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Desolate (Desolation #2) (Desolation Series)



Synopsis

Where darkness lives, all will become desolate. Desi chose Midgard over Hel, over her father, Loki, but she couldn't banish the Shadow that lives within her. Working with The Hallowed, she remains vigilant against her father's forces. When she's injured by a strange demon, old temptations rise, and the darkness that hides within her may mean the destruction of all that she's been fighting for.

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Customer Reviews

"WHERE DARKNESS LIVES, ALL BECOMES DESOLATE..."Desi's path is a difficult one. Two months ago, she was forced to decide the fate of the lives of two people she loved - Miri (her best friend) or Michael (her forever love). The Hallowed tell her she made the right choice. Still the guilt of her decision to save Miri and damn Michael into the bowels of Hell to be tormented for all eternity by her father, Lucifer, weighs on her. She finds a feeble distraction in training, school, and the

members of the Hallowed. But the demands of her fate stir once more and she battles a Horseman who brings destruction, discovers a newly created door to Hell, releases a goddess from chains, and struggles to keep the tenuous, warm glow of Asgard from being eradicated by her Shadow self. Desi thought she had made her choice, but can she overcome Loki's influence that has taken root and slowly spreads throughout her soul? Similar to *Become*, Desi's continuing guilt and I-don't-deserve-Michael was overused - kind of like (please excuse the cliche here) kicking a dead horse. There were a couple of typos, which normally wouldn't distract me from the flow of the story, but I did find myself getting snagged enough that it's worth mentioning. While the POV changes from Desi, the new view is also riddled with the woe-is-me and what-have-I-done sentiments. After the 10th time I felt like screaming "I get it already! Move on!" On the plus side, the overall plot was interesting. Readers who were teased in *Become* by the mention of Helena, the goddess who originally ruled Hell, finally get a chance to meet the quirky vixen. James went from a "meh" character to one I really enjoyed and loved reading. Knowles also displays a surprising side. The characters' hope and determination continue to embolden their spirits and steel their resolve to battle against Lucifer's newly appointed Second and the death and destruction she commands. The cliffhanger at the end effectively sparked my curiosity and left me wondering what the characters were going to face in the 3rd book, *Destined*. Honestly, I would love to see Miri evolve from the timid, fragile girl she was in the first two books into a woman who finds her backbone, gains some confidence and becomes a force to be reckoned with! I gotta read on to find out! Appropriate for ages 14 & up.

Ali Cross's *DESOLATE* emotes darkness like a demon from Hell. Two months ago, sixteen-year-old Desolation "Desi" Black lost Michael, her eternal love, to the depths of Hell. Now, she must not only find a way to save him but also Heimdall, the keeper of the Rainbow Bridge and the gates between the worlds. Yet an injury threatens to destroy her heavenly spark, and she'll soon learn her choice on who she is to *Become* is not so black and white. *DESOLATE* drops the reader two months after *BECOME*. The characters seem at a standstill, since they aren't certain how they should proceed forward in saving Michael. For every step forward Desi made in *BECOME*, she takes two steps back as the call of her dark side and a poisonous injury threatens her light side. Cross excels at the emotional toll the characters are going through. The plot is fast-paced, although personally, I thought the last third could've been drawn out a bit more. The characterizations and voice are excellent. *DESOLATE* by Ali Cross is the darkest of night before the dawn. I hope.

Michael is back but I'm not sure if he is back for good, Desi is well I'm not so sure. She seems to be having an internal battle and I want the good, warm Desolation to win but with Loki in her ear I'm not so sure. Miri, sweet lovable Miri. So much has happened to this girl but she has stayed strong, especially with James by her side. I love the direction this series is going and I cannot wait to get the other books!!

I am really enjoying this series. I thought the first book, *Become*, was a clever, fresh addition to the YA Dark Fantasy genre and this second book, *Desolate*, was even better. And GOSH, I love the covers! What makes me like these books by Ali Cross so much? Here's the short list:1. Did I mention the covers?2. Desi Black is the devil's daughter--literally--but she's not just that. And the more than that is what keeps her pulled in opposite directions and struggling with her power.3. The demon wanna-be high school students.4. The passing back and forth of the evil football between the two main characters, Desi and Michael.5. So that the Good Guy gets to be Bad.6. The Nordic mythology works really well in this second installment.7. I love the scene where an oblivious Desi is brought back to the present by a child witnessing her *Become*. It's small scenes like that that make a huge story like the *Desolation* series feel real. And make no mistake, this is a **HUGE, EPIC** story. It's also an intensely fun one. Cross reaches far and wide pulling in references, symbolism, and tropes. There were a few points I feared the story might careen off the edge of its dizzying heights (think zombies and patent red heels), but no. Each of those times the narrative found its edge and maintained its balance. Looking forward--sort of--to the final installment, *Desire*. The sort of: Don't you hate it when a good story ends?

I loved this book. Desi's strength to keep getting up and fighting amazes me. I love the love story in this book between Desi & Michael. It doesn't have that repetition on carbon copy love story you get in most Ya books nowadays. It's a unique story. Totally recommend reading it (after the first book)

I didn't quite make it last the 3-4 days that I had intended to, (but only because it was too good to put down!) I'd like to say that Ali Cross did an even better job when writing "*Desolate*," than she did when she wrote "*Become*": (but I'm not sure that it would be true) Because I honestly can't decide which book I liked best. Both were great reads & I'm so thrilled to start book 3!

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