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Valhalla



Synopsis

Valhalla: Book OneViolet MacRae is one of the aimless millions crowding northern Scotland. In the year 2230, where war is obsolete and only brilliant minds are valued, she emerges into adulthood with more brawn than brains and a propensity for violence. People dismiss her as a relic, but world peace is more fragile than they know. In Valhalla, a clandestine base hidden in an icy ravine, Violet connects with a group of outcasts just like her. There, she learns the skills she needs to keep the world safe from genetically enhanced criminals and traitors who threaten the first friends she's ever known. She also meets Wulfgar Kray, a genius gang leader who knows her better than she knows herself and who would conquer the world to capture her. Branded from childhood as a useless barbarian, Violet is about to learn the world needs her exactly as she is.

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Customer Reviews

Pros:- Awesome worldbuilding that feels more realistic than dystopian- Protagonist does not have a special power or hidden past- No obnoxious romantic subplots- Very LGBT-friendly- Great characters and character development- Probably the best villain death ever written- Only three

grammatical/spelling errors and one noticeable plot hole that I could find- You can tell it's written by someone intelligent- Frequently hilarious- WalrusesCons:- First and eleventh chapters feel less polished and do not read as smoothly- Writing occasionally switches to another character's view for a few sentences, which can be confusing- Lots of semi-obscure vocabulary (I had to pick up a dictionary once or twice)- Some names/terms are difficult to pronounce (a Norse pronunciation guide would be helpful)- Some scenes are difficult to visualize without a full explanation of the technology involved (e.g. vehicles)Other notes:- Over-the-top violence and technology that knows it's ridiculous- Has anti-religious themes- Includes a fair amount of swearing- Lots of references to metal bands and Norse mythology- Could definitely benefit from an accompanying guide to the world and technologyDefinitely recommended! Too bad I have to wait so long for the sequel.

(I also posted this review verbatim on the final novel in this trilogy but I'd like more people to see what I think!)My god, what can I even say?I adore the way every single one of these novels was written. The unique and breathtaking way Ari weaves the story is just that: breathtaking. There were so many moments throughout each book where I was glued to the page, my heart racing and my mind running wild with the beautiful, gory imagery throughout. The author has an amazing talent for wrapping up every loose end as they make the reader wonder exactly when that loose end will be taken care of... as well as tying up loose ends you didn't even know existed! I will admit, there were a couple of moments through each book where I had to put my phone down for a minute to really absorb the sudden plot twist (and with one twist+hidden loose end I just had to yell into my pillow in absolute amazement! I've never done that before!!).Of course every single book is gory and violent and terrifying, but that somehow makes the adventure even better! I'm not one for violence in the least but the bloodbath(s) are incredible!All in all, this is one of the best series I have ever read, in one of the absolute all-time best universes I have ever had the pleasure to dip into! I highly recommend this to everyone!(Unless, of course, you aren't too fond of blood, guts, murder, and/or walruses...)

"You are OK just as you are. There is a place for you."That's the core of the story. Valhalla is quite the adventure, zooming around the planet for Violet's next challenge. What really pulled me in, though, was the warmth of Violet discovering her own home and her own people. Her people are deeply flawed but they're *her* people.The hard-SF fan in me would like to hear a lot more about the Tikari and some of the more exotic characters (and gadgets), but I didn't feel like it was missing. The fan of relationships wants to hear a lot more about some of the romances both past and future,

but I'm not disappointed at all with what the author gave us. The fan of action scenes in me has no complaints at all. I'll close by giving this book my highest compliment for a "for fun" read: as soon as I finished, I turned back to page one and started reading it right through again. It was just as good the second time through even though I knew what was behind the curtains.

Read this book series, just do it. I enjoy reading but just never give myself the time to do so, but this series sucked me in and I've already read it multiple times. It's new, it's fresh, it's explosive, literally. It's easy to get lost in the world lore of Valhalla and it even seems a lot of the lore could even be real things that happen (like all the tech advancements for one example). It even touches base with some nice social issues; as in its the year 2330, most ppl have grown up and gotten over themselves. Also if you've ever felt like an outsider for ANY reason, this book is great at helping you say **** you' and accept yourself. Even if you're some kind of johnny and hate ppl feeling good about themselves, read this anyways. There's plenty of misery sprinkled thru out the series to keep you interested.

This book could easily rival with The Hunger Games; the world building is amazing. The story is riveting and I could hardly put the book down. My favorite part, however, was the inclusion of all groups of people. The main character is a lesbian(?) girl who is uninfluenced by any sort of love triangle? Yes, please! On several occasions non-binary genders were referenced, too. This book was clearly made by and for someone who wants progression. This story is the new generation of literature, I can't wait to read the next one.

This book is excellent. The plot is novel and complex, the characters are seriously badass (especially if you are looking for some badass lgbt+ main characters), and it will keep you interested from the first page to the last. Definitely a must read for all sci-fi fans!

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