



# Shadow King

*Susan K. Hamilton*

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**Ambition. Betrayal. Revenge.** Centuries ago, the Faerie Realm was decimated by a vile and corrupt spell. To survive, the different faerie races--led by the Fae--escaped to the Human Realm where they've lived ever since.

As the Fae Patriarch of Boston's criminal underworld, Aohdan Collins enjoys his playboy lifestyle while he works from the shadows to expand his growing empire, until one night when he shares a shot of whiskey with the lovely Seireadan Moore...

A Fae Seer, Seireadan is haunted by a vision of the Fae responsible for destroying Faerie and murdering her family. Common sense tells her to stay away from Aohdan, but his magnetism and charm are irresistible. As their passionate affair intensifies, Seireadan is pulled into the center of the underworld. And while her heart is bound to Aohdan, she cannot let go of her lifelong quest to hunt down the Fae who haunts her visions... especially when she realizes Aohdan might be the key to helping her find him. But is revenge worth betraying the one she loves?

## Shadow King Details

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Author : Susan K. Hamilton

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Genre :

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## From Reader Review Shadow King for online ebook

### Dan says

I had never indulged myself in books of faeries, elves and such, so it took me a while to get fully involved in the reading of Shadow King. Once I was able to adjust to the odd sounding names and circumstances that appeared in the early pages, i found the story quite compelling. It took me weeks to get thru the first few chapters but I finishe the last 60 chapters in three days reading. The story pulled me in and kept my interest as I became completely involved the lives of Aohdan and Sieradan. I really enjoyed the novel storyline and the intermingling of the faeries world and gangster Boston. I also enjoyed the way the author was able to grab my interest, albeit slowly, but allow me to join her in this interesting experience.

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### Mike James Welch says

Susan K. Hamilton's writing has always struck me as swaggering with 'un-earned' confidence - which is to say - she writes with the moxie of an author on their 15th book, not their 2nd. Her debut novel, Darkstar Rising, helped (in my opinion) to confirm what Susan always believed - that she could WRITE. Shadow King fulfills that promise for the rest of us. We're treated to sex, high-stakes and danger in a world that is at once fantastical and rooted in reality. This reader is hopeful that Hamilton will take us on another visit to this world soon!

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### Michael Haase says

Ms. Hamilton writes with confidence and authority over the world she builds. This is a very cool story...dark fantasy on a reality-based backdrop with love, revenge, and crime lords! I've never met another book like it, and this story is GREAT. I look forward to more of the author's work!

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### Sue Hieber says

Good solid writing, though graphic and Corey in sections. Think godfather+ legends galore and you might get some idea what goes on inside this bookcover. Thank goodness, I don't mind bloodshed, so I was able to read and enjoy this story. I really loved the ending. If you like action, good plot, well written prose, get this book!

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### Nancy says

The crossover between our real world and the fantasy world described here is subtle enough to raise a realistic eyebrow. Undercurrents of realism in the description of the city and some of the behavior of characters keep this from getting bogged down in too much magic. A touch gritty in places with a satisfying conclusion. Oh, and the female lead? Not a pushover.

## **S.L. Hoyte says**

First of all, WOW – just, wow! Susan Hamilton has created a story I won't soon forget. Wrapping the Fae world into real-world Boston adds a layer that is authentic and believable, and I absolutely loved that element of the story. Some of the scenes are bloody and horrific, some hot and sexy – all are engrossing and well-written. Hamilton's descriptive writing creates imagery so vivid it is easy to picture the seedy, dark areas of town in stark contrast with the opulence of the nightclubs, the impeccable suits and the beautiful people uptown. She clearly encapsulates the very essence of the gangster lifestyle in her writing.

See my full review on the Reader Views Goodreads page!

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## **J.D. DeHart says**

Susan K. Hamilton shows herself to be a master world builder in a book that works like the best fantasy novels should. The cover could use a bit of a polish, but the contents are worth the read.

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## **Reader Views says**

Reviewed by Sheri Hoyte for Reader Views (12/18)

“Shadow King” by Susan K. Hamilton is a captivating, fantasy tale readers will have a hard time putting down!

An evil spell explodes, resulting in the destruction of the Faerie realm. The surviving Fae escaped to the Human realm where they have co-existed for centuries. One of those Fae is the patriarch of a criminal underworld family in Boston – Aohdan Collins. Aohdan is a macho, sexy man-about-town, loved by the ladies, feared by all. Ambition to grow his empire has a firm grasp on Aohdan as the underworld grows darker in its corruptive forces. Who can be trusted? Who will betray the family? Aohdan meets his match in Seireadan Moore, a Fae Seer with a secret. Haunted by the murder of her family, Seireadan is on a mission to avenge their deaths and nothing will stop her from finding the Fae responsible and exacting her own revenge. As Aohdan and Seireadan fall deeper into the intensity of their relationship, factions from every side test their love, loyalty, and motivations.

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The characters are multidimensional, genuine, full of life. The speech, mannerisms, and the way they carry themselves make them familiar, yet distinctive. One example is with Jimmy Boy, a young man who works for, and is under the protection of Aohdan. Jimmy Boy seems to lack motivation, easing along with as little effort on his part as possible. The picture of him I created in my mind was a skinny, awkward young adult

with earbuds, a sloppy sweatshirt, and pants that are way too big for him. When Jimmy Boy sees Seireadan at the nightclub one night his confidence explodes as he literally puffs-up with machismo, enough to send a drink down the bar to her. She leaves the drink untouched and you can see Jimmy deflate right before your eyes on the pages. Can you picture him? Not only that, but haven't you known someone just like him at some point in your life?

The interaction between the characters draws the reader in as well. The bond inside the criminal families, the distrust amongst the different families and the discord between humans and Fae keep the reader engaged and invested.

From fantasy to thriller and intrigue to steamy romance, "Shadow King" weaves in and out of multiple genres making it an appealing read for a wide spectrum of fans. With a plot that holds the reader hostage until the very end and fascinating characters, I couldn't get enough of this story and look forward to reading more works from Susan K. Hamilton.

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### **Jacqui Castle says**

What a wonderful introduction to the writing of Susan K. Hamilton! I genuinely enjoyed her style and will definitely be following this indie author's career. Hamilton crafted a fantasy world that was rich and well-developed with colorful, yet relatable characters. I found myself turning the pages effortlessly, eager to remain in Hamilton's vivid world.

I would recommend Shadow King to those who ordinarily shy away from the Fantasy genre. The setting on the streets of Boston and unique approach of having Fae characters integrate into the human realm earned this book cross-genre status in my opinion. This is not for those who shy away from intimate sex scenes or violence, as you'll find a surplus of both. Hamilton's creative imagery is brilliant, and she pulls you into her scenes with a proficient hand. I look forward to reading Hamilton's next book.

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### **Deborah Munro says**

This was a great read, and I really enjoyed the strong, badass female heroine. She was fabulous. The Shadow King has a Sopranos, mobster vibe to it, a present day world where Fae people live side-by-side with humans, and Hamilton masterfully interweaves fantasy with contemporary drama so that the reader readily accepts the world she has created.

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### **GSMC Book Review Podcast says**

When I first started reading this book I wasn't sure I was going to like Aohdan much as a main character. I much preferred Seireadan. Aohdan does not come across as a nice person, especially at the beginning, but as the book went on Hamilton did a great job of developing him so the reader begins to see his character and how he holds to a strict moral code. As their relationship develops both Aohdan and Seireadan bring different aspects of themselves to it, which has an affect on the other.

One thing I really liked about this story is that the fantasy and normal world aren't separate. The fae are known to the mundane world and interact with them. This isn't terribly common in fantasy books, and I

found it really interesting. Hamilton does a great job of exploring how the two worlds might interact and what happens when the faeries can't simply escape to their own realm or use magic to fix or change things in the human world. This affects how the two worlds interact and what happens to the characters in those interactions.

Hamilton's writing is engaging and layered, and her characters are nuanced. If you're a fan of dark fantasy you'll enjoy this book. If you've never read dark fantasy but like contemporary fantasy and romance then this is a great place to jump into the world of dark fantasy!

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### **Fernando says**

Susan K. Hamilton's writing is delicious and her intricate world-building is fascinating. Creating a world of fantasy characters, with believable motivations and a compelling plot, in a setting of real-world Boston, was brilliantly done. Adding a romantic element was just icing on the cake, and some of it was actually pretty HOT... adults only. Hamilton creates a vivid world and spins a great story. I found 'Shadow King' to be a very enjoyable read!

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### **Rachael says**

*I received this book from the publisher in return for an honest review. This in no way influences my opinion.*

Years ago the Faerie Realm was corrupt by a spell, the Desolation, and now the Fae live among the humans. Aohdan is the Fae Patriarch of Boston where he owns a tattoo shop and a nightclub/bar called Underworld. And one night he meets Seireadan, also a Fae and a Raven, which gives her the ability to Sight. She can't see into the future whenever she wants, the Sight comes to her at random times. But when she was a little girl, experiencing her first encounter with the Sight, a man killed her family and the family's of many and he is the reason for the Desolation. Her goal is to find him and kill him to avenge her family. And she thinks that Aohdan can help her.

Wow! I enjoyed this story much more than I thought I was going to. The first couple of chapters are difficult to get into because the story doesn't start out by grabbing your attention. But if you keep going, you will find yourself not wanting to put the book down. Susan Hamilton created a magnificent world with great characters. There were so many details throughout the book just to describe the simplest things.

The characters Aohdan and Seireadan really grow on you and despite them having an insta-love relationship, you find yourself really cheering this duo on. But that being said, there are several intimate sex scenes in the book, ones that I found to be too detailed for my liking. I don't need to know all of little details during their private moments. Especially an entire chapter devoted to that. I also loved most of Aohdan's crew! Galen, Oisin, Kieran were some of my favorites. They are so loyal to Aohdan. I didn't like Rory from the beginning because he was very broody and seemed to always be in a pretty bad mood.

*Shadow King* definitely kept surprising me. Just when you think that you know these characters, something happens and I grew to love the characters even more. Yes, they flaws like every character but that's what makes them unique. I plan on reading more of Susan Hamilton's writing and I hope I get to see these characters again.

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## **Katrin Schäfer says**

Shadow King  
A Dark Fantasy Tale  
von Susan K. Hamilton  
Inkshares / Quill

Cover:

The cover should be revised, because it looks quite amateurish designed. An improvement of the picture would enhance the cover a lot.

Review:

„Ambition. Betrayal. Revenge.

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But is revenge worth betraying the one she loves?“

This book is really entertaining but unfortunately not what would have stolen me immediately. The book is slowly picking up speed, but from the half of the book, the events became more intense. The author created a beautiful fantasy world, familiar and yet foreign. The relationship between the protagonists was stimulating, romantic and also erotic. What I liked was that you did not go too deep into a magical world and still have a touch of reality. This was especially true in the behavior of the characters and the descriptions of the scenes in the city. Nice and refreshing for me was also that the female protagonist was not weak and represented as a small helpless female. I am curious how the action will continue in the following volume. The reading was easy and fast and the writing style pleasant. I give the book 4/5 stars whereby I have to leave the cover now outside, because that would unfortunately deduct a point.

Thanks to Netgalley and the Inkshares Publishing House for the review copy.

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## **Ellen Whitfield says**

This was such a fun read, and I loved the world that Susan Hamilton built. It felt familiar and strange at the same time. And the way she built up the relationship between Aohdan and Seireadan, it was so tense and romantic and sexy!

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