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The Laughing Corpse: Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter, Book 2



Synopsis

Harold Gaynor offers Anita Blake a million dollars to raise a 300-year-old zombie. Knowing it means a human sacrifice will be necessary, Anita turns him down. But when dead bodies start turning up, she realizes that someone else has raised Harold's zombie and that the zombie is a killer. Anita pits her power against the zombie and the voodoo priestess who controls it. --This text refers to an alternate Audible Audio Edition edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

"Stupidity isn't punishable by death. If it was, there would be a hell of a population drop. There's no particular reason I chose this quote from the book to start out this review other than I thought it was funny. So sue me. This book starts only a few weeks after the first book, Guilty Pleasures, ended. Anita Blake begins by meeting a potential new client in need of her animator skills. Too bad this client is a murderous millionaire who doesn't care who gets hurt, as long as his zombie is raised. As if that isn't bad enough, she is also working a case with the local police, trying to figure out what type of creature is ripping apart families literally. And one of her suspects? Just the most powerful voodoo priestess in all of North America, who just so happens to want Anita to join her in her less than savory enterprises, and is willing to make her do so by any means necessary. And if that wasn't enough problems, she also happens to be oh so close to being the new Master of the City's human servant. Very much

unwillingly. Murder, mayhem, voodoo, and sexy vampires. What more could a girl ask for? Some peace and quiet, if you ask Anita. I really enjoyed this book, easily as much as the first in this series. Anita is still a tough badass, and there are still so many great, rich characters, that you don't really get bored at any point in this story, especially with poor Anita having problem after problem thrown at her. Anita also finds out that she is much more powerful in regards to being an animator than expected, and in a most gruesome way too. It makes you excited to see where just that alone can lead this series. The possibilities are endless. Something else that I like about these books, other than the great writing and non-stop (yet realistic) action throughout the story, is that, while not necessarily a stand-alone, these books don't end on a cliffhanger either. Yes, they leave you with knowing that there is more story after the book, that if you want to see what else Anita ends up going through, reading the next in the series is advised. But they end very succinctly, so it makes it a bit more bearable (mostly, haha) to wait a year or two for the next book. Though I still strongly urge you to read this series in order. A lot of things, especially further on (at the time of this writing, I've read up to book 24 in the series) won't make sense if you hadn't read the previous books. They're worth it. Don't skimp! Overall, I still would recommend this book and series. It covers a lot of bases, such as mystery, crime, paranormal, and fantasy genres, all in one book. It caters to many, which is one of the many things that I think makes them so enjoyable. They don't try to fit into only one box, so you can enjoy many different flavors at once.

I am rereading this series for the 5th time. Honestly it is one of my favorite. I have Chronic pain and I use books to "zone out" at times when the pain is so bad. I love the fact that this young beautiful woman is such a badass in fighting but still holds on to her faith. In this book she is forced to participate in human sacrifice. Even under a spell is able to do it her way. Goodbye bad guys. She faces who and what she really is. Her powers are increasing and she is scared but she will deal with it. She realizes she is a necromancer. This book is well written and very good read. One advice once you start reading this series you will be hooked. They are now 25 books in. Still love them. Laurel Hamilton is wonderful and she is my new favorite author

I have read the whole series and reread many of the books. They are still good several times through. I like the beginning books because Hamilton does a good job with the mystery, the characters have depth, and she has clearly done her background research. This series is one I

often read through again when a new book comes out. I have my favorite books, many of which are the early ones. If you are just finding her books, you are in for a treat. They are not for the very squeamish, but well worth reading even if you are a tiny bit anti-horror.

Plot Summary: Animator Anita Blake manages to attract the attention of several unsavory parties during this installment. A rich man with hired muscle puts pressure on Anita to animate a 300 year-old corpse, but she won't do it because it requires a human sacrifice. A voodoo priestess is suspected of raising a flesh-eating zombie, and Anita volunteers to question her and makes a mortal enemy in the process. The vampire's new Master of the City, Jean-Claude, is demanding Anita become his human servant, and not all his methods are unpleasant. She just wants no part of serving the walking dead. When I checked the original copyright date on this novel, I was shocked to discover just how old it is. When people talk about Anita Blake being the first kick-butt heroine, I'm inclined to agree. It's a shame really, because I was oblivious to urban fantasy until only a few years ago. A good deal of my reading time has been wasted. Still, being late to this party does have its benefits. The books in this series are plentiful - both in number and availability. I imagine for the people who followed this series as it was written, each book was like a sip from the only canteen in the desert. These types of heroines are now a dime a dozen, but not so much in the beginning. It's a shame that Anita has no love life to speak of, otherwise I'd be tempted to give this a perfect rating. Still, it's a masterful piece of entertainment - gory, dangerous, and macabre - with a vulnerable woman at the core. Anita Blake may be the feared vampire Executioner, but any woman who collects stuffed penguins is really a softy on the inside. I am a huge fan of the 'cool on the outside and crumbly on the inside' character type. It's been copied many times over, but Anita still remains an original. I suppose my only surprise is that Anita doesn't have any sidekicks, or really close friends. Even her pet is cold and distant - a tank full of angel fish. They're symbolic, yes, but usually the loner heroine is allowed to have something with fur and a warm body to snuggle up with. My curiosity as to how long Anita will remain so isolated will have me hunting down the third novel, *Circus of the Damned* (Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter), sooner than later.

Even so I spoke at least half a dozen times it never ceases to suck comedian Laurel K Hamilton is an amazing author she weaves her plots so well that I can't help but feel every up down bumpers Laffont here that the main protagonist feels as though I know the book in and out is always going to be a good read I just wish that the books were little cheaper on kindle so I could afford them more easily

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