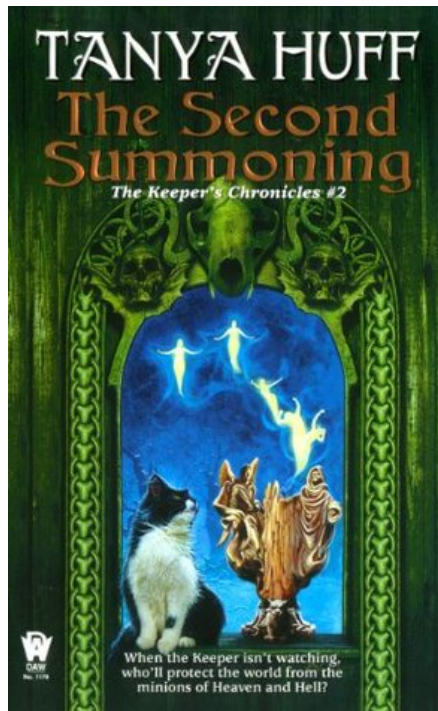




The Second Summoning: The Keeper's Chronicles #2

Tanya Huff

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Claire Hansen was a keeper... gifted—or cursed—with the job of being one of Earth's Guardians, “Summoned” to areas where anomalies existed, where rifts had opened—or had been opened. Such places were the world's danger spots where, if they weren't sealed in time, all the minions of Hell might break through. After she'd closed the portal into Hell at the Elysian Fields Guest House, Claire and her talking cat, Austin, found they'd acquired a new companion—Dean. Though Dean was a Bystander and shouldn't have been allowed to even remember Keepers existed, somehow in the course of their mutual ordeal at the Elysian Fields, he'd become an indispensable part of Claire's life. She knew she should change his memories and force him to leave her. Any other course was bound to lead to disaster. But as it turned out, it was already too late, for without Dean around Claire could easily become a danger to herself and the very fabric of space and time. Yet *with* Dean around—and a little of her sister Diana's meddling thrown in—the world was headed straight for Chaos. And Claire was about to face a challenge beyond her wildest imagining—a catastrophe created by the power of love—when an angel and a devil each manifested in the mortal world as fully endowed teenagers, who didn't have a clue how to handle their all-too-human bodies, raging hormones, and opposing needs to do good and evil....

The Second Summoning: The Keeper's Chronicles #2 Details

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From Reader Review The Second Summoning: The Keeper's Chronicles #2 for online ebook

Ann Zdunczyk says

Angel and demon!!!

Claire and Dean finally get together and there were fireworks!! Also they created an Angel that is more than an Angel and a Demon that is more than a Demon!! Diana, Claire's sister works to release the Angel and Demon into human or at least normal beings!! Read to find out the whole story you will not be sorry!!

Chrisette Trevino says

Tanya Huff has a great sense of humor & it really starts to come out in this book. This is the second book in the trilogy & continues with Claire, Dean, Austin, & more of Claire's sister, Diana. This book introduces Diana's cat, Samuel, & how he joins the group. It's definitely worth reading.

Jasmine says

Higher and delightful levels of canadian sass, and the glimpses into high school life for a keeper were hilarious. There was some odd undercurrent stuff about humanity and personhood being tied to having genitals (and thus a sex drive) which the story didn't quite manage to refute. So that was -- less hilarious?

C. Mills says

Funny, from smile to giggle to laugh out loud. This is the second book about the Keepers, who patch up holes that let evil into the world. You don't have to have read the first volume before you read this one. There's no point in me summarizing what happens because the publisher's summary appears with the book in the book list.

I've passed this book on so someone else can enjoy it. But I want it back.

Lindig says

getting just a trifle "chick-lit-y"

Kate says

I love how Tanya Huff writes the perfect mix of sci-fi/fantasy that has both humor and a serious twist. No matter what series of hers I read I find myself thoroughly enjoying it. The main character in this is a kick butt

heroine but not in the traditional sense and I love all of the secondary characters so very much, especially her cat.

Andree says

It's one of the books I semi-forgot was on my bookshelf!

Yeah, maybe 2.5 stars? Turns out there's probably a reason it took me years to get to this. I mean, I read the first one in/just after Kingston, which puts this on the shelf for probably 8ish years. I'd actually forgotten a lot of how the mythology worked. I picked it back up eventually though, well, enough to get by.

It doesn't quite get there (despite having magical cats). I do enjoy the setting. I enjoy that I pretty much know exactly where the "Elysian Fields Guest House" would have to be if it existed. I also really enjoyed how very Canadian it is (the demon showing gratitude and then cursing and declaring she was never manifesting in Canada again, and the discussions of how many hours it is possible to make the drive from Kingston to Halifax and back in were my favourite, oh also the snark in the direction of the Ontario Conservative government that pretty much places this in the Harris years...)

But on the other hand, I could have done without all the sexual jokes and such (all played for humour), and my biggest problem with this is that I find Diana, Claire's younger sister as annoying as all get-out.

I do enjoy that Dean is from Newfoundland though, and winds up in, well, essentially two degrees of separation conversations with every Newfoundlander he comes across. Also, accurate.

Essentially, it gets a lot of the details right, but maybe not the story as a whole?

2016 Reading Challenge - A book set in your home province

Jeremy Preacher says

I scared the cats by laughing too hard several times while reading this. The idea of an angel and a demon taking flesh on Earth as hormonal teenagers during Christmastime leaves plenty of openings for hilarity, and I don't believe Huff missed a single one.

Cait says

The plot of this one doesn't do much for me, but the DETAILS pop up hilarious left and right.

Rebecca says

Oh, this trilogy has been SO much fun! Lovers of comedy, paranormal and cats will fall into this world with relish. I really hated to see it come to an end.

Matthew says

I enjoyed this, if anything, significantly more than the first book.

This was practically a completely new adventure for Claire and Diana and it was less romancy, although sex still was a central conflict. And the cat continued to be the runaway star. This makes me want to read some of Tanya Huff's other works, despite recommendations against.

There are a lot of references to Canadian geography which are mostly relevant to locals, but its still very entertaining, the dynamics between the characters and the magic adventures.

Natty says

Even funnier than the first, always a fun read.

Kristen says

This was okay. I didn't love it as much as the first book in the series, but I liked it enough to finish it.

This time around, I felt like the story - and the author - were trying just a tad to hard to be continuously clever with the humour and the cheek. It had its moments, but it also went over the top a lot more than I saw in book 1. I did find myself rolling my eyes at points, and thinking: "okay, already, we get it! They're clever! They're funny!"

I also felt like this book dragged a bit for me about 100 pages in. It wrapped up okay, but I really feel like this could have told the story faster, with better pacing, and a little less angst on the parts of both Clair and Diana.

It was okay, but I'm not reading the third book, because Diana as the main character would get on my last nerve REALLY quickly. I don't care if she IS the most powerful Keeper ever, she's still a seriously annoying teenager. No thanks!

Lois Bujold says

Sequel to *Summon the Keeper*, which should be read first. The further adventures of itinerant patcher of holes-to-evil Claire Hansen and her handsome sidekick/former innocent bystander Dean McIssac, now with added annoying teenage sister, and an inadvertently summoned angel and demon highly confused by their respective placements in gendered, fully human bodies with all that this entails. More Canadian humor, weather, scenery, and cats.

I enjoyed it enough to want to keep an eye out for the third one, which is pretty good for my rather jaded reading appetites at present.

Olga Godim says

This is a reread, but after a dozen years, it reads like new. And this is one of the rare cases when I want half a star: **3.5 stars**.

As the second novel in a series, this one has to do with several familiar characters from book #1: Claire, the snarky Keeper, her lover Dean, and the cat Austin.

(See my review of book #1 <http://www.goodreads.com/review/show/...>)

The other players in this novel include:

- Claire's younger sister Diana, a seventeen-year-old budding Keeper with tremendous potential
- Samuel, an angel, looking like a teenage boy
- Byleth, a demon, looking like a teenage girl

The action takes place at Christmas time, all over Ontario, as Claire races from place to place in an attempt to find and banish both the angel and the demon and restore the balance to the universe.

Contrary to Claire's claims to the protagonist's role, the real stars of this show are Samuel and Byleth. The embodiments of good and evil respectively, they have been brought into the world as beings of the opposite genders by accident. According to the Keepers' lore, angels are supposed to be genderless. But as Samuel acquires genitalia during manifestation, thanks to a zealous father of a teenage girl, so Byleth is forced by the metaphysical rules to manifest with the opposite genitalia.

Thrust into the world they don't know, both teenagers struggle to understand the society and their place in it. On top of that, they must work out their own emotions and physical urges. The perplexing truth is that aside from the occasional *angelic* or *demonic* splashes, both act like typical modern teenagers (or as typical as the childless writer could imagine.)

Reflecting her origins as an actual hell-spawn, Byleth comes through surly and spiteful, ready to perform evil deeds, but the kindness of strangers repeatedly thwarts her attempts to infuse hell into Canada. The above-mentioned kindness transforms her as well, erasing her evil matrix and substituting it with the makeup of an abused, rebellious street girl. Unfortunately, not much of a difference is evident on the surface.

Samuel, on the other hand, acts *heavenly*, which is a euphemism for a busybody. Predictably, by telling people the un-sugared truth, he offends and insults those he tries to help. His *angelic* bumbling brings forth a realization: our society is not based on truth but rather on politeness and, to a degree, on tolerance or indifference. It takes time for an angel to grasp those concepts and behave accordingly.

The juxtaposition of Samuel's saintly code and Canadian reality makes for a few good jokes. The readers also laugh, as Samuel comes to terms with his male parts and their often inexplicable, hormone-induced movements. The antics of the young angel lighten the story considerably, remodeling it from a gloomy wannabe apocalypse to a farce.

But I have a bone to pick with Ms. Huff: I think it's stereotypical of her to cast a girl as a demon and a boy as an angel, which equals the Bible's position on the sexes. Nothing I've read in this novel would make it impossible to switch the genders. It might've actually been even more entertaining if the boy were a 'demon' and the girl – an 'angel'. Furthermore, Byleth doesn't seem to struggle with her femininity as much as Samuel does with his manliness. She seems to know instinctively how to handle her gender. Another bias on the writer's part?

Despite this one little objection, I enjoyed the novel. Its pace is fast, its dialog hilarious, and its ambience purely Canadian. Recommended.