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Balance (The Divine Series Book 1)



Synopsis

My name is Landon Hamilton. Once upon a time I was a twenty-three year old security guard, trying to regain my life after spending a year in prison for stealing people's credit card numbers. Now, I'm dead. Okay, I was supposed to be dead. I got killed after all; but a funny thing happened after I had turned the mortal coil... I met Dante Alighieri - yeah, that Dante. He told me I was special, a diuscruis. That's what they call a perfect balance of human, demon, and angel. Apparently, I'm the only one of my kind. I also learned that there was a war raging on Earth between Heaven and Hell, and that I was the only one who could save the human race from annihilation. He asked me to help, and I was naive enough to agree. Sounds crazy, I know, but he wished me luck and sent me back to the mortal world. Oh yeah, he also gave me instructions on how to use my Divine magic to bend the universe to my will. The problem is, a sexy vampire crushed them while I was crushing on her. Now I have to somehow find my own way to stay alive in a world of angels, vampires, werewolves, and an assortment of other enemies that all want to kill me before I can mess up their plans for humanity's future. If that isn't enough, I also have to find the queen of all demons and recover the Holy Grail. It's not like it's the end of the world if I fail. Wait. It is.

Book Information

File Size: 1192 KB

Print Length: 444 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Quirky Algorithms (January 9, 2014)

Publication Date: January 9, 2014

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00B6ZQ642

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #13,676 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #112

in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > New Adult & College #137 in Kindle Store >

Customer Reviews

Overall, I liked it. Unlike most of those 'self-published' books, it's not riddled with spelling errors and punctuation mistakes, though there were 2 or 3. that isn't really that bad. I really enjoyed the book. The story was well told. The world was described well and flowed logically. Honestly, I think a professional editor would have shaved about 50 pages out of it but I didn't mind the extra words. My only complaint is that the ending seemed a bit 'rushed' and I wish the author had went with something else than what he chose to finish with. It felt as if he hurried and finished with an abrupt cliff-hanger so that his next book would have more appeal, but in so doing he broke the 'flow' of the book rather sharply. It was one of those "I can see what he was striving for but he fell a little short." I liked the book a lot but with that ending, I'm going to choose to look at this book as a standalone story and I'm probably not going to give the sequel a chance because it simply doesn't need a sequel.----- Spoiler Warning -----Since the main character could detect lies so easily, I don't get how he didn't see the betrayal at the end coming from a mile away. That ending just felt so wrong it left a bitter feel for the book for me. It flowed beautifully up until that point and then crashed to a mind-jarring halt and... nothing. Bleh. I still gave it 4 stars but if I could have given it 3.5 I would have...

MINOR SPOILERSo up front, I'll say that if you don't mind unhappy endings/cliff hangers that this was an enjoyable book. I read for enjoyment and fun and don't enjoy unhappy endings nor cliffhangers however and that's how this book ended. If I had had any inkling of that I wouldn't have read it and thus felt it was only right to warn others in case they feel the same. Without that I would probably have given it a 3 or 4 star. So take my review however you will.

i thought this was a great book. five star good, but as someone else has said. the ending while not bad did leave a bitter taste in my mouth. other than not liking the ending it was a great read. i will definitely be looking for the sequel. just so i can hopefully get over the ending to this one.

Overall, The Divine is a decent (stress on decent) series. The writing flows well, the story develops well, and the author can keep your interest. However, the protagonist - Landon - is truly a stupid, stupid individual. I mean he lacks even the intelligence of a normal human being. I understand

authors must have their characters do things that are dumb, wrong, misinformed, etc, in order for the story to develop; but, Forbes has Landon doing dumb, stupid, things left and right. The character never uses logic worth a damn, can't reason his way into a course of action, and prefers to stumble along just re-acting rather than acting. I finished the three books so far published. The manner in which the character's continually stumble from one scene to the next is very off-putting though. These three books don't really make me want to continue this series, or get his other books. Overall, I was able to burn time enough to justify the costs of the books, but I wish I'd just read these as a loaner from a friend or the library and spent the money on something else.

Overall, M. R. Forbes puts up a really interesting concept. I won't go into the details here, but he puts out a story of "urban fantasy" with an different spin... not all that easy in the market right now. My issues are more with the professionalism of the work. I applaud Forbes for being a self-published author, but a little more polish would have made the read go a little more smoothly. The other thing I'd like to see worked on if I'm going to stick with the series (after that ending, I might have to just for a sense of closure) is the dialogue between characters. There are some great opportunities for some really good moments, but the characters turned out a little flat. Finally, some work on flowing from one part of Landon's development into the next would go great. As it is, he jumps into a fight and beats a bunch of supernaturals up (all the while complaining that he has no combat skill whatsoever), then he runs into a bigger bad guy and gets trounced. Then an ally shows up and gives him a clue to unlocking his true nature, and he's uber all over again. This goes on throughout the story, and was probably my biggest complaint. I didn't hate the book, by any stretch, and I would really like to see Forbes and his work succeed, but it just a little flat.

This was a very entertaining, enjoyable book with littler filler. The main hero was very likable, as were the great supporting characters. Very good world building. Even though the standard urban fantasy tropes were present, they weren't cringe worthy and felt natural. Will definitely follow this series!

Typically I don't write many reviews on books because there are already so many reviews but this book deserves a little more of my time then what I took to read it. I purchased this book for the kindle and I could not put it down. I finished it over the course of a weekend despite ignoring my family that entire time. Granted I am an adult male with two children and I believe this book was written for teenagers because there's romance, action and an ultra cool outlook between heaven

and hell. You follow the main character as someone who has been chosen to continue the balance between heaven and hell here on earth. The main character has been given a second chance in life that has powers much like Neo from the matrix. He is there to help maintain balance in the universe between Angels as well as demons. He doesn't necessarily fight for good or evil but to maintain balance between all three realms. I loved this book and hope to continue reading the series. I can only say thank you for allowing me to escape reality in this world. This book gives you everything and more to jump outside of reality. Definitely one to keep in your bookshelf or stick in your kindle library.

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