sex. No action. I did enjoy Trixie and Fane. It does give hope to the ancients. I did not like the Dominance I am seeing in all of Feehan's books lately. Weak heroine and Dark Hero. Just me personally. I prefer a love scene to be romantic not XX and demanding. Please: The hero even states Gabrielle is a submissive. Maybe it is time to stop reading romance. I have been a reader for the pass 15 years and I see a lot of the writers changing and going more for the xx sex scenes. If I want x rated, I can watch a porn movie not read about it. I reckon I am getting old and it is time to put Christine Feehan down. The dark series was the last one where there was no cursing and I could skim through the sex scenes. Not so any more. Goodbye Christine. I love how you used to write in the late 90's on up until recently.

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