



Valley of Darkness

A.B. Whelan

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Valley of Darkness is a young adult science-fiction/fantasy. The second installment of the *Fields of Elysium* series.

What if we were not alone in the universe?

What if your boyfriend were a supernatural alien?

What if you had to choose between two worlds?

After months of amazing adventures and secrecy, Molly and Victor find peace in each other's arms. Adam's memory has been erased. The secret of the Arkanians is safe. Life couldn't be more perfect.

But Molly is robbed of her short-lived happiness when a devastating tragedy strikes her family, shattering her entire existence. Faced with a terrifying future, she feels that there is nothing left for her on Earth but an insensitive aunt and her little brother, while Arkana promises a place where she might find happiness and purpose again.

Victor tries to convince Molly to move to his village in Arkana, where they can live together in secret. But Molly refuses to live in the shadows. She wants to be a Sentinel and join the fight against the Terrakas. But getting into the Academy requires more than a pretty face.

Valley of Darkness Details

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Author : A.B. Whelan

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From Reader Review Valley of Darkness for online ebook

Sarah Miller says

I enjoyed continuing the adventures with Molly and Victor. A.B. Whelan has created a world and characters that you can't help but to love. Molly has so many trials, and Victor is there for her every step of the way. I can't wait to read the next installment to see if Molly succeeds in her ventures.

Booklover6 says

I was given this book for free by the author to read.

I actually found myself enjoying this second instalment in the Fields of Elysium series much more than I enjoyed the first book. For starters, the writing was much better which made it easier to read. Secondly, it just seemed to be more interesting - maybe that's because we spent a lot more time in Arkana.

There were still some parts that I almost skipped because they were unnecessary and/or boring. And constantly being reminded how beautiful and wonderful Victor was started to get a little grating. Yeah, you love him, we get it. Yeah Molly, you don't deserve him, ok. At one point in the story (and I don't think it's a spoiler to tell you this because it is not the only time it happens) Molly and Victor are apparently on a 'break'. I was not aware of this, as she was still as all over him as she had previously been. But ho hum! Also, the major reason why Molly spends such a lot of time in Arkana seemed pointless and just a way to get rid of problem people.

But anyway, my ranting aside, it was a lot better than the first book in the series, so I hope the author continues to follow this trend and make the third book even better.

Amanda Johnston says

I loved this book as much as I loved the first one. A.B. does a wonderful job of getting you into the story. The characters are worth getting to know, and A.B. does a great job of informing you of who they are. This one made me cry, and made me happy. I love the adventure of the story. I like that it was something different from other series that I have read. It was a great read and I look forward to more.

Sarah-Jayne Briggs says

(Review for Part One).

(I received a free copy of this book in exchange for a review).

(This review may contain spoilers).

I did read book one in this series a while back, but I haven't revisited the world until now. I found myself quickly pulled back into the storyline, though. I don't remember if I was completely sold on the romance

between Victor and Molly in book one, but I liked it much better in this book... though I felt that Victor was much more concerned with being honest with Molly's family than she was.

It was good to see some of the characters I recognised from book one, though I felt this book was quite a bit darker than the previous. There were a lot of emotional scenes in this that really affected me... and I found myself really empathising with the characters at times.

I didn't really like the fact that Molly was so obsessed with Victor, to the point where she seemed to be neglecting everything else. I did feel that the author did a good job of showing how she was affected by what had happened to her, though. I could really understand how she was feeling after certain things had happened and I felt like she reacted realistically.

I really hated Darlene as a character. I loved seeing Pandora in the book, too. I would have liked to see more of Molly's relationship with Nick. There were some quite sweet moments between them.

I didn't like Weston all that much in this book. It was good to see more of the world and to see Molly learning how to work the flying vehicle. It was also good to see how technologically advanced the other world was, while still having a lot of differences to Molly's world.

I have part two on my Kindle and will be reading that. I also have two other books set in this world that I'm quite looking forward to reading.

(This review is for Part Two).

(I received a free copy of this book in exchange for a review).

(This review may contain spoilers).

Having read part one, I was fairly happy to read part two. Whereas part one was, I felt, more character-driven, this book had a bit more action in it... though there was still a lot about the characters in this, too.

In this part, I felt there was much more depth to Molly. I'm not sure I could say she grew as a character, because I think there was still a lot of immaturity to her, but there was a lot of action as well as her just reacting.

One of the things about this part that I felt worked really well was the fact that Victor pushed Molly in the training. Not enough to be cruel to her, but enough because he wanted to make sure she was safe... even if she was angry with him for it.

I really liked seeing more of Neep in this part and I particularly liked the fact that I learned more about Leena. I wavered quite a bit in how I felt about her during the course of the book, but by the end, I liked her more than I thought I would.

I'm not really sure that the people can claim the gene for violence was bred out of them, considering that a lot of them do seem prepared to train for battle and I'm fairly sure a lot of them aren't Motley.

I felt a bit more sympathy towards the Prophet in this book. I'm not entirely sure about him, but he also had a bit more depth here.

There were some really quite emotional scenes in this book and even though there were times I didn't agree with Molly, I could at least understand where she was coming from most of the time. I did enjoy reading this

book and it's interesting to see the contrasts between the two different worlds.

Elsie Harina says

I love it! Can't wait for the 3rd & 4th book... I ♥? Victor!

Julia says

I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review of part two...

I really enjoyed reading it, we see Molly in a short time has gone grief stricken to focused on finding justice for her friend. Tulliat gave Molly a mission upon his passing Molly is to save Nahla the girl who is carrying his child. she is in Terraka city, and the way in and out has been sealed. as Molly and her friends go into preparations to for her to be a spy for them and retrieve Nahla their plans get set back.

Molly and Victor have come a long way in their relationship, but as life throws them anything and everything will it hold or break apart? Will love find a way? your going to have to read it and find out.

Over all it's beautifully written, and the scenery is realistically described. I can't wait for the next challenges that Molly and Victor will face.

Vonnie says

3.5

I was asked by the author to try her second book in the series and to give it an honest review. The world that Whelan created with Fields of Elysium was quite beautiful that it made me wish that it actually existed, but I did struggle to read the book. To be honest, I was a little hesitant about reading this sequel, which has been broken up into two parts. I finally gave it a try and I have to say that I enjoyed it more than the first book.

What I immediately noticed when I started reading was how much Whelan's writing improved. There were hardly any grammar errors and the scenes flowed smoothly than in the first book. I was quite delighted to see that. I found myself more engrossed with the story versus concentrating on editing errors like I did when reading the first book. So congratulations to Whelan for showing a great improvement!

Now, the story mostly concentrated on Molly's relationship with Victor, but it did have a couple of twists. The first one had to do with her parents. I was not expecting it at all. In fact, I put the book down for a day after reading the scene because I couldn't believe what I read. I could not wrap my mind around it at all and could not decide how I really felt about it. The other twist was the ending. Molly's character changed and she did something that had my jaw dropping. This ending had me looking forward to the next book.

Though I liked this book more than the first, I do admit that I was not completely in love with it. The main reason was Molly's character. In this book, she became selfish and self-observed. It all became about her obsession over her hunky boyfriend Victor (by the way, the emphasis on how hot he was irritated me) and how she could not wait to be with him. I felt that the story dragged because of this in the first half of the book. The next half was about Molly's depression and again, it was all about her. Her hatred towards Terrakas was absurd and her goals in wanting revenge were ridiculous to me. Molly did embodied how

teenage girls usually act and think: the world revolves around them. Whelan did a great job capturing the persona of a teenage girl. Unfortunately, I do not like reading about teenage angst.

As a whole, this was a better book. It had its good and bad. I do wonder though why Whelan decided to break the book up into two parts instead of having the next book as a third book. I guess I won't know until I read it.

David Torres says

So, already being hooked on this series like a drug, I was excited to read on. The beginning was nice. I wouldn't call it slow, because the continuation of the romance between Molly and Victor was so entertaining and amazing.

And although things seemed amazing in paradise, they quickly come crashing down. There is an art in building up your characters, making the story near perfect, only to send it crashing down and spiraling toward rock bottom. And A.B. Whelan, did not disappoint.

The love between Molly and Victor deepens, but even then, tensions grow. And when a HUGE plot twist occurs, their love is tested. Tremendous grief, anger and sorrow threatens to break them apart, and wear them down. And throughout the book, the reader is able to see the moment Molly and Victor's spirits are about to break, although they are at different times. Both of them have their share of the strife.

In this book, although we continue to learn more about the amazing world of Arkana, A.B. Whelan delves deep into the character's. Their stories, their personalities, their hardships. Each character contributes to the suspenseful plot.

Whereas the first book in the series was about a rising romance and adventure. Valley of Darkness is all about tragedy, and love; love that can grow and swell and prove that Love is far greater. Love between friends, soulmates, parents. All that plays a part.

THis book did a great job on successfully painting images of the scenery, stimulating the five senses, and communicating the sheer emotion of the book.

Five stars again. Congratulations on another fine book A.B. Whelan. Let's see if you can manage to score another perfect five on the third! ;)

Alicia Sandoval says

Just do yourself a favor and GET THIS BOOK NOW!! I will say no more except if you haven't read "Fields of Elysium", make sure to read that 1st and THEN get this book immediately!! I promise you won't be let down. The only thing that saddens me is the 3rd book isn't out yet, but I will wait!! I know it'll be worth it!!

Asuka0278 says

[that her parents were killed off! Soooooo glad. I really couldn't stand their characters. Also really Molly you

call your Aunt to come take care o

Myria says

Is it even possible for the 2nd book to be better than the first, in this case YESSSS I was biting my nails. When you thought this book was going to go one way it yanked you in the other direction. I laughed, I cried, this book was a emotional roller coaster in all the good ways, I would love to read this book from Victors POV. This book was a bit more action packed as Molly is going through so much and Victors trying to be there, I love that Molly grows so much in this book, she goes from being a girl who lied to her parents to a woman who wanted to save this whole new world. Again A+++++++ I honestly can't wait to re-read this series very soon

Brenda Ayala says

Valley of Darkness was a huge step up for me than the first book. I liked it way more, and I'm glad I chose to read the second book despite any initial misgivings.

For me, the first one was tough because I had a hard time suspending belief to the point that it was credible. The plot itself wasn't bad, I really loved the idea of a wormhole leading to another world. It was just funky the way it was played out, especially in the beginning and the way the relationships between all the characters came about.

The second book, Valley of Darkness, has a little bit of this too but it isn't as prominent. The relationships are already established at this point so it didn't seem awkward or sudden. The plot flowed fairly well, and I found that I was interested in what happened next. The major event that alters Molly's life in this book was a bit sudden, and I'm curious to know if maybe there were darker, ulterior motives at work that caused it rather than just a random occurrence. It seems to convenient otherwise. But I liked how Molly finally had a *reason* for doing the things she does, and that she had a goal. It was refreshing and I was happy to see her being proactive, even if it came from a dark place.

The only thing that bothered me, even though I do understand it to an extent, is how she left her brother so often. If something as bad as (view spoiler) happened, you don't just abandon your kid brother to go gallivanting off with your boyfriend. The poor kid was left alone with a wretched woman and often during the narrative I was thinking about what Nick was doing while Molly was in Arkana. However, I will admit that I understand why it happened. She needed to do the necessary activities in order to reach her goal, and that meant she had to spend time there. So I get it. And I don't blame her for it. But it didn't completely settle with me.

The other thing I really enjoyed too was how comforting and supportive Victor was. He easily could have taken offense to the way Molly was treating him, but instead chose to hold his head high and let her work through her feelings. He was good to her, and that gives him serious brownie points.

Like I said, for me this was a big step up from the first book. This novel had more depth to it and an alternative plot aside from the romance. I enjoyed it, and I'm glad I decided to read it.

Faye says

All I can say was that Valley of Darkness was better than the last one and lots of improvement especially with the characters. Also, I finally connected to the characters especially Molly. Seeing as though book 1 wasn't that emotional, I wasn't ready for what Molly went through in this book.

I'm happy that Molly's character grown but at the same time I'm saddened by the turn of events and then there's also the relationship between Molly and Victor. Obviously, I should have expected there would be ups and down but I wasn't ready for it.

I also liked the world building and getting to know more about Arkana. Then later, I was shocked by another twist and turn in this plot. Although I have to admit it makes it more interesting, although it was already interesting before that.

Well, I'm off to read the next one.

I received this book in exchange for an honest review (LoP or Lovers of Paranormal)

Praxedes says

In spite of not having read the first part of the series, I enjoyed this book immensely. Whelan is great at balancing action with character introspection, placing the reader in the middle of the action. Multiple twists and flashbacks help keep one immersed in the plot. There is the occasional reflection into our society and what it means to be humane without being preachy. I cannot wait to read the rest of the series!

Cassie C says

Review to come!

Update 1/3/15:

This was a phenomenal sequel to Fields of Elysium that proves Ms. Whelan is an author to watch. The writing was truly wonderful, and I saw a marked improvement from the first novel in the series. This novel sweeps the reader off their feet, and takes them on yet another exciting, extraordinary adventure that the reader will never want to stop. Ms. Whelan has truly developed an amazing world that is so intricate, creative, and unique that she deserves major applause for her inventiveness. All of the scenes are descriptive, and I felt as if I was right there with the characters. If you read this as an ebook, the novel comes in 2 parts, however if you get this as a paperback, you don't have this problem. If you are reading it as an ebook, definitely read Parts 1 and 2 back to back (even though you'd want to regardless) because it makes for a more interesting and seamless read. The pacing in this book is another fantastic aspect that should be noted as this story is never once boring, and is nonstop action.

The one part of this novel that I enjoyed the most was the growth of the characters. Molly is such a relatable character, and this makes her character extremely enjoyable. She is flawed, just as any human, but she never stops trying to improve and break out of her comfort zone. She is faced with many difficult challenges in this book, and it truly broke my heart that she had to go through what she did. Nevertheless, this gave her a push

that she desperately needed, and after a certain event, she became a brand new girl. She didn't back down from a challenge, and she steps up big time. Molly's growth in this book alone is refreshing and incredible. I am very eager to see where Ms. Whelan takes her character in the next book, *City of Shame*. Victor is as swoonworthy as ever, and I loved that he supported Molly. However, he always made sure to bring her back to reality when she needed it, and was always concerned for her safety. We see appearances by many other favorite characters, and I greatly appreciated that they all played critical roles in Molly's growth. None of the characters were relegated to the background, and that is always something I love as it shows an author that wants all her characters to grow.

We see much more of Arkana in this novel, and get to see many different places such as the Sentinel Academy. I loved this inside glimpse, and I hope to see more in the future. The world-building is crucial to this series, and Ms. Whelan does an amazing job with it. We still learn more about Arkana, and both the characters and reader realize the time difference between worlds is a major problem. One that means great changes. Ms. Whelan pulls off this tricky aspect of *Valley of Darkness* with grace.

If you can't tell, I absolutely adored this book (and this series in general). I highly recommend reading this to anyone who is a fan of Ms. Whelan's *Fields of Elysium* series, as it is not to be missed. This series will get its hooks in you, and never let go. I can't wait to see what is in store for us next!

Happy reading :)
