



Shadow Unit 2

Emma Bull , Elizabeth Bear , Amanda Downum , Sarah Monette , Kyle Cassidy (Illustrator)

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The FBI's Behavioral Analysis Unit hunts humanity's worst nightmares. But there are nightmares humanity doesn't dream are real.

The BAU sends those cases down the hall.

Welcome to Shadow Unit.

The Shadow Unit series was created by award-winning authors Emma Bull and Elizabeth Bear.

Contains three novellas:

“Ballistic” by Sarah Monette, Emma Bull, Elizabeth Bear & Amanda Downum

“Endgames” by Emma Bull

“Overkill” by Elizabeth Bear

plus bonus material.

Shadow Unit 2 Details

Date : Published May 24th 2011 by CatYelling

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Author : Emma Bull , Elizabeth Bear , Amanda Downum , Sarah Monette , Kyle Cassidy (Illustrator)

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Genre : Fantasy, Urban Fantasy, Mystery, Crime, Science Fiction, Paranormal, Thriller



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Download and Read Free Online Shadow Unit 2 Emma Bull , Elizabeth Bear , Amanda Downum , Sarah Monette , Kyle Cassidy (Illustrator)

From Reader Review Shadow Unit 2 for online ebook

David says

This one was better than the first. The writers are finding their stride and becoming comfortable with the characters and the world they're building. Still categorize this as guilty-pleasure reading, though, which explains the four stars. ^_-

Kate says

I love these! The author states in the intro that the books are styled after a TV episode, and that really shows in the fast pace of the books, which is enjoyable. Everything about them is like my favorite episodes of "Criminal Minds."

Denise says

Three novellas this time, plus assorted extras. Seems like the authors are really starting to get a feel for the world and characters, with the former getting more fleshed out and the latter more nuanced and interesting. Out of the three longer stories, *Ballistic* was my favourite. Looking forward to more.

Ron says

Still finding out what the Unit does and exploring the characters.

Rowan says

While still excellent this volume feels a little lighter than Shadow Unit 1. There are more journal entries and such rather than meaty stories. But the characters are still engaging and it didn't slow me down. After the running start, this volume gives a bit more character development.

Ryan says

More of the team working together, more discovery of who they are as individuals. Also more about the world of Shadow Unit - its lot like this one with a slight twist. The team seeks out crimes that indicate the presence of the anomaly - and here I'm a bit vague...its been the weakest part of the story for me but I like the people so much I am completely fine with ignoring that. The crimes can be pretty awful - don't think that the absence of a camera makes descriptions less graphic. It is, after all, what these writers do - and they do it well. Still no sense of which actors are slated to play the parts and that pleases me immensely.

Jeni says

This was just as enjoyable as the first volume... the more of these I read, the more I wish they had been picked up by a tv channel and turned into a weekly series I could watch. :)

Larou says

This is the second volume of the virtual TV show, consisting of three episodes/novellas with a sprinkling of shorter pieces from Season 1. Focus here is mainly on the individual cases, with some character development thrown in, and a few hints towards the bigger picture. The middle story by Emma Bull failed to grab me for some reason, but the other two are nail-bitingly, edge-of-your-seat-sittingly intense. Characterization deserves a special mention, not only the way the individual characters are drawn with just a few significant strokes, but also how their relationships are mapped out - it is a joy to watch them interact with each other.

Lianne Burwell says

This is part 2 of 3 for "Season One" of Shadow Unit, and I found the stories even more nuanced than part 1. We see a wider range of Gammas who aren't simply monsters. We also get even more insight into the lives of the characters. Hopefully seasons 2 and 3 will make their way into Smashwords before I get too antsy.

Veronica Biegen says

These really do read like a police procedural with a bit of the supernatural thrown in. The way they are written, however, makes it seem so much more realistic than the vast majority of the werewolf or vampire or other random creature who happens to be/be in love with/live next door to some sort of police or other public force investigator. Perhaps it is the collaboration between the authors and the resulting shifting tone and perspective, but whatever the reason so far this series is a good solid read with characters developing and growing as the stories progress.

Maria Elmvang says

Just as good as the first book in the series. I think "Ballistic" has been my favourite "episode" so far.

Miriam says

"Ballistic" by Sarah Monette, Emma Bull, Elizabeth Bear & Amanda Downum

Very solid, although I would have preferred a different ending.

“Endgames” by Emma Bull

“Overkill” by Elizabeth Bear

I find Sol a difficult character to get a grip on, but he does liven up the dialog.

Sol: "My sister. A fearsome creature: an ordained minister of the Universal Life Church and fifth-grade teacher. Who also runs the local gifted-and-talented program, can kick-start a '67 Harley-Davidson XLH Sportster, and refuses to marry on the grounds that matrimony is a tool of the patriarchy. That's her story and she's sticking to it, anyway, although I suspect her continued single state has more to do with a refusal to choose between the devoted gentleman caller she's been entertaining since 1983 and her 'best friend,' a lovely academic poet at the University of Indiana, Bloomington, who also happens to have limpid brown eyes of the first water and write lesbian erotic poetry that's been published in thirteen languages, two of them English."

Chaz: "You're totally making at least half of that up."

Sol: "Believe what you like. It's the Midwest. People can fail to see just about anything if you give them half a chance to ignore it."

Joe Hempel says

another great section of stories....the characters are really starting to become more fleshed out in this one as the "season" progresses.

Michele bookloverforever says

unusual characters, well done

Dawn says

Every work has an audience, and is written toward an intended audience. It's no use saying the author wrote it for herself; even if she believes she did, she still had someone else in mind, someone she imagined would read it.

Shadow Unit's intended audience is LiveJournal. Period. From the interstitial "blog entries" to the dialogue to the descriptions to the relationships, this is a LiveJournal fan community work. There are many times I had to stop and ask myself, "Would someone really say that, if she weren't nostril deep in LJ fan community?"

It's not all a bad thing--the LJ community tends to be literate beyond the SF/geek fanbase, and so that adds a layer that you won't find in the kind of TV shows this story is based on. But there are still deep problems

with the characters that I find myself withdrawing from, just as I have found myself withdrawing from the LJ community.

The first and biggest problem with LJ-flavored fiction is the old "men written as women with penises" problem. There's a "blog" (LiveJournal has never been particularly bloggy to me--it's really a much more literate and game-devoid early version of Facebook based not on who you know but who you find) entry in which Chaz Villette reveals he is going on a date. He actually (jokingly) begs someone to dress him and do his hair. Now that's something adorable you would see on LJ. That's not how I perceive (I'm putting the onus on me here) a federal agent to behave in a public, albeit friendslocked forum.

(Let's be serious here. Would any federal agent, knowing what he knows about the law and what can be done to get around, even flout it, would put this kind of thing out on LiveJournal, of all services?)

And there's the whole "dress me, do my hair!" thing as a young man (the youngest man on the team), who has a macho (but gay) Texan and a 60's throwback they call "Duke" after the Doonesbury character, as colleagues, would likely never be caught saying, never mind squealing with two of the three woman who look at him in a motherly sort of way. I know, stereotypes.

It's probably just me, but I find the LiveJournal flavor so pervasive, that it puts me off the whole project. I can't make it work in my head, and when I do, it feels sticky, like onehanded use of the keyboard.

I enjoy the characters, and the stories are fairly well constructed, though poorly written. Having to backtrack once or twice to figure out who is speaking or what is happening in a scene is my problem. I'm reading too fast or I'm not paying attention. When I have to backtrack every third or fourth scene, or I have to reread to figure out why a character I thought was dead is suddenly speaking is the author's problem. (Or, since I've withdrawn from LJ culture, again my problem? Not getting the shorthand?)

It's not working for me. That doesn't mean it won't work for you. But I'm feeling like the wallflower at the party (or worse, one of the cheerleaders who quit the squad), and that is never how your reader should feel.
