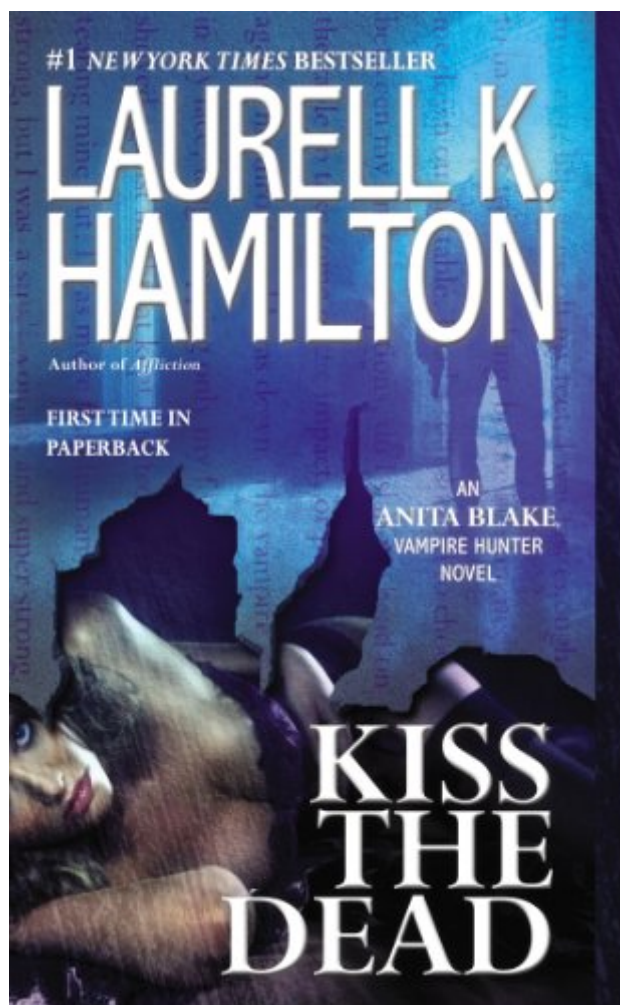


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Kiss The Dead: An Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter Novel



Synopsis

When a fifteen-year-old girl is abducted by vampires, it's up to U.S. Marshal Anita Blake to find her. And when she does, she's faced with something she's never seen before: a terrifyingly ordinary group of people—kids, grandparents, soccer moms—all recently turned and willing to die to avoid serving a master. And where there's one martyr, there will be more | But even vampires have monsters that they're afraid of. And Anita is one of them |

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Customer Reviews

I keep reading Ms. Hamilton's Anita Blake novels and stories, and lately, I keep hoping she will get out of the corner she seems to have written herself into. The early Anita novels, the middle ones, the police procedural laden tales, the relationship conflicts and struggles to come to some workable compromises, all the wallowing around in the steamy underbelly of sexuality--I have been willing to follow the characters thru all of their adventures because they were interestingly drawn, and the universe Ms. Hamilton created had some interesting quirks. However, things have changed in the last couple of books. It seems Ms. Hamilton really has lost interest in the characters as there has

been little advancement in the last two novels, at least little that wasn't just announced....great evil Mommy Dearest just gets swallowed. fine. she's gone. Jean-Claude will start a new council and make things better. Do we see that happen? no. we just get informed that he's in charge and it's done. No more great elaborate vampire political scenarios. In this book, we get just one old vampire, Benjamin, and his human servant who are allowing un-oathed vampires to be turned (which we've seen done with more panache previously). The issues with the guys Anita works with on the force are just swept away--Dolph gets counseling and is fine, and a gay guy gets introduced--but nothing happens with him. We don't see any action at the Animator's office at all this run. So, what's this novel accomplishing? well, Anita needs to accept one lover and ditch another because they keep giving her emotional fits that screw up the plots, such as they are. We get lots of SWAT teams charging around, lots of dead bodies, little angst over any of it- Why am I still reading this?

"When a fifteen year-old girl is abducted by vampires, it's up to U.S. Marshal Anita Blake to find her. And when she does, she's faced with something she's never seen before: a terrifyingly ordinary group of people-- kids, grandparents, soccer moms-- all recently turned and willing to die to avoid serving a master. And where there's one martyr, there will be more...But even vampires have monsters that they're afraid of. And Anita is one of them..."With the Mother of All Darkness gone, sucked down the drain like a swirl, Laurell Hamilton is now struggling to find a story arc for this series, something to pad out the pages of her fantasy life between the sexual olympics. Before anyone gets too excited about the outline, remember what series this is and who's writing it. And re-read that blurb; it takes just about that long to resolve this scenario- the first 7 out of the 50 chapters. And once it's done, you already know what comes next. This book can be broken down into three categories- Plot, Sex, Wangst. Believe it or not, Plot wins. A basic page count breakdown goes like this: Plot- 46%, (Actual) Sex- 13%, Wangst- 41%. But as the majority of the wangst relates to sex, you could well say that it makes for over half the book. Because of that the story can't help but crash and burn, but not exactly for the reasons you'd think, and it actually has a few redeeming features.**Potential Spoiler Alerts**The Good: It's Old Home Week as several long time friends finally make their return. Dolph, Zerbrowski, Larry Kirkland; yes, Virginia- RPIT's back! And there's actually flashes of a story and some interesting plotlines dropped in here like bread crumbs.

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