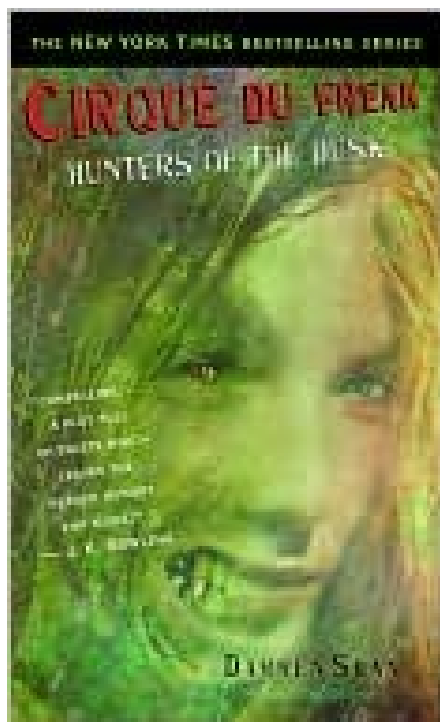




Hunters of the Dusk

Darren Shan

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Hunters of the Dusk Darren Shan

The pursuit begins....Darren Shan, the Vampire Prince, leaves Vampire Mountain on a life or death mission. As part of an elite force, Darren searches the world for the Vampaneze Lord. But the road ahead is long and dangerous-and lined with the bodies of the damned.

Hunters of the Dusk Details

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Author : Darren Shan

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From Reader Review Hunters of the Dusk for online ebook

Cary says

Darren Shan had gone back to Vampire Mountain after he ran away from being put to the Halls of Death. He had become a prince when he went back to Vampire Mountain. Him, Mr.Crepsley, and another vampire had to go and stop the vampaneze lord. They wanted to go and kill the vampaneze lord before he comes to take over the vampire clan. So Darren and the other vampires have to go and stop the vampaneze lord before he gets fully blooded. But, only the 3 vampires and anything besides vampires could go after the vampaneze lord. So later on, they found a group of vampaneze and Darren was spying on them knew there was a vampaneze lord. Then Darren, Crepsley, Harkat (the little person), and Vancha ambushed them and killed all but Vancha's brother and a Vampet who was just with them, but that someone was the Vampaneze Lord! This book is about technique, hope, and confidence.

Essau Alli says

This book is another book that is about the vampire Darren. He has become more mature and he has gained new friends that have stuck with him since he became the vampire he is now. He is now stronger then ever because of his mentor Mr Crepsly.

I can connect this book to the world because it shows that once you have someone to guide you, you will be able to accomplish what ever you want to do. In the world there are many people who like to help others with there future.

I rate this book 4 and 1/2 stars because I thought it was really good out of the Cirque Du Freak books that i read.

Maddison says

[how Mr Crepsley got his scar. Interesting. (hide spoiler)]

Siobhan says

This book in the series is very much focused around the larger plot related to the twelve books. Whilst some of the previous books were focused more upon Darren's experiences this one brings us back to the war which is going on.

After being visited by a character from one of the past books, our main characters find themselves at the Cirque once again. Here events are not quite what they once seemed, with questionable motives in the air. Our characters find out that completing the mission that they are upon isn't quite as straight forward as it may seem.

Six years have passed since *The Vampire Prince* and the vampires are at war with the vampaneze. Along comes Mr. Tiny, bearing an ominous look into the future. Darren, Mr. Crepsley, and Harkat Mulds are dispatched on a mission to do the impossible; find and kill the Lord of the vampaneze. If they should fail, the destruction of the vampire world will be on their hands.

Plot

Though I found the overall plot of *Hunters of the Dusk* boring, I'm glad I didn't have to sit through the six years that Darren was stuck inside of Vampire Mountain. The short amount of time with Darren inside Vampire Mountain in *The Vampire Prince* was more than enough, six years honestly might have killed me. And it's sad to say, the plot in this book was boring as the last one and didn't pick up until the very end. The same thing happened in *The Vampire Prince*; the majority of the book is about preparing for something and the last part is action packed. I wasn't as enthused to read this book since it has a same sort of feeling as *The Vampire Prince*. At the very least, the story is finally, *finally* moving forward. It's taken many set up books but at least the end is in the horizon.

In *Hunters of the Dark*, after a six year time skip, Darren and the vampires are at war with the vampaneze. Mr. Tiny shows up and really gets the ball moving. This is good, but it feels forced. And then Darren & Co. go out into the world to search for the Vampaneze Lord. The majority of the book is just them travelling around; that's where the boring part comes from.

Writing

The writing was lackluster. If a writer *has* to include things into their book that isn't very thrilling, they need to be able to make it exiting anyways. I've said before in an earlier review of one of the books in this series that Shan doesn't do this particularly well. Usually he just skips over these parts, but when he can't and has to write them, the reader suffers. His writing is still good, I'd probably never say it wasn't, but when he's not introducing new things or writing action scenes, Shan's writing isn't very engaging.

Characters

I feel very odd about Darren. He's mentally around twenty-five, I believe, yet he still thinks rather foolishly. The scene where he's going through the Purge is the best example I've seen. He's actually talking to his reflection like a toddler; not like a child but more like a baby. I don't know if Shan wrote that part for laughs or what but it wasn't all that funny. We know Darren is smarter than that so I don't know why that scene was dragged out for more than a second where Darren should have been startled at first but then quickly realized that it was his reflection.

We have two reoccurring characters: Mr. Crepsley and Harkat Mulds. Even though Darren is supposed to have a close relationship with the two of them, once again, it's not really shown. It's not like Shan doesn't know how to write friendships, he did it easily with Darren's friendship between Steve, Evra, and Sam. I guess because they are more adult characters.

And we meet a new main character, the missing Prince Vancha March. The first few chapters with Vancha made me not really like him. He was obnoxious and it feels like his personality was played up too much. I can see the potential in him and liked him a bit close to the end of the book.

Things I Didn't Like

My biggest problem with *Hunters of the Dusk* was how boring it was. It was just dull. I hope the action picks up again the next book, because it'll be difficult going through five more books like this. There's not much

more to say about that.

The other problem I had with the book was how I noticed the female characters are treated. There are six women total in the *Cirque du Freak* series thus far that have at least one line of dialogue and names. They are Mrs. Shan, Mrs. Leonard, Mrs. Hemlock, Debbie, Arra Sails, and Evanna (who is introduced in this book). The first three women have no other roles except to be mothers for a short period of time. Debbie and Arra Sails are both love interests, Arra of which who is killed to incite man-pain in Mr. Crepsley. Evanna, we are told, was created so that vampires could have babies with her. IF a vampire wants to have a baby, she is the only person who can carry it. This is a terrible ensemble of female characters. Yes, Arra and Evanna are powerful in their own right but Arra was defeated and killed and Evanna is was literally *created* just to be a vampire baby-maker! Why are there no good, well-rounded female characters that actually have some purpose to the story?

Diversity

Evanna is a woman who is introduced to the reader. She is strong and powerful but the way her existence is explained is a bit problematic. And there's honestly not all that much of her in the book to be seen. Other than that, no other diverse characters come to mind.

Overall

If I had to describe *Hunters of the Dark* with one word, it would probably be "forced". The plot is forced forward by Mr. Tiny. The writing feels forced. This books just wasn't enjoyable to me. This is another bridge book and there are already too many in this series for me to be sympathetic towards it.

Here is a link to my notes.

Erin ? *Proud Book Hoarder* says

Nothing like opening a book in a series and finding out it's skipped forward...by six years. Yes, six years. Hear me sigh in irritation.

The last book left off with a stunning revelation, but we've skipped forward now. Once I got past that annoying development, the story continues to demand my attention.

Darren hasn't seemed to think or tend to the views of the former traitor he was considering before (peace treaties), and while not enjoying killing, does it with more natural ease when it's needed. Or else, when he thinks it's needed. Mr. Tiny has returned and along with his encounter, an interesting sorceress who tells the potentials of the future as well. Characters like Lady Evanna amp up the fantasy aspect.

The trio – Darren, Crepsley, and Harkat – leave the mountains finally to begin a classic adventure journey. Fits in well no matter the age level. There are four foretold chances, and the fate of the entire race depends on failure or success.

There was also a tossed in other possible outcome that affects Darren more personally, something I hope the next book covers in more detail. It's dark, it's serious, and it raises the stakes in a different direction. Curious and revving to go continue this journey in the next book – these just fly by when reading them.

Another four star book in the series that works in making this world more complex, more captivating.

Natalie says

so I absolutely love this book and I loved how it was different to the others in the sense that it was told 6 years on and we get to find out what Darren's been doing in that time all of his training how he decided to do the games even though he didn't have to and everything about the Vampaneze and how he and Mr Crepsley and the little person needed to go on a secret Mission this was my favourite bit in the book That's funny. You were singing about how much you ... loved it earlier. 'Ale, ale, I drink like a whale, I am the ... Prince, the Prince of ale'."

Kat Hooper says

Originally posted at Fantasy Literature. <http://www.fantasyliterature.com/revi...>

Hunters of the Dusk is the seventh book in Darren Shan's CIRQUE DU FREAK series. Though Shan always does a nice job of quickly and sufficiently recapping the plot, it'd be best not to start here. Go back and begin with A Living Nightmare. And be warned that this review will contain spoilers for previous books.

It's been six years since the events of The Vampire Prince. Young Darren Shan is now one of the leaders of the vampires because making him a prince was the only way that the other princes could legally excuse him for failing to pass the trials. Frankly, this part of the plot is disappointing. It's hard to believe, first, that Darren had to do the trials at all, and second, that the vampire princes can't manage to change or otherwise get around the ancient rules. And, if making Darren a prince gets him above the law so that he doesn't have to be executed, why don't the other princes have the power to make an exception to the law? What's the point of being a prince if you can't change or make exceptions to stupid rules? But let's just pretend we didn't notice this little problem and move on, shall we?

So, anyway, it's been six years and Darren has been learning all he can about being a prince of the vampires. Then Mr. Tiny shows up and prophesizes that three vampires must hunt down the prince of the vampaneze. They will have four chances to kill him and if they don't, the vampires will be wiped out and very bad things will happen to the world. The hunters who must go are Darren, Mr. Crepsley, and another who they'll meet on the way. Harkat, one of the Little People, may accompany them, and they must first go to visit a witch named Lady Evanna. After that, they must follow their hearts rather than actively pursuing the vampaneze prince. Thus, they go back to the Cirque du Freak where Darren reunites with old friends. He also has an encounter with the vampaneze and learns a little more about Mr. Tiny and Mr. Crepsley.

Readers who've read this far in CIRQUE DU FREAK are unlikely to turn back now and this is another fast moving exciting story. However, it is weakened substantially, in my opinion, by the inclusion of the Prophecy, Destiny, and Fate elements. Darren and company are suddenly no longer self-efficacious. Instead, they are being dragged around by Mr. Tiny's nebulous ideas of what has to be. We don't even know what Mr. Tiny is or whose side he's on. This lends plenty of mystery, but doesn't make us very confident in Darren's decision-making process. Unfortunately, this trend continues in the next few books at least. Still, this is unlikely to bother the target audience and the story continues to delight in many ways. I sincerely look forward to finding out what happens to Darren Shan.

I continue to read the audio version read by Ralph Lister. As I keep mentioning, he tends to be a little too dramatic with his reading, but I'm used to it now and it doesn't detract from the story.

👉 Ashley ? says

So Evanna turned out to be a traitor. Kind of. :/

Pretty school character additions. Vancha is pretty badass. Feel bad for him having to battle his brother. But the whole hand to hand is pretty cool. Evanna is awesome too. Her frogs freak me out a bit, but I kinda wish I had some. Oh, and I like her back story. It would be weird being made by Mr. Tiny. Oh, and Mr. Tiny. He's so not my favorite person right now, but... he always brings big news. You know people are going to be scrambling when he's done. I love that they went back to the cirque. It was too short a visit. I still wish he'd spent more time. Honestly, I would love if this series were nothing but the cirque.

Miranda Reads says

THIS BOOK DOES NOT have any Cirque Du Freak

Unfortunately, this book has completely veered off from the original series. I remember my first time through it that I was throwing my hands up in the air going - *where's the freaks??* I really enjoyed the first few books where they are running around with the circus - meeting all the quirky characters and getting into trouble. This book definitely feels like everyone is in for the long hall.

Audiobook Comments

Read by Ralph Lister - an excellent reader!

[Blog](#) | [Instagram](#)

Cinthia Palomino says

As Darren holds the spot of vampire prince since he was supposed to be sentenced to hall of death for running away from his trials but was voted by the vampires to become prince which was the only solution other than death. Comes a well expected visit by all vampires, Desmond Tiny who is hated by the vampires made a prophecy talking about the Vampaneze Lord and a great war. The Vampaneze Lord is alive and traveling the world. Now, it's up to Darren Shan, Mr. Crepsley and the Vampire Prince Vancha March to find the Vampaneze Lord and kill him before he brings the end to all vampires.

Mr. Tiny tells them that they have five chances to kill the Vampaneze Lord. One passed when the vampires killed one of their chances to survival Kurda Smahlt, for being a traitor. Mr. Tiny cannot tell Darren and Mr. Crepsley what the four remaining chances are. Though he says to follow what their hearts say. Their hearts take them to the Cirque du Freak with the witch Lady Evanna, who makes a very disturbing prophecy

about Darren himself!

So far the best have read on until you finish all twelve to reveal the truth and ending of this great soon-to-be disaster.

Pobes says

Good book. Fun story. Great characters. Cover scares the crap out of me.

Kyle says

Another adventure off to a good start.

Prince Darren, along with Larten Crepsley and Harkat Mulds, are sent off on a special mission to hunt the Vampaneze Lord by Mr. Tiny.

I really enjoy Darren as a main character. It will be interesting to see where the other takes things as the story progresses. As with the other stories in the series, the book is well written, and has no ending. I'll have to read the next book in the series to continue the plot started in this book. Which is one of my biggest annoyances about this series. Why three 200 page books rather than one 600 page book?

It's so hard to rate a book when it's not finished. Did I like what I've read so far? Sure it was engaging and I want to pick up the next book so i can see what happens next. But I really shouldn't have to. I should be able to just turn the page and start the next chapter.

To read my review of the other books in this series, use the links below:

- Book One: A Living Nightmare
- Book Two: The Vampire's Assistant
- Book Three: Tunnels of Blood
- Book Four: Vampire Mountain
- Book Five: Trials of Death
- Book Six: The Vampire Prince

Charlotte van den Berg says

When a friend of mine recommended a young adult series to me about vampires I was a little hesitant. Thinking back a few years to the time I tried many vampire series friends of mine loved I almost lost interest completely. But I trusted this friend and decided to check it out. I could always stop reading after the first book. I was relieved to see that this book didn't look like any of the other vampire books I tried to read so I didn't have come up with an excuse why I couldn't read this series. I'm so glad I gave it a chance.

This is the seventh book of the series and it still isn't boring or predictable. These are great books if you feel yourself getting into a reading slump and you need to read a book that's interesting and easy. I usually read these books when I'm reading something that's hard to get through and I need a break.

I liked this book but I did have a few problems with some things:

This book had a new character I didn't like. We meet a new prince: Vancha. The way he acts is just too much and extreme. I would have liked him better if the way he behaved was more subtle. There was a conversation between him and Darren where we find out he wants to beat the sun so he tortures himself by walking around in daylight. I don't know maybe I'm wrong but that makes no sense to me.

Darren goes through something called "the purge". It's a sort of super-fast vampire puberty. I didn't like this because I loved reading about him struggling with growing up so slowly and it was so unexpected and felt forced.

The names vampaneze and vampets. I don't think it should be very hard to come up with something better than that.

Melany says

[and missed him (hide spoiler)]

Karen Elisabet says

3.5
