



The Library of Panopticon

Alexandria V. Nolan

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Books Have Power Beyond Words, Beyond Worlds...

Julian Cole has lived a marvelous life. Up until his parent's death, the wide world lay spread before him. He traveled far and often, admired great art in the grandest museums and filled his mind with every book he could get his hands on.

Since their death, however, the world has gone dark. He is unsure of his place, uncertain where he truly belongs.

Until he finds the book.

Or, rather, the book finds him. The book whose pages spring open to reveal a hidden world that Julian could have never imagined. A magical place where stories are alive and the characters within them live and breathe. And love.

A place where Julian's skills and experiences are the greatest hope against a force of evil.

From the sweeping history of turn of the century Detroit, to fantasy tales made real, his journey will lead him to unbelievable adventures. Armed with a clear mission and new allies, Julian must find the path through the dark opposition that seeks to destroy his destiny.

The Library of Panopticon Details

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Author : Alexandria V. Nolan

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From Reader Review The Library of Panopticon for online ebook

Mark Noble says

I enjoyed the latest book from Alexandria Nolan. As a travel addict, I have loved her previous books with their descriptions of places around the world that are so true that you feel as if you are there. In this novel she builds on her ability to describe places by adding some very well developed characters and a creative and interesting story line.

Place is still important in The Library of Panopticon; travel fans continue to get excellent descriptions of far off places (The climate was so much like Munich, Arles or Lugano. A certain bite in the air, touched with the sweetness of sunshine). However, she adds another level of travel reporting by imagining what places were like in the 19th century. She even finds Detroit, a place I struggled to find something good to say about during the decade I lived there, a magical place (Detroit was different though, not a city of debutantes and dandies, it was a place lit vibrantly; but with innovation and change).

The use of the image of Panopticon is clever. Unlike the original version, a prison designed so that all prisoners were always visible from a central point, Nolan's version is a repository of writing and story telling, controlled and protected from a central point. She is also a strong proponent of reading and writing, always promoting the benefits of reading (You taught him love and a kindred sense of adventure. Those are the things that set imaginations on fire, these are the most essential traits for great Readers). I also could not agree more with her thoughts about handwriting (A lost art, handwriting, something that used to be an identifiable part of a person, as welcome to the eyes as their very face).

The plot reminds me a bit of the Harry Potter books: a little magical, a little romantic. I would even recommend the book to my kids as soon as they reach their teens. There are only a few characters in the book but they come alive on the page. I don't want to spoil the plot by giving a summary. Get a copy for yourself and have fun reading it!

Taylor says

Well, the cover was nice. I had a number of issues with this book, the least of which was that it read like a Harry Potter knockoff, kind of like how 50 Shades is Twilight fan fiction. This might not have been such a problem if I wasn't such a huge HP fan. There were a number of HP moments throughout the book but the most obvious ones were the whole Tom Riddle's diary plot device and the final showdown in the Ministry of Magic, complete with knocking over of shelves. The book was often very imaginative though, but it would have been better had the author stuck with her own ideas. And perhaps stayed away from her thesaurus. Parts of the story were a little off too. Like the bad guys, simply put, hating people who read and enjoyed books. Really? Even within the realm of fantasy, there should be some element of believability. I wish I could have enjoyed this book more. The premise was good and time travel in novels is always fun. I won this book through Goodreads First Reads.

Alexandria says

I thought, of course, that it was well-written, imaginative and that the characters were carefully crafted and believable.

Amber Cox says

Full of mystery, magic, adventure and romance. I loved every second of it!!

Calliope says

I really, really loved this book. She made the book almost like you were traveling within the stories. I honestly really want to be reader now. I have no complaints at all to this book and I think it's wonderful, and I really like the names especially Lively I think that's pretty cool. This book should definitely be more popular then it already is and I recommend it to everyone including all ages.

Karen says

Thoroughly enjoyed this book about books. I really liked this premise in this book, and I liked the fact that I knew nothing of the plot before starting it.
