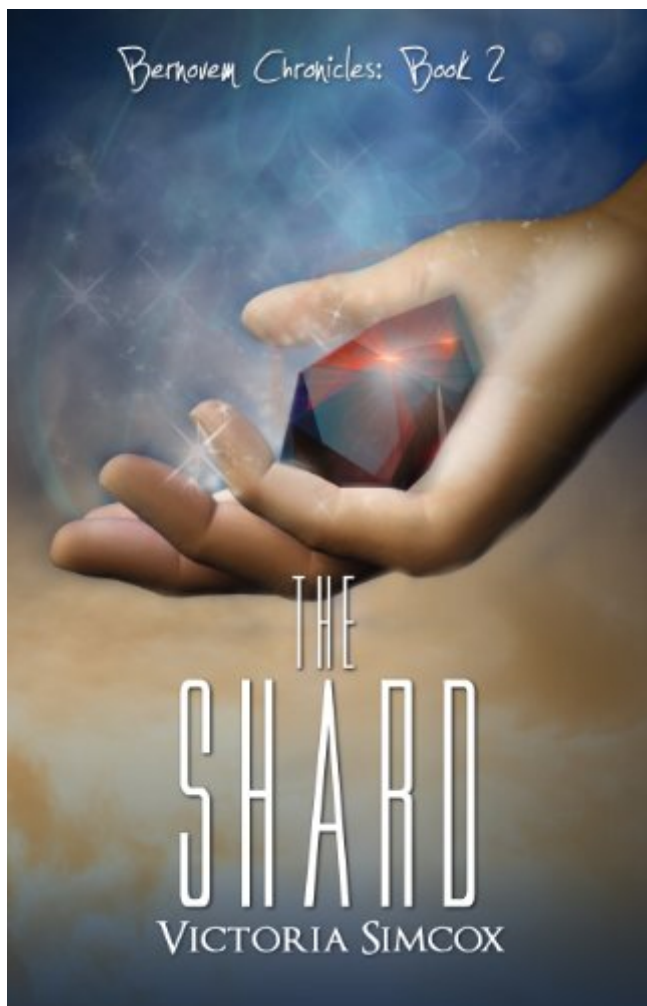


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The Shard (The Bernovem Chronicles Book 2)



Synopsis

The Shard, Victoria Simcox's fast-paced, intricately woven sequel to The Warble, takes Kristina Kingsly and her schoolmates back to Bernovem and into a thrilling, often dangerous adventure. Kristina's stay at summer horse camp is horrible to say the least, and it's all because Hester and Davina are there as well, making her life miserable. When Hester's cruel prank goes terribly wrong, it's actually what sends the three girls back to the magical land of Bernovem. In Bernovem, Kristina is very excited to see her former friend, Prince Werrien. When he invites her to sail with him on his ship to his homeland Tezerel, putting it simply, Kristina can't refuse. Reunited with her gnome, dwarf, animal, fairy friends and best of all, Werrien, things seem like they couldn't get any better for Kristina. But when Werrien becomes fascinated with an unusual seeing stone, the "Black Shard", Kristina is haunted by a ghostlike old hag. Struggling against suspicion, guilt, illness, and ultimately the one who wants to possess her soul, Kristina will see it's in her weakest moment that she will encounter more strength than she has ever known.

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Customer Reviews

Victoria Simcox's *The Shard* brings us as the first book in *The Bernovem Chronicles: The Warble* and what I believe will be a beloved fairy tale, by weaving together seamlessly a great folk tale and myth to create a fantasy that children as well as adults will enjoy through the ages as much as *The Wizard of Oz*! Though years have passed between first and second books, and the children have gotten older, they are very much as we discovered them to be. Now, however, once they are again whisked into the land of fairies and scares choices play out in a more meaningful way making this a tale of loves first bloom for our hero and heroine and for one of the other children, much like in 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory', a cautionary tale, which I applaud, for I believe the best novels show that choices have consequences. Yet, here again - since this is all make believe reminiscent of 'Peter Pan' - once back in their real world the children continue to mature as their nature leads them, or do they? Plagued by this question, I've already downloaded Book 3 of *The Bernovem Chronicles* titled 'The Medallion' and know you will do that as well after reading the first two books! Paula Rose Michelson writes Christian Inspirational Fiction, Nonfiction & Self-help. Her books are available on .

A Truly Fantastical Book! *The Shard* is the sequel to *The Warble* and takes place 3 years later. The main characters have grown and so has the plot of the story. The Author, Victoria Simcox has woven an intricate tale of light and dark. Not that this series is similar to *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*, the symbolism is right on. Werrien and Kristina are pure sweetness. Werrien a now handsome and a strong 17 year old, and Kristina is growing into a beauty at fifteen. A few symbolic moments in the book: "My name is Envy.....and Vengeance" ~ says the dark creature to Kristina. You may see yourself as weak, is actually the opposite as Yolen sees you. He sees what you perceive as your weakness, combined with your humility, as your strength. "When you were at your life's lowest moment and you faced total depravity, you did not become bitter...." "I knew you even before the world of Bernovem and your world, Earth were created. It was Yolen that placed the seed of faith inside of you when you were born." These are just a few samples of this delightful novel. And what I didn't know until I reached the last page...this really isn't the end....

In *The Shard*, Kristina is back, along with the less-than-friendly Hester and Davina. What starts out as an innocent trip to summer camp turns into a wild journey through the mystical land of Bernovem. In her travels, an older, more mature Kristina meets up with old friends and enemies. The

charming Prince Werrien captivates our heroine's heart once again. Overall, this installment of the Bernovem Chronicles is a work of art. From the interesting beginning, to the heart-stopping final page, it's an exhilarating spin through a land reminiscent of Narnia or Wonderland! Although it's a Young Adult book, readers of all ages will be touched by the author's powerful prose. Five resounding stars for The Shard!

Second in the Bernovem Chronicles series, THE SHARD takes us back into the mind and wonderful adventures of twelve-year-old Kristina Kingsly. Summer camp isn't working out very well for Kristina so she returns to the magical world Bernovem and all her talking animal and fairytale friends. Also she is reunited with Prince Werrien. But the "Black Shard", a seeing stone, creates some unexpected problems, ignites a perilous journey, and unleashes a ghostly hag. Sentiz, Hester and Davina are other characters the reader will loathe. Having read the first in the series "The Warble," my anticipation was high. Victoria Simcox's follow-up with this book, THE SHARD, is nothing short of fantastic. I love this book. As with all great children adventure story-books, it is packed with lessons about life and friendship. Genuinely an enjoyable read! I think it will be treasured classic among children and adults alike.

I did NOT start with "The Warble" but that's OK . . . because this story not only stands on it's own, it transforms the reader to a world of romance, adventure and self discovery that helps us believe in ourselves once again. It's a self -help fantasy that draws you in and brings back the memories of your first true love (even if it was 40 years, ago!) Promoted as a young adult adventure, I guarantee any parent or grandparent that wants to feel young again will enjoy this book as well. Ms. Simcox has the unique ability to describe feelings in such exacting detail, that you will wonder if she has had been in your head before she wrote this adventure. As I started in the middle, I most definitely will be going back to the first in the series and eagerly await the next as well.

Kristina is transported back to Bernoven. Once again she faces great danger and treachery. She meets old friends and enemies and sometimes it is hard to tell them apart. It is also a time of growth and awakening for Kristina. No longer a little girl, she is growing into maturity and must face all the emotions and challenges that those trying times have on all young adults. She must protect herself and her friends from the influence of the Shard and this story goes right down to the wire. Can't give away too much but if you liked the Warble you'll love the Shard.

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