



The King of Crows

Written by Libba Bray

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The King of Crows

The King of Crows

By Libba Bray

The King Of Random

The breath-taking finale to the epic New York Times bestseller, *The Diviners*, from Printz winner and beloved author, Libba Bray.

The King Of Comedy

After the horrifying explosion that claimed one of their own, the Diviners find themselves wanted by the US government, and on the brink of war with the King of Crows.

The King Of Queens

While Memphis and Isaiah run for their lives from the mysterious Shadow Men, Isaiah receives a startling vision of a girl, Sarah Beth Olson, who could shift the balance in their struggle for peace. Sarah Beth says she knows how to stop the King of Crows-but, she will need the Diviners' help to do it.

The King Of Dubai

Elsewhere, Jericho has returned after his escape from Jake Marlowe's estate, where he has learned the shocking truth behind the King of Crow's plans. Now, the Diviners must travel to Bountiful, Nebraska, in hopes of joining forces with Sarah Beth and to stop the King of Crows and his army of the dead forever.

The King Of Fighters

But as rumors of towns becoming ghost towns and the dead developing unprecedented powers begin to surface, all hope seems to be lost.

The King Of Fighters Xiv

In this sweeping finale, The Diviners will be forced to confront their greatest fears and learn to rely on one another if they hope to save the nation, and world from catastrophe...

Wow, I cannot believe my favorite series of all time is OVER. I sobbed pretty much non-stop for the last 100 pages and I feel EMPTY as heck now that it is done. There were a few things about this conclusion that I wish had gone differently, but overall this was such a satisfying and emotional end to the series and I loved it SO MUCH. I am going to re-read it IMMEDIATELY now that I know how everything ends up and I won't need to be anxiously flipping the pages for 10 hours straight, haha. Wow Wow, I cannot believe my favorite series of all time is OVER. I sobbed pretty much non-stop for the last 100 pages and I feel EMPTY as heck now that it is done. There were a few things about this conclusion that I wish had gone differently, but overall this was such a satisfying and emotional end to the series and I loved it SO MUCH. I am going to re-read it IMMEDIATELY now that I know how everything ends up and I won't need to be anxiously flipping the pages for 10 hours straight, haha. Wow fuck okay anyway I loved this a lot and I'M GONNA GO CRY OVER IT FOREVER NOW ðŸ˜˜-ðŸ˜˜-ðŸ˜˜-ðŸ˜˜-ðŸ˜˜-

Edit (two weeks later): Okay, now that I've had some time to think about this more, I have decided to lower my rating from a 5 to a high 3. I still loved this book and will re-read it and the rest of the series for the rest of my life, but I can't pretend that this conclusion was everything I wanted. The pacing of this one felt really off and it never really felt like the stakes were as high as I wanted them to be for the final book in a series. It definitely was not a bad book, but it just.. wasn't quite what I was hoping for :c
...more

The King Of Jordan

Maybe for of a 3.5 but uhh, I can't believe how ... just okay this was.

I Loved Before the Devil Breaks You so much (and this whole series) but this was .. so boring? At one point it was almost a chore to pick it up. Nothing happens for most of it, the characters just wander around. All the momentum from the end of the last book is lost. Some of the character arcs didn't make sense to me and the climax was unsatisfying and way too easy/quick. I don't even want to talk about it, it hurts me to

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Stories were power. And whoever controlled the story controlled everything. A story could bring people together, or it could tear them apart. It could spread like a sickness, infecting people. It could lead them into battle or shake them into seeing what they had refused to see before.

first of all:

- fucking ouch
- :')
- let it be known that i would do anything for theta knight

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This was definitely the most anticipated release of 2020 for me. The Diviners series is so near and dear to my heart. I truly feel a connection with these characters and with the story. I feel like i'm actually there in the story with them, feeling their pain and anger and hopefulness, as if they're a part of myself. I feel as if i've found my own family in their found family. Libba Bray is a master at creating atmosphere and developing interesting character arcs. I will always treasure this series forever.

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Now, i have to say that this was probably my least favorite of the series. I didn't like how 'easy' the ending was and i think the pacing was a little slow. But that might've just been the fact that i wanted to know what happened so bad that i ignored reading this on purpose, so it took me almost 2 weeks to finish this. Makes sense? Nope.

The writing as always was filled with beautiful and inspiring prose that left my heart aching for more. The themes and discussions were handled very well in my opinion.

I love where all the characters ended up emotionally and physically, but i also think there should've been more of a focus on the actual plot since this is the last book. I feel like the plot twists were obvious and the ending was packed up too neatly, which was really underwhelming. Don't get me wrong i was balling my eyes out for the last 150 pages but i still thought that the plot was lacking.

Overall, a solid end to a dazzling series that i will definitely return to many rereads in the future. If you haven't picked this series up already, you should. Like right now.

//

what do you mean no title? what do you mean no cover? wHat dO yOu mEan nO reLeasE yEAR? WHAT DO YOU MEAN NO SYNOPSIS? WHAT DO YOU M E A N ...more

The King Of Egypt

But if you abandoned the idea that such a paradise awaited you, and believed that you would live this life over and over again, would you not live the life you had more thoughtfully?

Make a better history."

4.5 stars rounded up. The King of Crows, while not the perfect finale, is a solid book and ending to a series that has found its place in the deepest parts of my heart and soul. I'm not going to lie, I was initially disappointed with this finale after finishing reading it. But after thinking "But if you abandoned the idea that such a paradise awaited you, and believed that you would live this life over and over again, would you not live the life you had more thoughtfully?"

"Make a better history."

4.5 stars rounded up. The King of Crows, while not the perfect finale, is a solid book and ending to a series that has found its place in the deepest parts of my heart and soul. I'm not going to lie, I was initially disappointed with this finale after finishing reading it. But after thinking on the book and series as a whole, I am going to go ahead and rate this book 4.5 stars. Like the rest of its predecessors, The King of Crows is at once an actual ghost story and a story about the specter history leaves on the present. From prose, to atmosphere, to plotting and pacing, to characters, and romance, Libba Bray succeeded in crafting a multi-faceted story that I was destined to fall in love with in all aspects.

Prose. Bravo, Libba Bray. If I left it at that, that'd be sufficient I think to describe Bray's writing style and the impact it leaves on its readers. Her writing is a poem, written in blood. A gut punch, described in ink. A grainy photo, haunting and blurry. Bray chooses to frame the story in omniscient third person tense, jumping from character to character's thoughts in the same scene; what this achieves is a flowing, tense narrative that allows her to keep the pace of the novel going while not neglecting her characters and the importance their thoughts and motives have on the narrative. I don't know how Libba Bray does it, but her descriptive and almost purple prose allows her to both paint a portrait of the 1920's and all of its glamour and rot while still keeping an intimate focus on her characters. Somehow, her writing allows the reader to both see the minor and the major, and keep characters and setting both at the foreground. Her writing is superb in the way that it somehow describes character thought, muses on history and stories and more, and builds the atmosphere these novels are so well-known for brick-by-brick. All with the same finesse.

Atmosphere. I think when you think of The Diviners, atmosphere is the first word that comes to mind. Unlike the previous novel, the characters are not in the New York City for the whole novel. This time, the atmosphere takes the form of the old, intimate, and a bit claustrophobic air of small, rural, and forgotten towns of the 1920's. It's a bit quieter, but twice as terrifying as there is no city noise to cover up the risen ghosts of the past. The atmosphere casts that old, black-and-white 1920's movie magic on

the series. The Roaring 20's comes alive with Libba Bray's writing and readers ache with nostalgia for this time; a time when most, if not all, of her readers weren't even alive. The atmosphere and aesthetic this book series brings to the table is honestly unmatched.

Plot and pacing. If I had to describe the plot of this book in one word, it would be homecoming: all of the characters, in one way or the other, are forced to confront the ghosts of their pasts. Whether it'd be a place where they had once lived, a person they once knew, or a combination of one or the other. Libba Bray splits off our cast into different groups, placing characters together who you never thought would be together in situations that force them to travel together. (view spoiler)[After fifty or so pages, the Diviners are forced to split up for various "sub-plots" or "sub-missions:" Evie, Theta, and Isaiah go off to rescue Sam; Memphis, Henry, Bill end up heading to New Orleans; Ling, Jericho, and Alma are on a traveling circuit. (hide spoiler)] I loved this aspect of the novel. Each individual character is forced to confront something that lied in their past. Some highlights include (view spoiler)[Evie having to go back to Zenith, dressed as a clown nonetheless. Alma and Ling. Henry... WHO I WAS SO SCARED FOR DURING THAT SCENE DURING THE FLOOD. (hide spoiler)] As for the pacing, it fit well with the events of the novel and although I was lowkey a bit miffed when (view spoiler)[freeing Sam took less than two chapters, I understand why it was done so quick. (hide spoiler)] But honestly, yet another almost perfect facet of this book.

Characters. Hands down, the best part of this series and book. I fucking love each and every one of them. Do I have favorites? Sure (Evie, Henry, Ling, and Sam). But ultimately, The Diviners as a found family are second-only to The Crows from Six of Crows in terms of love. I just love each and every one of them individually and together. Libba Bray is a fucking master at character work; I think the best marker of this is the fact that by the start and end of this novel, none of the characters are recognizable from the way they were at the beginning of the series or when they were introduced for the first time. They've all developed so much and I knew going in to this novel, I wasn't going to get out unscathed because I was attached to all of them in some way. I would go into each of them individually, but then I'd reach a character limit on this review. Also, I love all of the romances in this novel bar one.

Which brings me to why this is a 4.5 stars rather than a full 5 star rating: (view spoiler)[I 100% knew Jericho was going to be the one going to die if anyone was going to die. And it happened, which is fine. I'm glad it did. His romance plot in this novel was... not it, but I did like the resolution we got with him and Evie. The death toll does rack up, although I was nervous Henry was going to die (which phew). As for the actual, unexpected death: Isaiah's death was shocking and a bit off-putting at first, as I generally don't like when authors kill kids or animals as I think it's kind of a cheap way to get tears out of your readers. However, Libba Bray somehow knew this and created a subversion of this plot. Which made me love this book even more. Isaiah is the one who ultimately defeats The King of Crows, which YESSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS. (hide spoiler)]

Conclusively, thank you for whoever read this behemoth of a review. I cannot express enough gratitude to Libba Bray for writing this series. A queen. While this is my least favorite of my quartet, I still love every page of it. If you haven't picked up The Diviners, go pick it up now. I promise you. It uses

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speculative elements to examine issues like racism, xenophobia, and homophobia. It contains all the glitter of the 1920's while not neglecting its dark underbelly. This book and series will find its way into your soul and haunt you long after you pick it up, in a good way. I guarantee you.

...more

I thought this series was over????

The King Of Fighter 97 Apk

If Sam dies we riot at dawn

But if you abandoned the idea that such a paradise awaited you, and believe that you would live this life over and over again, would you not live the life you had more thoughtfully? Would you not think carefully about your choices? Would you not live with abandon love and love and love some more?

The real Diviner powers were the friends we made along the way.

Old joke:

I'm very clever, I know "œBut if you abandoned the idea that such a paradise awaited you, and believe that you would live this life over and over again, would you not live the life you had more thoughtfully? Would you not think carefully about your choices? Would you not live with abandon "love and love and love some more?"œ•

The real Diviner powers were the friends we made along the way.

Old joke:

I'm very clever, I know ...more

The King Of Fruits

The final instalment to one of my favourite YA series ever, a series which didn't simply sit in the YA genre, but crossed into historical fiction, paranormal, and fantasy too.

This is the final book of the series, so please don't read if you haven't read:

Book 1) The Diviners

Book 2) Lair of Dreams

Book 3) Before The Devil Breaks You

I've been weighing up the pros and cons of The King of Crows for a few days now, and I'm still not 100% sure how I feel about it! Initially I did feel The final instalment to one of my favourite YA series ever, a series which didn't simply sit in the YA genre, but crossed into historical fiction, paranormal, and fantasy too.

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I've been weighing up the pros and cons of The King of Crows for a few days now, and I'm still not 100% sure how I feel about it! Initially I did feel disappointed with how Libba Bray ended this wonderful series, but its hard to stay mad when these characters and their escapades brought me so much joy! I loved the series, but this was definitely my least favourite of all the books.

First the positives,

• Libba Bray is a fantastic writer, whose writing pulls you into the story. She quite clearly did a lot of research, and it shone through, transporting me back to both the magic, and the dark side of the 1920's.

• January LaVoy was again magnificent as the narrator, portaying multiple characters, and sounding like a full cast was used, but really it's a one woman machine killing it!

• The setting! Whilst the other three books were set in atmospheric NYC, The King of Crows roamed all over the USA, as the characters fled the city on their separate adventures. I liked these journeys through small, claustrophobic, ignorant small town America.

• The characters! As you know, if you've read my reviews of the previous books in the series, I love those guys! They started out as a bunch of misfits, but ended up being each other's family. I loved the journey that each character (well maybe not all of them) made, as they grew up, faced their past, and I felt they were all so well developed over the series. I was so attached to them, and felt constantly on edge worrying about them, as this evil author did not shy away from killing off her characters!

• I also really appreciated that some characters got to interact with those which they wouldn't usually! Jericho and Ling's journey was really interesting. But the mix which I liked the best was Bill, Memphis and Henry! It really showcased some of the appalling racism of that era.

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âš¡j• I loved the strong messages of hope and love when faced with racism, ableism, homophobia, xenophobia, Anti-Semitism, and oppression through class, and the eugenics programme. Many people behaved and treated people who were different appallingly, and Bray didn't shy away from that in these books. As I read this series, it became ever apparent to me, that today isn't actually all that different from a century ago. Worldwide, we have seen a resurgence of hate for those who don't fit into the white, heterosexual box, as it were. It made me feel really quite depressed really, at how little some people have moved on from that era. But these characters supported each other, and it was so precious! I love to see all kinds of people represented, especially in fantasy books!

âš¡j• Sam ðŸ– No justification needed lol

Now to the parts which I felt let me down.

ðŸŽ The lack of a chilling mystery element, was really felt in this book. In the other books, there was always something to be investigated, and solved, and this book didn't really have that element, which was a shame.

ðŸŽ At times, especially towards the end of the book, the narration felt a little bit over preachy to me.

ðŸŽ The lack of NYC! That was part of the magic for me, the glamorous, yet gritty city was so atmospheric!

ðŸŽ (view spoiler)[No epic battle! I started to get worried, when the book was in the 80 something percent, and there was still no sign of a show down with the King of Crows! This so often happens in YA fantasy, where there is so much fantastic build up and tension, only for the final battle to be a let down, over within a page or two! It leaves me furious every single time damnit!

ðŸŽ The KOC was defeated way too damn easily! He became like a cartoon villain in this instalment, and then was swiftly swept to the side, despite being such a menacing presence throughout the whole series! It was all tied up too quickly, and the resolution was far too easy, over in a few pages. I mean come on!

ðŸŽ The pace was often slow, this was a big book, but it took me quite a while to plod through some of it!

ðŸŽ Sarah Beth being evil-called it.

ðŸŽ Jericho being a martyr-not surprised.

ðŸŽ The Theta/Roy show down-pathetic. That amazing woman shoulda killed that abusive son of a bitch.

ðŸŽ Then the final injustice. Isaiah...I was bawling my eyes out when he was murdered, I truly was devastated. BUT bringing him back to life?! What a cowards way out! I did like that it was him who defeated the man in the stove pipe hat, since he always felt left out, and not heard, but I was rolling my eyes and grumbling to myself when he didn't stay dead. DON'T BE AFRAID TO KILL OFF MAIN CHARACTERS! (hide spoiler)]

So with a heavy heart, I think I will have to give this final book in the Diviners series a three star rating. I cant go any lower, because really I loved the world, and I would read about anything that these characters did!

I would still whole heartedly recommend this epic series to anyone though, and really enjoyed listening

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country/world. All the while we get random chapters showing us that ghosts are coming (phrases such as 'ghosts are coming' and 'this country is full of ghosts' are repeated so many times as to lose the initial sense of danger and urgency that they carried). The confusing showdown between our good guys (aka the diviners) and the baddies is crammed in the last hundred pages.

The narrative in *The King of Crows* lacked the mystery-factor that made the other volumes in this series intriguing.

In short: the story is just padding.

Characters behave as flimsy versions of their former selves (Evie and Ling, both of whom I previously really liked, were simply irritating) and had very rushed storylines that seemed to add very little to their overall arc.

Take Henry. Most of his scenes revolve around the way in which his sexuality is deemed abnormal by his society. That's pretty much it. Ling's sections also often emphasise her sexuality. Whereas those scenes that focus on characters such as Memphis and Theta seem to focus on other aspects of their lives (their general desires and fears, etc). Jericho has the most eye-roll worthy storyline which sees him (view spoiler)[becoming a martyr....the only way in which the narrative could 'forgive' him after his having assaulted Evie. He also has a very superficial romantic relationship with a character that is so memorable that I have forgotten her name...what was the point in that? (hide spoiler)] .

Even the banter between the various diviners felt unimaginative. At times their conversations and discussions seem to rely on their catchphrases (Evie says something 'scandalous', Sam says something flirty, Jericho doesn't get whatever is going on, Ling is disapproving...).

None of the romances were interesting. They mostly revolved around cute nicknames (such as baby vamp) and on scenes featuring some very uninspired flirting.

The King of Crows is a Disney type of villain. I remember that the first instalments of this series presented us with creepy or fascinating antagonists...but this guy is just dull. He has a few cameos here and there, scares our protagonists, does some mayhem, and is very much the novel's boogeyman.

The setting too seemed to lack its usual spark and vibrancy. Previously I loved the way in which Bray brought 1920s New York to life. In this volume however most of the 'action' is outside of New York, and we read of a series of small and forgettable towns...which do not make very intriguing backdrops.

The plot was full of convenient coincidences. What frustrated me the most was a 'revelation' towards the end, which came as no surprise whatsoever (view spoiler)[...the creepy child was actually working for the King of Crows? I say! (hide spoiler)]

Bray draws an unsubtle parallel between the rampant racism, sexism, xenophobia, homophobia, anti-Semitism, othering, and other forms of bigotry of the 1920s and today's political climate (there are phrases such as 'get out of our country'). Her approaches to some of these topics came across as rather on the nose. For example when Theta learns that someone she likes was raised by slave-owners she has such an unbelievably naive 'how could she?' reaction.

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The epilogue struck me as predictable....(view spoiler)[they loose their powers. Jericho dies. And yes, Hitler. Of course.... (hide spoiler)]

All in all...this was an incredibly disappointing followup to Before the Devil Breaks You. While Bray is an undoubtedly good writer The King of Crows simply lacks the glamour and electricity that made the other instalments so much more engaging and atmospheric. It had a meandering narrative, with lots of repetition regarding the importance of storytelling and stories, a passage from Nietzsche which felt rather out of place, some lacklustre cosmic horror, and a cast of one-dimensional characters.

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