

?Epub? 📖 **Strange Roads** **Author Jennifer Quail –** **Soccerjerseys-wholesale.co**

Posted on 10 October 2017 By Jennifer Quail

What Do A Conservative, Ex Navy Test Pilot And A Liberal Senate Aide Have In Common Nothing, Really Except Being The Two Most Powerful Mages Born In Decades Elaine Gates And Alan Graves Are The Lady Of Wind And Water And The Lord Of Earth And Fire, Or So The Strange Mark Valentine And His Equally Unusual Companion, Nadia Julian, Tell Them And None Too Soon, As The Unlikely Allies Are Plunged Into A Battle Against Dark Forces Poised To Take Over The World, Starting With Washington, DC Sparks Literally Fly As Alan And Elaine Confront Dangerous Enemies And Even Deadly Allies In A Race To Find A Magical Treasure And The Key To Their Own Destinies

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STRANGE ROADS

BOOK I OF OMENS
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JENNIFER QUAIL

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10 thoughts on “Strange Roads ”



Kutter200 Kutter200 says:

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I picked this up because the author is a poster on a horse forum I'm on, and I'm always looking for fun things to read. It did not disappoint, even though this is not a genre I typically read though I probably should read of it, it's good fun. So, in a nutshell, here we have the story of two adults in Washington, DC, who discover they have unusual powers. There are vampires, and creatures created by magic, and lots of great action. Our two main characters, Alan and Elaine. OK, a bit of similarity in the names here, but that's no biggie, especially because I think Gates and Graves are excellent last names for our main characters, are markedly different people. Elaine is a bit snarky and bitter, but has a good sense of humor buried in there, along with a lot of courage. Alan is actually complicated to figure out, as he comes across as a sort of typical DC lawyer slash prettyboy, without a lot of depth. His background and the meat of his character doesn't really come out until later he masks his depth with good looks and humor and affability, kind of the opposite of Elaine. While I think that they are perhaps a bit too perfectly yin and yang, they work well together and I enjoy both of them. Our other two characters, Val our ancient vampire and Nadia, his thrall lover, partner, blood source, are interesting and fun as well. Nadia is fabulously competent and cool under pressure, and Val keeps the depth of his experience, age, and power mostly under wraps, and surprised me as being a rather calm presence along with a good sense of humor. In short, the main characters are all interesting and people I want to get to know. Their shortcomings never overwhelm, and even though I felt Alan to be a sort of weak character at the beginning, towards the end of the book, we learn a lot about him that gives him much depth and strength. Yay. Other things I enjoyed 1. The action. I love how the author describes magic and her battles. She is a very visual writer, everything that happens is in

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waves of color and visual effects.² This is terribly minor, but I LOVE the shout out to using real cream in eggs, instead of milk YES SOMEONE GETS IT FAT FLAVOR If the second book includes any references to flavoring foods with bacon or duck fat I will be over the moon.³

The relationship between Val and Nadia Though I haven't read many vampire books, I know in Twilight at least, one of the things that annoyed me very much was the idea of a very old vampire falling for a pretty silly and immature girl I know, that was the target market Nadia is wonderful she is ageless, has been around a while apparently getting long life herself for her relationship with the vampire, lucky her, and is the sort of person I can actually understand an immortal being being interested in Yay ⁴ I also like that while romance seems pretty inevitable for Alan and Elaine, it wasn't really the focus of the book They definitely become very close, their magic or less intertwining them and giving them great intimacy, but this is accomplished without really working the romance thing Compared to many novels series where the main characters have a romantic relationship, it's positively chaste, which is different and refreshing although I imagine we'll get there I also really love that Elaine is not consumed by her singlehood in general ⁵

Descriptions of DC I haven't ever lived there, but do like to visit, and live in the surrounding area It's nice to read stories about places I know There are some weak points, though oh I hate talking about these ¹ Some editing problems with the electronic kindle version typos, formatting changes between chapters, etc This is minor, and I've seen worse, but a couple times it was a little jarring and took me out of the story a little bit² I'd like a little bit in terms of what the overall plot is Who are the bad guys, exactly How did Nadia and Val identify Alan and Elaine What's the actual war here I feel like this book was a series of battles, but I don't know what the war is even about On the one hand, this is how Alan and Elaine experience things, so it works on that level On the other,

we do have insight into Nadia and Val and their perspective, so I would really like to have had a bit of this included though I imagine the next book will get us there

3 Keeping the characters voices in the dialogue Most of the time, the dialogue worked, but there were definitely moments in this book where the dialogue didn't seem to have each character's unique flavor, and I found I might get confused about who was talking as they sounded the same We get the idea of who each of them are from description than from their actual words Elaine is an exception, since she tends to be biting and sarcastic Dialogue is hard, that's why I'm not a writer And for the most part, it works well, but I think this is something that could be developed a little better That said, this happens in a lot of books so is not really a big deal. Overall, I really enjoyed this and am looking forward to Was very pleasantly surprised at how much I enjoyed it, and hope Ms Quail's horse got a few cookies from me buying it He can expect a few when the next one comes out.

Reply



Steven Klotz Steven Klotz says:

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Jennifer Quail has the makings of a great story here Two well developed characters overcome ideological differences as they learn to use their newly discovered magical powers And use them they do Quail writes magic quite well The four elements are splashed across the page in a synesthetic rainbow Her vampire lore is well thought out and remains consistent Both relationships work well and the multiple points of view give us plenty of insight The book is worth reading solely on the strength of the characters and the action. However, the plot is survive till the end They do The characters and the action

and the magic and the historical surroundings all set a big stage and beg for something Supporting characters tell us that there s The wafer thin baddies seem to know there s something The epilogue hints that there s But it s not in this book Waiting for the reveal which I never got kept me reading to the end and I m glad I did In spite of its shortcomings, page by page it was a great read and I fully expect future installments to deliver the goods.

Reply



Dasteroad Dasteroad says:

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I first knew about Strange Roads when working on its cover design, and when I finally got around to reading it, I have to say, it blew my mind Quail s style can go from rich and detailed to fast paced and breathtaking, all the while keeping it all vivid and involving, both for her adventurous, rich setting and her complex, multilayered characters While some plot elements are clear classics of the genre reluctant heroes with unique powers suddenly thrown into an epic adventure, having to battle enemies for a mysterious artifact , and I m personally not fond of soulmate narratives, Quail s unique writing treats all of these concepts in a quite clever, interesting way Her rich rendition of magic and the supernatural, her excellent use of points of view and most of all her characters, realistically flawed, deep and growing from their experiences, are definitely this novel s strongest points Strange Roads is the start of an adventure that left me wanting , and I can t wait for the sequel

Reply



randy statton Statton randy statton

Statton says:

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Odd Characters the somehow work. The book seems like an odd mix of a Paranormal national treasure It was fast paced and seem to flow The ending was and it frustrating.

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