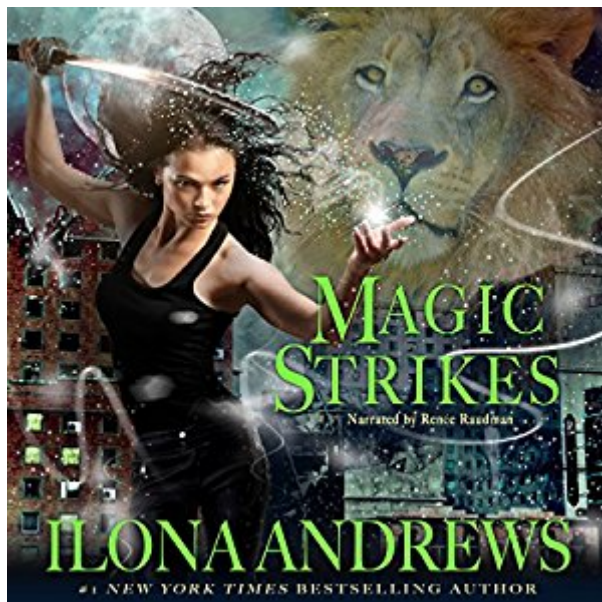


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Magic Strikes: Kate Daniels, Book 3



Synopsis

When magic strikes and Atlanta goes to pieces, it's a job for Kate Daniels... Drafted into working for the Order of Merciful Aid, mercenary Kate Daniels has more paranormal problems than she knows what to do with these days. And in Atlanta, where magic comes and goes like the tide, that's saying a lot. But when Kate's werewolf friend Derek is discovered nearly dead, she must confront her greatest challenge yet. As her investigation leads her to the Midnight Games - an invitation only, no holds barred, ultimate preternatural fighting tournament - she and Curran, the Lord of the Beasts, uncover a dark plot that may forever alter the face of Atlanta's shapeshifting community...

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Kate Daniels once mercenary and now a semi-member of a Magical Order of Knights never seems to have small problems. She always has if you don't succeed the world is all doomed problems. This book is no different there are some things that don't seem all together human and an illegal fight ring going on in Atlanta. Derek is in trouble too and won't tell Kate what is going on and Jim is hiding things from Curran as well. "Just reflecting on the fact that when the Universe punches you in the teeth, it never just lets you fall down. It kicks you in the ribs a couple of times and dumps mud on your head." It also seems that Kate has caught the eye of The Beast Lord who may be trying to court her using a few unusual methods involving food and a little breaking and entering. The tension between them is insane and I eat up every moment they are on the page together. I struggle between wanting them to get together and wanting to drag that moment out a little longer. There is

the introduction of a few new characters Dali being one of my favorite new additions. She is a vegetarian Were-tiger that helps the team in the gladiator pit in an interesting and unusual way. "I do shodo magic," Dali said. "I curse through calligraphy. I have to write the curse out on a piece of paper and I can't move while I do it. One smudge, and I might kill the lot of us." "Oh good." "But don't worry." Dali waved her arms. "It's so precise, it usually doesn't work at all." Magic Bites was just ok, I liked Magic Burns more but I absolutely loved Magic Strikes. The story arc of the murder mystery, the illegal fighting pit, some more backstory into Kate's upbringing, Saimion and all his weirdness and the building relationship of Kate and Curran kept me on the edge of my seat. I could not put this book down I literally finished it at 3 am and got up at 6 am to go to work. Well done a fantastic addition to the series and the strongest book so far. The first two books are well worth reading to get to this one. And again the last few pages be still my beating heart. It made me want to jump into the next book as soon as humanly possible.

I really liked the first two books in this series - Magic Bites & Magic Burns - but they didn't come close to pulling me in the way Magic Strikes did. Mentioning it is really kind of silly because if pressed, I couldn't give you a concrete reason. Just another one of those unanswerable questions I suppose. Regardless of why, this book is my favorite in the series so far. That being said, I also can't really decide what I like most about the Kate Daniels series. The world building is phenomenal. It's complex, dark and scary. As I've mentioned before, you won't find any shiny, sexy vampires in the world of mythological characters that Ilona Andrews has created. Their vamps are not only scary but down right hideous and definitely not something you would want to meet in a dark ally. *shivers* As far as other creatures go in Magic Strikes, the husband and wife duo of Ilona Andrews held nothing back. Just when I thought we had 'seen' everything, they create and painstakingly describe something else even more dangerous than the creature before it. And I'm not exaggerating about those descriptions... they were honestly cringe worthy. Then there are the characters and the relationships that are developing between all of them. Not one of them is more important than the other and they all add to the series. They depended on each other a lot in this book and getting to know each of them a little bit better was quite a treat. Not one of them was flat. Not a lot of series pull that off with a such a full cast of characters but Kate Daniels seems to be one that does it effortlessly. Of course Kate is front and center and her character has grown a lot since the series began. A lot of that growth stems from her letting people into her life. As isolated as Kate has kept herself from others, when she finally lets someone in they become hers to not only love but protect. She proved that more than once in Magic Strikes. A lot of sacrifices were made in Magic Strikes. A

lot of secrets were revealed and some mysteries have started to unravel, but there are still a lot that need to be solved. There were gasps, tears (more than once), events that insured that some characters lives will never be the same, heart warming moments, some really funny dialog and even a little bit of romance. Through it all the dialog and banter between the characters made this book one of the most quotable yet. Here's just a taste: I did my best to change the subject. "I think you give our relationship too much credit. I irritate the hell out of Curran and he found a way to pester me. It's nothing." "You may be right," Raphael said. "His Majesty needs a can-I girl anyway. And I'm not it." "A can-I girl?" Andrea frowned. I leaned back. "Can fetch you your food, Your Majesty? Can I tell you how strong and mighty you are, Your Majesty? Can I pick out your fleas, Your Majesty? Can I kiss your a**, Your Majesty? Can I..." It dawned on me that Raphael was sitting very still. Frozen, like a statue, his gaze fixed on the point above my head. "He's standing right behind me, isn't he?" Andrea nodded slowly. "Technically it should be 'may I,' " Curran said, his voice deeper than I remembered. "Since you're asking permission." And the conversation just gets better after that. Which is a perfect lead in to Curran. Things are definitely heating up between these two and I can't wait to see where the relationship goes. I have a feeling that things are going to get a lot more interesting between Kate and Curran and can I just say... it's about time! Speaking of which, there was a very 'interesting' scene in Magic Strikes that Ilona Andrews (mainly Gordon this time) wrote in Curran's POV. Once you've finished Magic Strikes you may want to follow the link to their website and see what was going through Curran's head. It's worth the trip. Next in the series is Magic Bleeds and I can't wait to pick it up!

A 'shifted' world torn between random waves of magic & technology. A strong, intelligent, & sexy heroine (Kate Daniels). A story with depth and fantastic one-liners. Ms. Andrews' offers us a wonderfully crafted new world filled with shapeshifters, beastkin, witches, vampire navigators, and differing & sometimes warring paranormal police departments. Each of the Kate Daniels books offers a deeper & more complex look at these groups and each allows her relationships with these individuals to grow stronger. I absolutely LOVED the fact that, even though you know she and the Beast Lord, Curran, are 'it' for each other that their relationship takes a while (& several books) to fully develop. Each story shows different aspects of each character, too. I couldn't read the series fast enough & completed the entire series (to date) within a weeks time. So, even though I came to know the series late, it actually benefited me in that I could read them all at one go. Book #1: Magic Bites Book #2: Magic Burns Book #3: Magic Strikes Magic Mourns Book #4: Magic Bleeds Book #5: Magic Slays Gunmetal Magic (Andrea & Raphael's story) Magic Dreams Book #6: Magic Rises Book

#7: Magic Breaks (due out July 2014)

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