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The Decaying Empire (The Vanishing Girl Series Book 2)



Synopsis

When eighteen-year-old teleporter Ember Pierce wakes up in a Los Angeles hospital, she remembers only the basics: she's been trained by the government as a spy, she's sent on dangerous missions, and her last assignment—the one that landed her in the hospital—was a setup. Caden Hawthorne has spent the past ten months of his life grieving Ember's death. So when she shows up in his room like an apparition, he can't believe his eyes. But this Ember is different. Her hair is longer, her skin is paler, her gaze is haunted. She tells him what he's already begun to suspect: someone he trusted betrayed her. Now, uncertain who is friend and who is foe, Ember and Caden face the toughest mission of their lives—to stay together and survive, as they run from danger toward an unknown future.

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Customer Reviews

4 STARS Another epic success from Laura Thalassa!! She is an amazing writer with a creative imagination and a talent for sculpting the most wonderful worlds that I just adore! She has captured my heart with her thrilling, action-packed books, with layered character development, and a

world-building that instantly allures and satisfies in so many levels. Just like in book one, the characters were fierce, awesome determined, and so much fun. I did have a few minor issues with this sequel that actually surprised me. But nothing too serious to defer my love or overall enjoyment for this book or series as a whole. I loved, LOVED, LOVEDDDDD, the characters and all their strengths and weaknesses. Ember and Caden made the perfect couple for so many different reasons. As partners, teammates, allies, friends, lovers, and ultimately as soul mates. They challenged each other while also finding their equal within each other. They were able to make everything they did together fun and charismatic. I was never bored while reading this book or felt like it was going downhill. They could make any boring situation fun and complex. They just had this electrifying chemistry that made it so endearing and utterly fantastic to watch unfold. I hate to admit it, but one of the issues I did have with this book was that there wasn't nearly as much sex as there was in the first book. Call me what you will, but after reading the first book and getting a taste of all that sexual fun Ember and Caden had, I kinda expected that same affection and interaction as book one. I don't know if I told Laura Thalassa to pipe it down, or just that the author wanted the sex to take a back seat to the plot, but whatever the reasoning, I wanted more!!

SWOOOON!!! I have so many highlights of awesomeness in Caden *cough* I mean in this novel!! I adore this series. So much. It is beautifully written, and the complexity of the characters, the world they live in, makes my heart beat faster. I'm not actually a book boyfriend sort of person. Until now, I've only ever picked up one, and that is SC Stephens' Kellan Kyle. But toward the end of this novel, I felt this enormous grin spread on my face, because Caden - CADEN is freaking up there!!!! I adore his sexy, hardcore ways. How protective he is of Ember. His clever comebacks. How, no matter the absurdity of their lives and the temptations around them, Ember is the only one he'll ever love. Even when they're in the same room, he longs for her: "Caden stared at me across the fire, the smoke and flames making his features sharper and more dangerous-looking. He watched me like a man mesmerized. I had to stop myself from reaching up and self-consciously tucking a strand of hair behind my ear. (...) 'He wants you to go over to him,' Marissa said, leaning into me. 'He looks like he's having separation anxiety.' We both knew that wasn't the look he was giving me." This is suspense. It's dystopian. Science fiction. Seriously action-filled romance. Passion. And it is definitely, definitely New Adult. I love that this series is for grown-ups. Laura Thalassa doesn't moderate her characters' language, and even so it is far from over the top; it is just enough to make you feel like you're not reading a book created for 13-year-olds. Now, I can't wait for book three. Ember and Caden's story continues, and the way *The Decaying Empire* ends made me squirm with

delight. It is absolutely perfect!!!

Book Review- Decaying Empire by Laura Thalassa Ember was shot on her last mission and spliced as she tried to teleport back. She has been unconscious for ten months lying in a hospital. She knows that she was set up by the project. She escapes the hospital in LA and decides to run. She feels guilty about running without Caden but knows he would find her when he escapes himself. However he finds her before she can escape across the border and convinces her to come back with him. She ends up back in the compound trying to heal from her ordeal. She is experiencing some side effects like transporting during the day while she is awake. That's new and unpredictable. Caden wants her to get that under control before they escape. He refuses to put her life in danger. Of course Richards suspects they are planning an escape and decides to thwart their plans. He takes them out of rotation and sends them to Montana. Caden and Ember have to start planning all over again. However this time they have to put some trust into places they weren't expecting in order to be successful. But as you know not all plans go perfectly. I couldn't wait to read this second book. The first, The Vanishing Girl, was awesome and I couldn't put it down. In this book I kept wanting to smack Ember. She keeps trying to do everything herself instead of trust Caden to help her. It drove me completely crazy. It kept causing more issues in the long run. Her stubbornness was going to get her killed or Caden, who would try to save her. I realize that her character is completely messed up in this book but come on. This was definitely an edge of your seat kind of story. You didn't want them to get caught. The reader wants them to succeed. You don't know who they can trust.

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