

Summarized Text

I wanted to love this book so much more than I did because the story told was a fascinating one, where real world facts blend into fiction. However, I found it very hard to enjoy the book because I really disliked the main character Amir. He was too cowardly, so childish throughout his whole life, whining and complaining through much of the 371 pages it took to tell the story. Because the cover caught my eye and I'm always interested in urban-fantasy novels where the main protagonist is male (since that's very rare), especially one from a female author. The Dark Storm is the first book in a new urban-fantasy series from author Kris Greene and while it does have some decent writing, it is amazingly generic. It's almost like what if you took a bunch of stuff from other books- a world of demons, agents of light, vampires, goblins, knights, werewolves and mystical weapons of power, blended them all together and weaved the story around the template on "how-to" write an urban-fantasy novel. The main problem I had with this book is its characterization, or lack thereof. There's just way too many characters crammed into this slim work (the story constantly shifts through multiple POV's), that I felt like I was missing half the novel, like it was incomplete. The characters are so poorly formed that they feel like they're cursory characters in the background, rather than the ones the whole series is based around. However, I did like the magic system with the witches, warlocks and mages all having different functions in the world, and how there are numerous classes and castes within each magical house. I also liked the back

story of how there was a holy war centuries ago between the forces of light and the denizens of hell, and how the ancestors of both sides are fighting over the souls again years later. But man, the most important aspect of the story, the very foundation the world is based around, the magical weapons, felt the weakest in the entire story.