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The Beautiful Ashes (Broken Destiny)



Synopsis

[Read by Tavia Gilbert] In a world of shadows, anything is possible - except escaping your fate. Ever since she was a child, Ivy has been gripped by visions of strange realms just beyond her own. But when her sister goes missing, Ivy discovers the truth is far worse - her hallucinations are real, and her sister is trapped in a parallel realm. And the one person who believes her is the dangerously attractive guy who's bound by an ancient legacy to betray her. Adrian might have turned his back on those who raised him, but that doesn't mean he can change his fate, no matter how strong a pull he feels toward Ivy. Together they search for the powerful relic that can save her sister, but Adrian knows what Ivy doesn't: that every step brings Ivy closer to the truth about her own destiny and a war that could doom the world. Sooner or later, it will be Ivy on one side and Adrian on the other - and nothing but ashes in between.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Twenty-year-old Ivy is looking for her younger sister Jasmine after she suddenly disappears. During her search, Ivy discovers the truth behind the strange visions that have afflicted her since childhood—she is able to see into the demon realm, and this just happens to be where Jasmine is trapped. With the guidance of the brooding, too-perfect male specimen Adrian, Ivy will stop at nothing to rescue her sister. However, there's a catch. It turns out that Ivy is the last descendent of the biblical hero David and is the only one that can find and wield a powerful relic to triumph over evil. Adrian is battling demons of his own with a dark past riddled with secrets that

deeply conflict with his powerful attraction to Ivy. Unfortunately, there isn't a lot of world- or character-building to be had, and the plot can be groan-inducingly predictable at times. Ideally, the sequels will delve a bit more deeply to give the series some substance. Still, the pacing is tight and readers should fly through the story. Reluctant readers as well as fans of the "Twilight" books and other paranormal romances will eat this one up. A slightly steamy romance scene and the occasional curse word make this appropriate for older teens. •Kimberly Castle-Alberts, Hudson Library & Historical Society, OH --This text refers to the Mass Market Paperback edition.

"Frost's dazzling blend of urban fantasy action and passionate relationships makes her a true phenomenon." --Romantic Times, praise for the author "I always open a Frost book with happy anticipation, and I've never been disappointed." --Charlaine Harris, #1 New York Times bestselling author, praise for the author

I have read many books, numbering in the hundreds, and when I bought this book, I was not sure I would like it since I was not one of Jeaniene Frost's fans, having not read many of her other novels. However, I can now say without doubt that I am a fan of hers. *The Beautiful Ashes* is a well written emotional roller coaster ride with an original plot, which is difficult to say having read as many books as I have. Ivy is a very relatable heroine. She begins the book just trying to find her sister and not really "knowing" much or accepting things as they are. By the end of the novel, Ivy is a heroine worth reading about. Her character, and the others in the book, develop so much from the beginning of the story that it just makes you want to cheer for them at the end. They overcome so much together that you cannot help but root for them in the end. The plot was also very original in my opinion. I have not ever seen an author write about the descendants of biblical heroes and villains. It was also very fast-paced; I just flew through chapter after chapter wanting to know what happened next. As to the novel's YA aspects, they were not over the top; Ivy wasn't obnoxious like many other YA heroines can be. I would say, though, that there are quite a few "adult" situations, whether those are of a sexual nature or violent, that younger readers (under 18) should be aware of. These situations did not detract from the story, however, and in fact enhanced it to really give the reader a sense of diving into the story.

Jeaniene Frost is one of my absolute favorite authors. Her wit, combined with her attention to detail, and innate ability to immerse the readers in the emotions of her characters, is something that is hard to find in a PNR author. So many times these qualities become overlooked by authors.

Somehow the sex between the characters becomes more important than the bond. The action and speed of the book become more important than the plot. In The Beautiful Ashes, I am reminded why I am a fan of Paranormal Romance to begin with. The plot is so deep, it pulls you into the new world Jeaniene has created, based on biblical stories and legends. The characters are loveable and realistic in their struggles. So many times while reading PNR I find myself thinking "Well that's dumb, if you love her tell her" not in this book. Every reason for their struggles is legitimate and understandable. I love this quality in a book, It makes me want to read more to find out how they will overcome their obstacles. It is refreshing to read a new world by Mrs. Frost. Even though I am a night huntress junky: and Cat and Bones will never be rivaled in my heart for best PNR couple of all time. I was becoming tired of the same night huntress world that continued into the Dark Prince series, as well as (Night Huntress World) spin off. It is a breath of fresh air the read something so fresh and new from a great author. I am happy to say I will be waiting with baited breath for the next book in the series to come out, and it will be really hard for me to find something to read that will compare to it in the meantime. Thank you Jeaniene for sharing your talent with world and keeping me turning pages every time!

This is the first book in a new series by one of my favorite authors. In her previous book series (about 16 books/short stories/novellas in all), Jeaniene Frost wrote of a world populated by vampires, ghouls, demons and ghosts. In this new series, the Broken Destiny series, there are NO vampires, only angels and demons. As vampires are my number one supernatural creature of choice, I was concerned. But since I thoroughly enjoyed most of her previous books, including a novella set in a demon realm (Night's Darkest Embrace), I was definitely intrigued. Why was I concerned? The story was enthralling, the characters fully-formed in an fascinating and intricate world! The Beautiful Ashes immediately introduces us to our heroine, college student Ivy. Ivy has managed to live a normal life, even though she has been plagued by hallucinations and psychological testing her whole life. Her parents were just killed in a car accident and she is frantic to find her only remaining family member, her sister, Jasmine. Jasmine, after sending a few alarming text messages, has gone missing. During her frantic search to find Jasmine, Ivy is "kidnapped" by the strong and mysterious Adrian. Adrian will help Ivy find Jasmine, but Ivy must help him find a potent artifact first. While working with Adrian, Ivy discovers that her "hallucinations" are actually an ability to "see" demon realms. As the story unfolds, she learns of her bloodline heritage and how it intertwines with Adrian's. They are both powerful humans with an ancient legacy that threatens the dynamic and passionate bond they immediately begin to form. As usual with

Jeaniene's book, she has written a smart, strong, take-no-crap heroine. Ivy may be a human underdog in a world of mighty angels and forceful demons, but she remained resourceful and resolute. She learns that what she thought was her life story is wrong, but we don't find out her entire origin story. Yet. Even when she did things that made me shout, "nooooo," I admired her tenacity in remembering her ultimate goal (save Jasmine), her courage to do finish what she started (find the artifact) and her restraint in not knocking boots with the smoldering Adrian every chance she got (sex him up, girlfriend!). Adrian. Strong, sexy, brooding, broken, capable, captivating Adrian. Adrian's past, and probable future, is revealed in layers throughout the book. Each revelation for the reader is a revelation for Ivy as well. So it is with a mixture of curiosity, desire and dread, we get to go on the roller coaster of emotions with her as Adrian is revealed to be many things, but never, ever is he boring. (Which is the cardinal sin of any medium to me.) Learning the ins and outs of the realms of the angels and demons was interesting. Trust me, it's not harps, halos, fire and pitchforks! There are no salt guns or demon bone knives, but angelic bombs and mirrors-as-portal are introduced. Demonic realms are accessed via portals and vortexes and, instead of being hell-hot, are bone-searingly cold and devoid of light. Personally, I found some of the angelic and demonic logic/mythology to border of some deep theology. You're not hit over the head with it, by any means, but it's there if you want to delve into it. The Beautiful Ashes is the first in a trilogy and I cannot WAIT for the next two books! I read this in one sitting, over the course of a night. Who needs sleep when you got a good book, right? I would recommend this if you like Jeaniene's previous work and/or paranormal fiction, especially if you enjoy multi-layered characters within an intricate world.

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