

Lamplighter (Monster Blood Tattoo, Book 2)

By D. M. Cornish

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Continuing the absorbing, inventive saga started in *Foundling*, *Lamplighter* follows Rossam?nd Bookchild, now one of the EmperorÕs lamplighters, who is sworn to protect travelers from the ferocious bogles that live in the wild. Small and meek, he does not fit in. Then a haughty young female monster hunter is forced upon the lamplighters for training. As Rossam?nd begins to make new friends in the dangerous world of the Half-Continent, he also seems to make more enemies, finding himself pushed toward a destiny that he could never have imagined. . . .

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal
Grade 8 Up—Rossamünd Bookchild has begun his training as a lamplighter, lighting the highways of the Half-Continent and fending off the increasingly frequent attacks by the varied and dangerous monsters of the land. The militaristic lifestyle is rigorous and lonely. His only companion is a fellow outcast, a haughty aristocrat's daughter who is the only girl among the cadets. Rossamünd's alienation grows with his increasing suspicion that not all "boggles" are evil—a philosophy regarded as treasonous in his society. Both the story and the accompanying 90-page "Explicarium" build on and expand the information in *Foundling* (Putnam, 2006), and reading this book without a firm grounding in the first is not to be attempted. Cornish's rich supporting cast brings together some of the best characters of the previous installment (most notably the captivating, mercenary monster-slayer Europe) with a host of intriguing new personages, including a former lighter who is physically and mentally scarred from a monster attack, a sinister surgeon, and a horrible half-human half-monster construct. Devout fantasy fans will welcome the return to the socially and morally complex world of the Half-Continent and eagerly anticipate the concluding installment.—*Christi Esterle, Parker Library, CO*
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From Booklist
Starred Review In the second book of the Monster Blood Tattoo trilogy, young Rossamünd Bookchild, a lamplighter prentice in the Emperor’s service, has trouble fitting in with the lamplighters, who think he is too small and timid to travel the highways lighting and dousing the lights or to aid travelers facing danger. However, his skills with potives and restoratives earn him a role as dispenser of healing draughts and repellents. Then Threnody, an arrogant young member of a feared society of female monster hunters and a burgeoning wit, is foisted on the lamplighters for training, and she joins Rossamünd as another outsider in the service. The pair face not only bizarre monsters but also treachery on the part of the power-hungry Master-of-Clerks, who usurps the position of the Lamplighter-Marshall and transfers Rossamünd and Threnody to the most dangerous post in the Half-Continent. The setting, characterizations, and relationships are as well limned as in Foundling (2006), and the suspense is palpable as the two young people find themselves facing incredible survival odds. Once again, Cornish’s black-and-white drawings and the Explicarium, a glossary more than 100 pages long, add to the whole, and once again, the conclusion is a cliff-hanger. A most fitting sequel that will leave readers eagerly waiting for the third book. Grades 7-10. --Sally Estes

Review
-Reminiscent of the works of J. R. R. Tolkien or Robert Jordan.+ -*School Library Journal*, starred review

-From the pre-industrial English feel to the sprawling setting and backstory, this book feels every bit as substantial as its heft implies.+ -*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

+Gives the Dickensian orphan story an original spin. . . . Expertly envisioned and peopled with intriguing characters.+ -*Booklist*, starred review

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Yolanda Osuna:

The ability that you get from Lamplighter (Monster Blood Tattoo, Book 2) may be the more deep you digging the information that hide within the words the more you get considering reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to recognise but Lamplighter (Monster Blood Tattoo, Book 2) giving you excitement feeling of reading. The article author conveys their point in a number of way that can be understood through anyone who read it because the author of this guide is well-known enough. This specific book also makes your personal vocabulary increase well. Making it easy to understand then can go along, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having this specific Lamplighter (Monster Blood Tattoo, Book 2) instantly.

Cheree Kramer:

Playing with family in a park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with close friends is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try thing that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not sensation tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you already been ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Lamplighter (Monster Blood Tattoo, Book 2), you may enjoy both. It is good combination right, you still wish to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh can occur its mind hangout people. What? Still don't have it, oh come on its named reading friends.

Bryan Jones:

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