



## Souless (Soul Broker, #1)

*Ismael Manzano*

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### **Soulless (Soul Broker, #1) Ismael Manzano**

The devil's not the only one buying souls; both sides need bodies to fight their war, and both have something to offer in return. Nearly anything is possible, if you are the type of soul they're looking for. Charlotte Furio learns this the hard way, when a spirited and mysterious woman named Trisha follows her home one night and gives her ailing father a simple choice: a healthy body for his immortal soul.

His decision introduces Charlotte to the world of soul brokering, and Charlotte is not only drawn to it, but finds she has a knack for it. Having lived the last decade of her life with only one purpose—to care for her increasingly disabled father—Charlotte sees this as her chance to give direction and meaning to her own life, and the lives of other people. To help them as Trisha had helped her father.

This mission is quickly derailed when Charlotte is framed for the murder of one of the brokers' leaders. Where she once had only one purpose, now Charlotte has two: get her father's soul back and find a way to prove her innocence before it's too late.

### **Soulless (Soul Broker, #1) Details**

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## From Reader Review Soulless (Soul Broker, #1) for online ebook

### Jen says

\*\* I received a copy of this book for free through a Goodreads giveaway. \*\*

While there were many questions left unanswered at the end of this book, it was still a very enjoyable read with well-defined characters and an interesting storyline. I loved the idea that it isn't just the 'devil' who wishes to buy souls but that both sides have emissaries who do the buying for them. I also really liked the main character, which is odd because she is constantly described as being soulless which would generally make her unlikeable. I suppose my liking her is down to the talent of the author! I really can't wait to see where he goes next with this series.

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### Aly says

This was a good book. I would never give up my soul. In the supernatural world, that is bad! There is a very different idea behind this book. I like a change from the normal I expect to read. This book had me wanting more. \* I received this book from the author in exchange for an honest review\*

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### Ailyn says

Thank you to the publishing company and author for providing me the book for a fair review.

Charlotte Furio's life is in chaos, she only had one focus: to look after her ailing father. It was a tough call, but Charlotte had managed so far despite lack of help and pressures from many sides. It was not until the appearance of a mysterious woman that Charlotte's life began to change.

When Trisha showed up with a parchment in Furio's home, it triggered a chain reaction that would propel Charlotte to become a soul broker. Soon, she realizes that she is good at her new job and relished it.

Until she was framed for a crime she did not commit.

Now Charlotte has to do two things: get her father's soul back and to prove her innocence. That does not sound hard, but the odds are not good. From a fantasy to a mystery, it is a race against time to find who is the real killer before the ramifications hit. While it is obvious the butler did not do it, our heroine might have to go to extreme lengths to clear her name.

Soulless is cool, the concept behind the story is new to me, and yet it does trigger questions in some aspects? I am glad that the story was well thought out, and detailed enough to show the author's dedication in providing a solid story. Although I kept wondering why Charlotte keeps calling herself soulless, probably something that would be answered in the next book.

Soulless is a good start to the Soul Broker series, fresh and original, I like the female heroine who seems to have good amount of confidence in herself. A great urban fantasy for the fans.

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## **Kay Latour says**

A thriller and a fantasy all rolled into one. The story pulls you in and keeps you there. Exciting read!!

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## **Miriama Šoltésová says**

From start I thought this was going to be the usual fantasy book, where the heroin is put into the unknown world with little information to go with and has to save the entire world from going down hill. But I was greatly surprised by how the things evolved. (Even hate the cliff hanger damn it!).

So, everything was perfect, but the start...was kindish confusing i have to say. I had no idea what was going on, no backstory to the main character just small suggestions on who might know whom, but I guess it was the thing that kept me reading.

The plot was catchy, I couldn't put the book down when i was in the middle, great idea of connecting a little bit of thrill and need to "solve" a case together with fantasy. It was something new and I definitely liked it.

The descriptions were excellent, man! And the references to the books and TV shows...

Those references connect closely to the main character, which is basically a TV addict and even though I haven't noticed any big development in Charlotte the book was written so well that it did not bother me much.

Also, the use of the first person POV, magnificent! Empathised the feelings, I could feel what she felt. Go and buy it when it's out. It's worth the money I promise. I can't wait to read the second book in the series, so much tension and unanswered questions at the end!

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## **Jennifer Kirkwood (Levac) says**

Charlotte has been looking after her father, who had a series of strokes and has left him an "invalid" (authors words not mine). He doesn't speak and sits in a wheelchair needing total care from his daughter. Charlotte only has her father left. This book starts out slow in my opinion. Charlotte meets Trisha in a bar, this lady is weird by Charlotte passes it off as the lady is drunk. Next thing we know Trisha has followed Charlotte home and wants her father's soul. This is where the story really gets started. Charlotte has shut herself off from the outside world and spends most of her time watching tv with her father.

I found the last half of the story really picks up and I enjoyed it a lot more when the action really started and we learned more about these "soul broker's". Charlotte wants in on this job to bring back her family and then finds herself tangled up in a web that "Trisha" has spun with Charlotte being the main character in it all. She walks right into the trap and needs to get out of it alive. Charlotte is naive but I think this is mainly due to staying home and looking after her father and brother. She didn't have the chance to learn and experience. She is a fighter and has an attitude that could be good or bad depending on who she decides to use it with.

I give this novel a 3.5 stars out of 5. I do look forward to the rest of the series as I think it'll get even more interesting in book two.

I received this book from the publisher for an honest review.

## **Kim says**

Originally posted at <http://kimheniadis.com>

Charlotte is at the end of her rope, caring for her father. She wants to, but there's something inside of her, scratching at her, and she has to get away. But she always comes back. One night though, a stranger follows Charlotte home, and entices her father to give up his soul.

Charlotte had no idea this was even a thing, but is quickly immersed into a world of soul brokering, which is actually something she is very good at. While trying to get her father's soul back, and trying to prove she is not a killer, she is led into a world that few people actually see.

This is a great beginning to a new Urban Fantasy series. The story of deals being made for souls is nothing new, but the way Manzano presents it, is very unique. And the hidden from the everyday world that he creates is fascinating. I can see it becoming even more in depth in future books.

One of the best parts of Urban Fantasies, besides the new worlds, is how the characters develop throughout the series. Charlotte grows up a lot, going from a woman running from her obligations, to digging deep inside of herself and finding the courage to help other people, and stand up to some really terrifying creatures.

Manzano did a great job of keeping the tension high, and the twists and turns coming. His use of pop culture references throughout the story added a bit of fun to the story, and helped to showcase how TV had become an escape for Charlotte.

Another great book from Fantasy Works Publishing. I look forward to the next one in the Soul Broker series.

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## **Rabid Reader says**

A captivating read that takes you on an absorbing, yet somewhat poignant journey, as we follow Charlotte Furiio from being a burnt out caregiver to a procurer of souls. Charlotte has always had an itch, a need to search for something that she has never found, until one day a strange woman introduces her to the world of soul brokering. Her itch may have been temporarily quieted by her introduction to this strange world but her life is thrown into chaotic turmoil. She not only has to try to save her fathers soul but she has to save her own life and prove to a higher power that she is not a murderer. This is a well written interesting story, and you can not help liking and rooting for Charlotte. Her life is lonely and sad but when mayhem erupts, her strength of character shows through and she is willing and able to fight for what she loves. The idea of soul brokering in this novel is a fresh and interesting concept, as is the authors idea of "God" and the "devil." It is an enjoyable book who's plot draws you in and keeps you reading to the end. I will look forward to reading the next in the series. I received this ARC from Fantasy Works Publishing in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Rosie Amber says**

Soulless is a New Adult, Urban Fantasy. Charlotte Furio needs time-out from caring for her wheelchair

bound father and feels she is always searching for something. Trisha approaches her in a bar asking what her one desire is in return for her soul. Not a question Charlotte feels able to answer as she classes herself as soulless. When she returns home, Trisha follows and before she knows what's happening Trisha has Charlotte's father signing away his soul in return for his good health.

Trisha recruits Charlotte as a "Soul Broker" and sets her up with interviews with her bosses, but when Mr White is shot, Charlotte becomes the number one suspect and must set out to prove her own innocence. Add to this a twist connected to her father's Soul and Charlotte has a new life purpose.

The book is filled with many references to TV shows and films which distracted from the storyline, I would also have liked to see the author show a range of emotions from the characters, rather than just anger. The author also used a series of e-mails in the writing to provide vital answers and this was a weak method of moving the storyline along and rather too neat and tidy. The dialogue tags could be improved and there were editing issues around 75% in the version I read, with changes in type size.

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