



The Chosen

Alex Archer (pseudonym), Victor Milán

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Archaeologist Annja Creed believes there's more to the apparitions of *Santo Niño*--the Holy Child--luring thousands of pilgrims to Santa Fe. Other sightings of strange and anomalous creatures in the area indicate a mystery more profane than sacred--with links, perhaps, to Annja's own fate. But she is not alone in her quest to separate reliquaries from unholy minds who dare to harness sinister power. A dangerous yet enigmatic Jesuit, sworn to protect the Vatican at any cost, a brilliant young artist whose genius portrays a truth too potent for words and a famed monster hunter with a terrifying agenda are the keys to the secrets that lie in the heart of Los Alamos--and unlocking the door to the very fabric of time itself....

The Chosen Details

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From Reader Review The Chosen for online ebook

Shelley says

The 4th book in the Rogue Angel series finds our heroine investigating the bizzare sightings of a small boy in New Mexico. Since I have a fondness for NM, this book met my expectations. The only question NOT answered...the fate of the small boy.

Mary says

Not a very good entry in this series. I really like Annja but this story had nothing to do with her destiny or mission. The plot was barely there and made little sense. Not recommended.

Heather Willson says

Of the series, I enjoyed this one substantially due to its location and the church. It is a location and story well-loved, and I appreciate the author's ability to explain the folklore without ridicule but give it its due at the same time. Thankfully the plot outlined the character's growth in her new dimension, and not that she's simply wishy-washy. I still like the author's later works better though.

Maria Dimitrova says

[Garin, who appeared shortly and made some arrangement with the Vatican to separate Annja from the sword.

Anna says

I like the series and the concept. I hate to say it I feel it is very slow and it takes some time to go through. But all in all it is a good book it just needs to really catch the readers attention, it does have some good action adventure but when there is no action the story lacks. I would read the series again but I am not sure how soon I would reread them.

Starfire says

Daft? Yes. Brain candy? Yes. But fun? Oh, hell yes.

Despite the fact that I keep referring to the protagonist as either Lara Creed or Annja Croft (and differentiate the two action-heroine, archaeology chicks as "the one with the magic sword" as opposed to "the one with

the magic rack"), I'm really enjoying the series.

There's enough banter to keep my snark-connoisseur happy, enough action that I could be watching a Tomb Raider movie, enough plot to keep the entire story from dissolving into bubblegum, and there's even some reasonably internally-consistent characterisation and occasional character development (well, sometimes, anyway)

It's not, I grant you, cerebrally challenging by any stretch of the imagination. But sometimes brain candy is EXACTLY what you need.

Choko says

*** 4 ***

Weird winged creatures with red eyes are showing up at one of Annja's archaeological digs, while close by, in New Mexico, a mysterious child dressed in a costume of the 16th century appears to travelers and warns them of bad things to come... This was a much spookier addition to the series of the books up to now, but that made it even more interesting. On top of that, a supper-duper Catholic Priest begins following our magical Annja, and things go into religious myths and urban legends.

Loved the whole thing - nothing to amazing, just pure entertainment, as the series has set itself to be:):):) If you are looking for a fun read or listen during a long ride or an afternoon at the beach, this series should be it:) Have a great summer, everybody!!!

Theresa says

The Chosen (Rogue Angel #4)
by Alex Archer

I am sad that I read this book so late, although it had been sitting on my shelves for a bit. The reader can see Victor Milan's love of New Mexico, its people, places, and legends. I kept finding that the story was reminiscence of the place he lived. I wanted to ask him, were these places in the book places he loved, places he wanted to leave a legacy memory of. I can see how he wanted to be remembered how Victor wanted to go out passing the torch on to the next to take up the battle for good. This book was written before his illness, and long before we lost him, it is poignant and beautiful. Annja Creed is a great character, a cross between adventure archaeological characters and kick ass adventures. She is happenstance found in the middle of a mystery, and this one is farther than any other. She uses her intelligence and strength to come through this adventure, but it is the help of an old Jesuit priest that helps her survive. The lesson is we need to be careful and not play god. This is a great world trekking novel, with many cultural and legendary story lines.

Casia Courtier says

I listened to the Graphic Audio (a movie in your mind!) production of the book after I listened to the third book. If you don't know about Graphic Audio productions of audio books, you are either missing something in your life or living life grandly. I say it like that because sometimes the voices are cheesy. Yes, from the

slogan I stated earlier, the audio books are complete with different actors, background music, and sound effects. There is a narrator, but for the most part the books are like a movie in your mind. Granted, depending on the book, this could be a good or bad thing.

For *The Chosen*, it was iffy. I like the Graphic Audio version because that's what I've been listening to since the second book in the *Rogue Angel* series. The recurring characters have the same actors and it's easy to go back into the flow of things. However, I found this book to be boring.

It wasn't due to lack of action. Oh no, this book has a lot of that. It was more due to the action made little to no sense. Annja Creed is no stranger to death threats and terrible events. They happen in every book. But, the amount of threats and attacks in this one was beginning to feel silly. The effect of worrying about the main character basically ended after the third or fourth attack.

There was a cool new character, my brother and I dub him the Super Priest. He's strong, quick witted, and has an angle about him that I wish there was more of in the book. The basic storyline is convoluted and made little to no sense for me. Part of it had a spiritual edge, but then there was a scientific aspect too. It wasn't the type of joining like in Dan Brown's *Angels and Demons*. Instead, it felt like the author didn't know what to do with the story being crafted and put together a bunch of things.

No matter what the reason, I found myself confused and only caring for some moments in the book. It is my least favorite so far. I will continue with the series most likely, but I think that you could skip this book without any damage to the overall feel of the world.

Megan says

This is an interesting series, but there are a lot of violent scenes that really don't need to be there. In my opinion, it detracts to have Annja in 3-4 bloody sword/gun fights in such a short book.

That being said, this particular volume was interesting from the standpoint of someone who lives in New Mexico. Author Victor Milan clearly knows the locales he describes and that makes for a good, quick read.

Al Cormier says

I know Alex Archer is a pseudonym, but it didn't quite hit me until I read this installment of the continuing adventures of Annja Creed. Right away, you could tell this was a different author. The adventure was more edgy than the previous three. Annja the warrior greatly overshadowed Annja the archeologist. Garin got a brief cameo, while Reaux only received an occasional mention. I felt the plot was a little disjointed and somewhat vague, even when the "bad guy" attempted to explain it toward the apex of the story.

Maybe I'm being oversensitive. Had this been a premier offering of a new heroine to the action-adventure genre (which is what it felt like), I would have embraced it. I did enjoy it. I just had a picture in my mind based on the first trio of novels, that was frayed by this one. It hasn't, however, dissuaded me from continuing the series, as I am interested in seeing how the many other "Alex Archers" remold Ms. Creed according to their vision.

Chelsea Johnson says

Another good Rogue Angel novel. I did notice some grammatical/spelling errors though.

Annja's still struggling to accept her role as sword-bearer and she seems to just attract trouble wherever she goes! I do admire her perseverance though.

Cyndi says

Annja!!! You are so cool! ?

In this book she tries to find out about a Holy Child who shows up in time to warn people away from danger.

He's cool, but the creatures with red eyes that are killing people is not.

Excellent book!! Excellent graphic audio!! Thank you to my friend, Choko!!??

Eero says

In this instalment of Rogue Angel series Annja investigates boy Jesus and demonic animals, which are in reality caused by a government black op research. And there is also Jesuit priest who tries to take Annja's sword, but in the end Annja and priest will fight with demons side by side.

This book is poorest in series so far. Setting is very uninteresting, and black op government operations lead by mad scientist and generals are nearly always bad plot twist.

Dianne Owens says

As some of my friends are already aware, I am a big fan of the Rogue Angel series. When coupled with GraphicAudio, it's a pure win. This fourth installment in the series is no exception to my love of either.

GIST

When Annja Creed starts looking into the sightings of a Holy Child and some monsters in New Mexico, she is put on the radar of a secret project. Whilst negotiating numerous murder attempts across the globe, she is also tailed by a church inquisitor on his final mission.

THOUGHTS

This novel features all of the action adventure stuff that you'd expect from a Rogue Angel book, that tying together of mystery, action and drama that will no doubt offer the listener/reader with lots of entertainment. The pacing is on the money as well, dishing out the clues and various sequences in a logical manner. The plot itself played out nicely, but also offered enough chaos to allow this feeling of reactionary behaviours from the characters therein.

Annja was also allowed to make some mistakes as well, which is quite refreshing. Having somebody just as good as she is was a nice contrast to the other books as well. It places her in an odd predicament, caught between fear and respect whilst at the same time wondering whether she can trust him. He takes up the role that her mentor seems to avoid as well, offering advice and support as needed. [Spoiler] However, their

parting is foreshadowed from the first scene in which he is introduced.

CONCLUSION

I really liked this installment of the series and hope that the latter sequence has some lasting effect on the preceding novels. I really liked this one as it offered enough contrast with the previous. Whilst there is at least one unanswered question, it doesn't affect my enjoyment of the story itself. I highly recommend this book for anyone that enjoys a touch of the supernatural or monsters with their action adventure.

Karen says

These books are actually drawing me in. There is an overarching storyline. It's so subtle that I still haven't been able to figure out exactly what it is, but there are definitely hints of something bigger going on. I'm planning on reading more to see where they go.

BookJunkie777 says

A lot of action scenes, which is great, but there was also prolonged scene description. The thought process of going from one place to the next left gaps on how she chose to go to certain destinations.

Keziah says

Another strong story in the *Rogue Angel* series. This time Annja Creed finds herself investigating mysterious sightings of a small child, believed to be the young Jesus, who is warning travellers of an impending disaster. Roux makes no appearance, and Garin's minor appearance suggests even more depth to his mystery and contradictions. I wasn't too sold on the first half of the book, however the hints of the greater purpose behind Annja's powers and the fact that despite proving the so-called mysteries are the results of genetic engineering there are still many mysteries out there that defy Annja's scientific logic.

Cindy says

Enjoyed it but at times it seemed to run on. I enjoy a small backstory but too much makes me lose interest. I truly enjoy the main character. Able to take care of herself in every way. Liking the absence of romance. She is a very enjoyable character.

Timothy Mayer says

The Chosen is a definite improvement in the adventures of Anja Creed, she who bears the sword of St. Joan Of Arc. We still don't know a lot about her origins, other than she was raised in a Catholic orphanage in New Orleans. Roux and Garin have little to do with the action, but they remain tangential to the story. But the novel builds to an ending which makes me wonder if the producers of Cabin in the Woods read this book

while their movie was in pre-production.

Chosen begins with a Japanese tourist family being saved from sudden death in New Mexico by the appearance of Santo Nino, the Holy Child. Soon, tourists from all over the world are visiting the area, hoping for a visitation. But the Holy Child isn't the only supernatural creature who show up. Several demonic creatures make the scene too, causing havoc and blood shed. Of course, Annja Creed just happens to be in the same location on an archaeological dig when all the trouble starts.

An interesting development in the series is the introduction of a papal hitman: Father Robert Godin, Society of Jesus. Father Bob is 62, Belgian and a former mercenary. He's the man called on by the Holy See to deal with special problems. The novel introduces him as he "retires" a monsignor who's gone renegade. Eventually, Godin and Annja connect and blue sparks fly. I hope the Alex Arthur Collective can find some way to work him back into the series.

The cover is the weakest thing about this book. I 'd like to believe Golden Eagle's parent company, Harlequin, could find an artist who can generate decent cover paintings. The time constraints never seemed to bother the artists of the pulp era.
