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It's been four years since a new president ascended to the White House. Zach Barrows has not seen Nathaniel Cade, the President's Vampire, since being fired from his position as Cade's handler and sent to a small, cramped office in a government building in Nebraska.

Once, he and Cade fought a shadow war against the monsters, spies, and demons that threatened the United States. Now Zach pushes papers and listens to conspiracy theories from people who have no idea how dark the real world can get.

Then Zach is summoned to the Situation Room by President Lester Wyman, who is both the commander-in-chief and a possible traitor.

But he and Cade are bound to follow Wyman's orders. They are told to find out why a top-secret missile silo has gone offline. If they fail, a nuclear warhead will launch, and the world will die in a hail of fire.

In other words, it's just another night on the job.

After a long absence, Cade and Zach are back in action together — for what might be the last time.

Deep State Details

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From Reader Review Deep State for online ebook

Diane says

Thanks for the closure Mr. Farnsworth. We Cade and Zach fanatics just wanted to see a glimpse of the world where Wyman became president. Feel free to give us more! We can't get enough of The President's Vampire.

Graeme Rodaughan says

A solid 4 stars, with a 5 star appendix at the back of the book.

This is a high rating for a novella, I tend to think that Christopher Farnsworth is better with his full sized novels, but this story works as a stand alone and introduces some interesting developments in the Nathaniel Cade character.

At times, I found the story a little, 'by the numbers,' and I was questioning the author's passion for the story, hence the lack of 5 stars. However, what was written is overall, a good, if short, example of what I have come to expect in this series.

Also the title has nothing to do with the story, the deep state is conspicuous in it's absence - a quirk perhaps. (Or, is it really somewhere in there, lurking just beneath the surface, hidden behind everything that you have been indoctrinated to see...)

Recommend this book for anyone who likes conspiracies, secret government operations, supernatural fights, and a unique hero/sidekick pairing.

P.s. The appendix is a brilliant compilation of backstory info about the world of Nathaniel Cade, and includes an excellent vignette.

Klepto says

Such an awesome read. I miss Cade and Zach. Chris, please publish the next Cade full length novel soon! Thanks.

Kristen says

WELCOME BACK, CADE!

Jason says

Great novella! Cade still thrills!

Myriam says

Just the fact this *exists* is kind of worth five stars to me. I have been biting my nails waiting to see how Cade would deal with the new President after the incredible ending of the last book. So, I was definitely primed to love this even if its not a full book just to find out how it went.

And then it kind of... stepped around all the really interesting issues and did a quick time-jump that doesn't tell us much beyond the obvious. Zach got immediately side-lined and Cade 'hates' every minute working for this President but does it because what else is he gonna do. And it makes sense to treat this as sort of Monster of the Week outing for Cade and his handler. A novella doesn't leave enough room to really delve into the issue and hopefully the story of how they get rid of the nightmare in the White House is reserved for the next proper novel. It's not this novella's fault that this is really the only story I want to read :) The case is appropriately creepy and disgusting and delivered on exactly what I have come to like about this mix of supernatural and real world horror though, so I'm not complaining and happy to see Cade and Zach again at all.

The neat side-stepping of the cliffhanger costs it one star while I patiently wait for Christopher Farnsworth to finally get back to writing the next book.

Charles says

Cade is back. Zach is back and he's bored. Deep State is a FANTASTIC read one that has been long in coming while Mr. Farnsworth stretches his wings in other new story lines. I know it probably frustrates Mr. Farnsworth, but his best writing comes when he heralds the exploits and challenges of Nathaniel Cade. Dont get me wrong. The other books are good reads too. But The Presidents Vampire will be his legacy.

The only thing wrong with Deep State - too short and no (hang on Chris) Tania!

Ra says

Thanks for bringing Cade and Zack back!

Their story is fast paced and mind gripping as usual. Christopher Farnsworth hasn't lost his touch at describing the most visceral scenes and his imagination went to a whole new level.

There are just a few things that stopped me from giving it a five-star-rate. Pls know that, I've been fan of the series and I really love the characters so I'm only writing this down hoping the best for them. Thanks.

Zack seemed more bitter and snappy then before. I totally understand that the four years collecting dust in the middle of nowhere had taken its toll on him, but his venom toward the president is boarding irrational and counterproductive. Besides, in the past novels, he played important parts in crushing all the evil schemes. However, in this book, his action made him more like a burden than an asset. I had thought that his chemical knowledge would have been vital in defeating the mushroom colony, yet he proved to be irrelevant to the advance of the plot and solving (?) of the problem. I hope that Christopher Farnsworth can bring us a Zack who has grown and has become an equal to Cade in his own way.

On the other hand, the president seemed just too stupid...I mean, I didn't expect him to be an evil genius the way Konrad is, but a political animal who managed to sit in the oval office should not seem like a dumb wit (although that's how many people would portray some certain president). Hopefully we can see a cunning selfish bastard standing on moral grey ground rather than a complete moron.

That's just my personal opinion. Still, Farnsworth, thank you very much for bringing back my favorite supernatural duo. Hope that we can see them in a full-length novel very soon.

Katie Bosek says

I was waiting for the next story with one of my favorite vampires for a very long time.

Now Cade is back and it was perfect. I felt like a little kid who got his favorite toy back :D

Fangasm took over me and I've read the story in my job instead of working. And it was worth it.

SPOILER ALERT:

Cade is more mystical and darker which is great.

I have to admit I thought Cade would be also fired from his "job" (Wyman is capable of doing it) and that Cade will get wild and loose control over himself.

Even it didn't happen story was wonderful,

There is only on thing I have to complain about - it was too SHORT! I really hope Chris will write a full book with Cade. I am addicted to Cade :D

Sherry says

I have been (and always will be) a friend of the vampire Nathaniel Cade. Christopher Farnsworth created a deliciously deadly vampire and made him modern and old in the same breath, gave him impossible odds and immortal abilities but built in flaws, too. Unlike so many vampire stories out there, Nathaniel Cade does an original job, and is a vampire without ugliness, angst, mooning, seduction or romance. He simply is the agent of the President of the United States and he is dangerously lethal and quick.

It's been four years since we've bitten into a Cade book. I've missed him, so you can imagine how fast I was to purchase this one. I confess I was worried when I received my book -- it is thin, with wide margins, large type and very short. I feared I'd been ripped off by one of my favorite authors. After all, this isn't a novel. It's not a novella. It's not even a novelette (well maybe. Barely). It's a long short story.

But hey, it's advertised as book 3.5. So, I paid anyway.

And I am NOT sorry. Want to learn how to be suspenseful every second of a story? This is it. Want to know how to made creepy events fascinatingly rich and diverse? This is the book. Want to see a vampire in action

and feel the action? Yup, this is the book.

There is no cliffhanger here. This is a sort of end. Is it THE end? I can't say. I hope not. It's too damn good and too damn short and I want s'more (as one famous vampire by another author once said).

If you are a die-hard fan of the Nathaniel Cade series, then you want this. Do you need to know the series to enjoy this? Yes. Invest. Not only is Christopher Farnsworth an excellent storyteller, but you'll re-read this series again, I promise. (4 stars here because it's too short!)

PS. I read this in two hours.

Luke Courtney says

While it's not what I was hoping for, a short story with some of my favourite characters is not to be sniffed at; it's been too long since I've had anything new regarding Nathaniel Cade and it was a hugely unexpected surprise to discover this book had been released, so obviously I had to get a copy!

Picked this up and finished it within a day; another great page-turner that hooks you from the get-go and holds onto you all the way! Following on from where Red, White and Blood ended, Zach (who has become persona non grata in the administration of President Lester Wyman, who it is pleasing to see, in a number of joking asides from Zach that are obviously meant as digs at the current president, is as incompetent and moronic in his position as pretty much everyone predicted) is called back to work with Cade when a unexplained disappearance at a covert missile silo has the potential to trigger the end of the world...so business as usual for Cade and Zach!

While slightly disappointing for its short length, Deep State was a great story; it was good to see two of my favourite characters back and how much they've changed since last time, the enemy Cade and Zach have to fight is particularly creepy, certainly for someone like me, it was nice to see a few other familiar faces from the stories make a reappearance which will hopefully bode to their return in a future novel) and a wonderfully detailed appendix covering every aspect of the War on Horror described and hinted at in the novels! The only downside is now only having my appetite whetted, I have to wait who knows how long for another full novel (hopefully not too long, I still desperately want to see Wyman get his comeuppance with Cade's fangs buried in his trachea!)

Emily Rennie says

I've waited forever for new Nathaniel Cade content, and while this is only a short story rather than a full novel, it didn't disappoint. I loved how much had changed between Cade and Zach in four years, though in some ways still stayed the same. The two of them are written so well together and I love reading about them so much. I really hope the next full-length book is going to happen sometime soon.

Gloria says

LOVED this novella. Am hoping the author will do more in this series.

Yara says

Omggg, I LOVED this novella. Cade & Zack are on my all-time fave character duos, so it was great reading a new story in the series. It was perfect! Hopefully this will fuel the publishing house to ask for more Cade books :) Fingers crossed!

Beau Johnson says

It has been a few years since I have read anything by Christopher Farnsworth. I can't really say why this occurred, as I have always been a fan, but man, I will say this: it is good to be back! The man can flat-out write and pulls you along in the most ingenious of ways. Not the longest of his books, no, but still as great a read as his Nathaniel Cade stories have been in the past and this one I'll admit, I devoured in a single sitting. It means I not only suggest you go forth, seek out, purchase and enjoy, but then go back and buy up all this man's other books and have yourself a time. Seriously, in regards to the President's Vampire series, you can't go wrong.
