



Illusion

Sherrilyn Kenyon

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Be careful what you wish for...

You just might get it.

Nick Gautier is tired of his destiny. He doesn't want to be the son of a demon who's fated to end the world. Nor does he want to see another demon or other preternatural creature who wants to kill or enslave him. He just wants to be normal and have normal problems like everyone else.

But normality isn't all it's cracked up to be. When he gets sucked into an alternate reality where his mother has married his mentor and his Atlantean god best friend has become a human geek, he begins to understand that no life is free of pain, and that every person has a specific place in the universe... Even the son of a hated demon.

Most of all, he sees that his powers aren't the curse he thought they were, and that the world needs a champion, especially one its enemies can't imagine rising up to defend the ones he should destroy.

Old enemies and new friends square off for a major battle that will either restore Nick to his real world, or end him forever.

Illusion Details

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Author : Sherrilyn Kenyon

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From Reader Review Illusion for online ebook

Paul Petty says

Although books like this usually come out once a year, I wonder...if there's 12 books total, will the books be released every 6 months or so once they're all written? It'd be real nice. I can't wait 8 more years for the rest of the books.

Sarah says

This book followed a similar pattern to the previous 4, with quite a slow pace, and a paranormal/fantasy storyline, but this one was a bit more confusing as we had 2 different Nick's, and two different realities, and I found it a little hard to keep up with what was happening.

Nick did have it rough in this story, waking up as a different version of yourself in an alternate reality would be bad, but knowing that your original body has the power to bring hell on earth, and is in less than capable hands would be even worse!

This story was mostly concerned with Nick trying to work out how to get back to his own reality, and knowing who he could and couldn't trust, which proved to be more difficult than expected.

The ending to this was okay, although we were once again left with a cliff-hanger.

6 out of 10

Bookworm007 says

Haven't read Inferno yet, (HECK, it ain't even out!!), and already I'm excited for *Illusion!!!!!!!!!!* :D

edit on April 12, 2013

Holy fuck, what what what the cover is out!!!!!!!!!!!!!!@/;&:\$483@2##*^^*}+}

Damn, the smoky-ness looks so bad ass. But why is Nick hiding in the corner now, like on Inferno's cover?

#Nick get yo ass down here so we can see yo pretty face

Nickyrian says

This book was AWESOME!!! Kudos to Ms. Sherrilyn Kenyon. This book just earned 10 supernova stars. Most of the characters were from the Dark-Hunter series (i.e., Ash, Savitar, Thorn, Simi, the Devereaux sisters, etc.). No dull moments at all. It's very entertaining because of the usual Nick's smarty remarks. The story was written perfectly. I was floored to find out the lineage of Kody. Five down 8 books more to go. I don't think I can't wait another year for the 6th installment. Wahhh!

Nandanie says

[image error]

Jamie Roeske (*Jam and her TBR Jar*) says

DISCLAIMER. IF ANYBODY IS EVEN CONSIDERING READING THESE BOOKS PLEASE TAKE MY ADVICE AND DONT DO IT. AND FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE READ THESE AND ENJOYED THEM... HOW DRUNK ARE YOU?

I was giving a \$50 shopping spree on Book Outlet for Christmas from my mom and I stumbled upon all 5 of these books. They were all under \$3 and I saw they they all had really high ratings!! I was so excited because the plot seemed right up my alley and the blurb already had me grinning. Oh how naive I was. Now I am kinda of hoping that all 5 of the hardcovers that I bought just happen to get run over by a car or possibly dropped into a bonfire. And trust me, I am not one for bookish violence. I hated almost everything about these books but Im gonna try to narrow it down to just a few.

I hated these books with a passion. Don't get me wrong, there was potential. You could write a great story with this plot but the author ruined everything. She sucked. Let me explain. Apparently this woman is a New York Times Best Selling author but from what I can see, she can't even afford an editor. Or maybe her editor is just the type of person who gets distracted by shiny things and has ADD and can't focus because I can't even count how many times there were spelling and editing mistakes. THEY WERE EVERYWHERE. Not to mention there were mistakes in the actual plot and dialogue. For example, in the first 100 pages of the second or third book, one of the side characters (Simi) turns out to be a demon and the main character (Nick) is all shocked and surprised. Anyway he accepts it and continues to be the demon's friend and the story moves on. Then in the last 100 pages of the same book, Simi the demon uses her lame demonic magic and Nick is all shocked and terrifying BECAUSE ACCORDING TO HIM, HE DIDNT KNOW SHE WAS A DEMON. WHAT THE HELL. HOW DOES SOMEONE EVEN MAKE THAT MISTAKE. Another example is in the third book the main character is talking to another supernatural being and the conversation goes like this:

The supernatural creature turns to Nick and says, "How can you not see in the dark?" and Nick replies with "Not really."

LIKE OH MY GOD. YOU'RE AN AUTHOR YET YOU DONT EVEN KNOW HOW TO SPEAK ENGLISH. LIKE WHAT THE ABSOLUTE HELL.

The other main thing that I hated was the characters. Especially the main character Nick. Now to read 5 books all from the perspective of this retard has caused my eye to perpetually twitch and I can't decide if I

need to see a doctor or not. By the 5th book, my heart would start beating really fast and I would get really anxious during the intense scenes, not because I was scared for everyone's safety but because I was so excited to see if they would all die. Is that bad?! Cuz honestly, I do not feel bad what so ever.

Now based the photo in the back of the book, this author is a grown ass women who, to be honest, reminds me a lot of Wynonna Judd. She should not be writing a book from the perspective of a 14 year old boy. The author tried to make Nick really funny and sarcastic... and Honey, it did not work. The main character could never be serious and personally, his "sarcasm" made me really uncomfortable. I felt like the half the time I spent reading each of these books, I was cringing from the horrible dialogue. Also, half of the stuff that Nick did in these was stuff that no normal kid his age would do. It was just so obvious that these books were written by a woman. Don't get me wrong, it is amazing and extremely important for boys to respect their mothers but the way Nick was with his mom was weird and just off. It was annoying because all he did was stress about his mom EVERY MINTUE OF EVER SECOND. Not to mention he was always stressing about their money situation and how him and his mom were poor. Like I swear to God, Nick couldn't meet anyone new in the first 3 or 4 books without commenting on how they dressed and how much more money they had compared to him. And those effing, Hawaiian shirts from Goodwill... Im sorry, but were those supposed to be cute and endearing? Was that supposed to be like his signature thing? Like Harry Potters round glasses?..... Hawaiian shirts?!? Seriously?!

I know I am in full out rant mode right now but I just have one more thing I need to add. As I mentioned before, it was obvious that this was written by a woman because no guy that age acts like Nick. And don't start telling me how I wouldn't know because I just happen to be the same age as him. This series is supposed to be about paranormal creatures and how the fate of the entire world is resting on this one boy's shoulders but I felt like 3/4 of each book was just really shitty deep quotes. Like there is this one part where one of his friends from school (a girl) is being bullied and with his magnificent spidey senses, he discovers that she is going to kill herself. He runs across all of New Orleans to get to her house and he just happens to get there just in time to talk her down from committing suicide. He then does a huge 3 page speech about bullying and how amazing she is and blah blah blah. Don't get me wrong, it was an inspiring speech but seriously?! I just felt like the author was trying to be deep and come up with really good deep and inspirational one liners instead of focussing on the plot. And stuff like this happened all the time. On more than one occasion, there would be a huge battle going on and all the characters would just happen to have 5 minutes of quiet time to sit around a camp fire and roast marshmallows and talk about their feelings. It was lame and I admit to skipping more than one page at a time just to get past the sappy crap.

This will mark the end of this review but I swear I could write a whole book about what was wrong with this series. If you plan on maintaining your sanity stay away from these. They are a waste of your time. According to Goodreads, there will be 15 books in this series but I can promise you I will never pick up another book by this author.

Louise says

Ash is only five feet tall ordinary teenage kid.
Artemis was married to Acheron.
Bubba is Nick's Father.
Kody is a ghost.

Thorn is out to kill Nick.

Nick is whining, crying and doesn't want to stand to fight. what the hell.

so which of the above mentioned is *not* an Illusion?

Over, under, around, or through, there's always a way . You don't give up and you never give in. They can scar your body and take your freedom, but only you can surrender your heart and soul.

Nothing is worth compromising yourself for. Stand fast and stand true. Always.

scrubs face

What a ride. A lot of things happened, secrets are revealed, new characters are in, Nick is still destined to destroy the world and its all up to him to control his demon powers and save the people he loves.

“The Ambrose Malachai will never be forgotten. But it’s up to you as to how he’ll always be remembered.”

At the end of the last book, we are thrown in a different universe where Nick has no powers and everyone around him is so ordinary.

The faces he'd recognize in his own life time are not the same as the one he is trapped into.

Now it was her turn to be stunned. “Aunt Artie is your wife?”

“Was. Yes.”

Still, she couldn’t grasp it. Not given what she knew of their past. “Aunt Artie?”

“Why do you keep saying it like that? We loved each other more than anything. I can’t imagine we could be different in your world.”

Hahaha now that's a fun tidbit especially readers who read the Dark Hunter series will surely know what's wrong on that statement!

I admit its a bit exhausting reading this book, there's too much info to digest in one go. A lot of actions, explosions and revelations, though its fun to read with all the twist and turns and I still want to continue reading this series until Nick is all reaped and lean in full demon prowess:D

“My worst fear? Being like everyone else. So I usually battle it with my extraordinary powers of awesomeness.”

Aside from saving Nick's butt from the enemies and trying to find his way home, fighting demons and finding new allies, the back stories are what makes the book interesting especially Kody's lineage, not that its

a surprise anymore since its been hint in the last book and also in Styxx book.

Still I'm not a fan of the Nick and Kody loveteam, actually there's nothing wrong about Kody as a heroine, she's a sweet and caring girl and a badass fighter who is willing to stand up for Nick no matter what, it just doesn't bode me that they will end up together.

“Life hammers us all. Too many times we become things we never thought we’d be. For many reasons.”

I love the Father and son part in the story, Adarian somehow redeems himself and that's a difficult part 'cause he's been a worse father to Nick in most alternate universe.

I love that the same cast are in the story yet they're not the same as they are. Ash, Savitar, Thorn, the devereaux sisters, what the heck talk about Illusion isn't it;)

The epilogue drives me nuts, I want to know more about Xevikan and his role in the next book.

Dang, is there not one incarnation of my life in any alternate universe where my mom didn't take a photo of me naked in the bathtub with a rubber duck? Really?

Another year to wait again, Nick is growing up fast woohoo!

Previous Post:

at the epilogue of Inferno I was like...

and I keep on thinking...

it's just an **Illusion**...

but you know what...

yes I love it! I can't wait for the next book to come:) because Ms. Sherrilyn Kenyon can do no wrong!

This series needs to be publish fast and I'm sure SK and the crew work hard with the title beginning with letter I..hahaha:D

April 2014!!! waiting for it:)

Sharon ☠ is an emotional book junkie ☠ says

Poor Nick, for every step forward, it seems he has to take two steps back. In this book, not only is Nick's powers bound but they are...gone and so is his body, well, "his" regular body. Seems like Nick's soul has switched bodies with another Nick in an alternate universe. Guess that explains the ugly blue tux.

I never know what to expect with this series besides the fact that it's going to be all kinds of crazy and this one did not disappoint. *But....it was just a tad confusing.* So Nick is different but so are most of the other people in the alternate universe and Nick has no idea if they are friends or foes. Not only that but people aren't married to the same people, kids don't have the same parents and There. Are. No. Were-Hunters!!

And can we talk about Kody for a moment? Who in the heck is she **not** related to? I had a hard time keeping up, that is, until we find out who her father is. *Sigh*...it made me so happy and things began to click. But there's a lot of sadness as well as we find out what's happened in the future with Kody...hopefully, some things will change.

It was great having many of the same involved characters even if they were different. I had to laugh at who Triple Threat aka Bubba is married too but I also loved it. And Ash...OMG, seriously? That was pretty cringe worthy about his wife of choice. I was as shocked as Nick.

I loved who came to Nick and helped him out. It was sad to hear some of his stories and how much he still loves someone. Hopefully, he will be a good influence from now on.

We also get a few newcomers as things happen with Nick's powers. Not sure how all this works out with the Sarrus but Xev was very interesting especially the whole thing with him and Caleb but mostly about his feelings about kindness and what Kody said about him at the end.

Next up is *Defiant* coming out April 7, 2015 and the title sounds like a good thing. I hope so because I really think it's time for Nick to grow and mature.

Favorite quotes:

♥ “My worst fear? Being like everyone else. So I usually battle it with my extraordinary powers of awesomeness.”

♥ *“Over, under, around, or through, there’s always a way. You don’t give up and you never give in. They can scar your body and take your freedom, but only you can surrender your heart and soul. Nothing is worth compromising yourself for. Stand fast and stand true. Always.”*

Amber says

Nick Gautier (Go-shae) has been sent into an alternate dimension where he appears to be normal and cannot tap into his Malachai demon powers. Can he get home back into his own body before everything is destroyed? Read on and find out for yourself.

This was a great fifth installment of the Chronicles of Nick series. It was action-packed, hilarious, and was a pretty good read. I cannot wait to see what happens next to Nick in the future. Definitely check out the Chronicles of Nick series as you will enjoy them.

Daybelisbaez says

OMG! With 12 books ,Twelve books!!! and you're giving me one per year!! you can't do dat!! i'm gonna die !! my anxious issues don't gonna make me resist!! D: Plese Mrs.Kenyon two books per year! PLEASE!!! March 2014 come soon please really soon!!!

The Window Seat says

If you are a fan of the Dark Hunters, and have resisted the pull of The Chronicles of Nick, let me tell you it is time to start reading Infinity - because the two series have started to overlap and the latest release, Illusion, is one no Dark Hunter fan should resist!

Now, this book has soooooo many secrets revealed - both for the world of The Chronicles of Nick and the Dark Hunter world, that I must put a spoiler warning on this review - even though I won't reveal any secrets and talk around the plot. So consider yourself warned. This review is also a little different because this book, I read with my son and I will share his thoughts and opinions as well. He usually "reads" The Chronicles of Nick on audiobook - he is a huge Holter Graham fan - so we read this together since at 9, this can be a little over his head in terms of the need to concentrate on the reading. The language isn't the problem, it is the sustained concentration that the stories require that I would say for reading, it is at a typical 5th grade level at least, though the content will keep even adults engaged. So, you have been warned - proceed at your own risk for VAGUE spoilers! :)

For the full review, please go to <http://www.thewindowseat13.com/2014/0...>

Yodamom says

Another great installment in the series. We learned a lot about Cody in this one.

Tangled N Books says

Book 5 (I can't decide what to name this volume)
[Sorry spoilers...]

The story is getting more and more complex. Nick's soul is sucked out of his body and into another Nick's body from a different realm. Caleb discovers the alt-scaredy-cat-Nick from retro 2002 replaced his bbf. Nick in alt-world ask the help of Devereaux sisters and protection. All 5 girls gifted, seemed to be Nick's best option in bringing him home. There are 2 reasons Nick was sent to another dimension 1. To hide 2. To kill at a realm he's weakest.

During Karma Devereaux's summoning, Nick summons Kody. She appears and fights Thorn to release him from a choke hold; discovers she's actually a ghost died many years in the future. The sisters Tabby, Mandy, Karma may not be his ally after all; they seem to be working with Thorn for the dark side. It's sad because

they're the only ones who believe him on this side. Thorn is against him in the alt-world. There are also no Dark-Hunters because Nick doesn't need Kyrian when he has Bubba, his natural father in this world. Later finds out, Bubba and Mark also fight demons in this realm. The kicker is that while his mom is the same, she is accepting and can see demons. Kody returns to her boss to find chaos/split alliances. Turns out her direct boss Srasha, the one who sorely wants Nick dead, has joined forces with Laguerre (M's general) to split the Arel (a being of goodness brought back to fight M).

The Malachai 7 generals are released from their prison as the first Malachai's precautionary "up yours" to end it all after the death of each Malachai; only the heir can stop them from rampaging. The world has 3 days to get Nick back into his body and time.

Ch15 is everything and more. Nick goes translucent and pulled into his father's realm of nothingness. He's already dead but still existing. Adarian lectures him and teaches him to call demon to do his bidding by saying their true name 3x. He learns to gather info from the ether and his own true name given to him by Adarian. He sees Adarian's suffering at Noir's hands and meeting Nick as a toddler for the first time; then discovering the closeness of the baby wanes his deadly powers. In a rage, he sees Cherise's love and affection directed at Nick and he was has all the power and malevolence doesn't have any of Cherise's affection. He understands that if Nick never existed, he would never see Cherise again. Andarian then sees Nick with Cherise's blue eyes. He holds him, wipes the blood from his head and hand, and kisses his cheek. He gives him valuable confidence/ego building pep talk. I tear up.

Meanwhile in the alt-world, Kody ask her bosses to bring Simi into this world for help. Together with Bubba, Mark, Savitar, Ash, they fight Thorn and his army until Nick can keep him at bay. Nick learns and summons Caleb using his summoning name; Caleb and Kody unbind his powers to fight Thorn and his army. And he fights like a boss; Kody and Caleb are astounded by his skills, how did he learn them? He is suddenly marked with the symbol of Noir and Azura. Did he accidentally accept them as master, when?

It's getting kind of tricky and complicated now. So Srasha and gang can follow Kody when she uses her powers. If she teleport back to Nick's realm they could trace him. She gets Nick to return home with Caleb and Simi. She is left alone in that world drifting unable to leave.

More weirdness finds him when he returns. He meets one of his Sarru-Ninim Livia, his vampiric bitey seductive general, and his Sarru-Dara Xevikan, the oldest and first, his hair and eye color rep each of the six primal gods. Seeing the hurt in his eyes, Nick allows Liv and Xev to stay in the human world. Caleb and Nick seals the portal and Caleb tearfully tells his history between him and Xev; Xev is kicked out of Caleb's house and goes to live with Nick. He meets Cherise and tears up at her motherly warmth and love. To repay the kindness shown to him by the now troubled Nick, he goes into the in-betweeness to retrieve Kody; is jealous of the love of both women for Nick; how?? Only a god can bring her back, gasp at who he is.

Read by Tina

Lisa says

I wish I could give this more than 5 stars!

Review to come soon!

"When Zavid started after them, he pulled him to a stop. 'What's the deal with this Malachai?'

'I don't know. I just joined him myself. But he seems level. Decent, even.'

He wasn't sure about that. He didn't believe in decency anymore. From anyone. 'He's with a half-daeve turncoat, a Charonte, and an Aamon, and you don't find that off?'

Zavid laughed. 'Wait until you meet his Arel girlfriend, lunatic mother, and the two human homicidal maniacs he calls his family. Buddy, everything about the Malachai ain't right.'

Xevikan screwed his face up as he digested those incomprehensible words. 'The Malachai has a mother and he hasn't eaten her?'

'No. He worships the ground she walks on.' "

page 416, Illusion

That's right! I have read the newest book in Sherrilyn Kenyon's Chronicles of Nick series, Illusion! In true SK fashion the books just keep getting better and better! Let me give you an idea of what my past two days have been like. I worked on Monday night from 11pm to 7am Tuesday morning. Took my kids to school. Slept for a few hours and checked my mail.... to find... ILLUSION IN MY MAIL BOX! I forgot I pre-ordered it! So naturally going back to sleep was not an option. So I read until I had to go to work for yet another 11pm-7am shift! As soon as I got home I took my kids to school, slept for about 4 hours and read. And read. And read! I could not stop! Who needs sleep??? NOT ME!

Kenyon starts up right where she left off in, Inferno. Nick wakes up to find himself at a prom with people he knows, but a weird bizarre mundane version of them. And, no Kody anywhere in sight. The worst thing to happen? Other than the loss of Nicks impressive height that is, No powers at all. Nick is lost down the rabbit hole where up and down and left is right. His enemy's are his friends and his friends are trying to kill him. He is on the run to try to find an ally in a world that is not his own. At the risk of spoilers (you all should know I don't like to give them) I really don't want to say much else about the plot.

I will tell you that SO many questions are answered in this book! As a dark-hunter fan, it is easy enough to put the pieces together. We finally learn who and what Kody is! We learn who her parents are!

OhmygodIcouldnotbelieveit! We learn a little bit more about Caleb and his past. Noir and his power over the Malachai. Adrian and his love for Charise. Nick and his full Malachai powers..... The list goes on and on!

We meet many new characters and have a reunion with many of our favorites.

If you have not read this series, well....WHY NOT???? Start from the beginning of the Dark Hunters and come on board. You don't have to read the DH'ers first but they are so great! You would be missing a huge chunk of the evolution of Nick. Illusion, is by far the best CON book yet. We are almost halfway done with CON and that much closer to Nicks DH book! I am in count down mode now to Nicks HEA!

Read the book! Somebody please so I can chat about it!

Happy reading,
Lisa :)

Mandie (Naughty Book Snitch) says

LOVE THIS SERIES!!

BUY THE BOOK

Shauni says

What can I say, Sherrilyn Kenyon delivers once again! This is by far the best book in the Con series and yet in typical Kenyon fashion she only promises us more.

We enter Illusion exactly where Inferno left off. Nick has entered an alternate reality where he sees some familiar faces but NO ONE is who they seem to be. Nick has to fight his way through this quagmire all the while trying to find his way home.

What really got me in this book was it was about Nick finding his way home, literally and figuratively. Yes his soul, his very essence has been ripped out of his body and transferred to a weaker, more protected, way mire innocent version and he needs to get to the right place and body. But more importantly he has to accept who and what he is. Sherrie laces this book with Oz references and it's more than just a cultural mention. Nick, like Dorothy has to find it within himself to get home. And like Dorothy he finds some interesting help along the way.

In all of Sherrie's books she makes much about life choices, Illusion she shows what could have happened to so many of the characters we know and love had they made a different choice somewhere along the line.

There were questions aplenty answered.. but more than that we find out exactly what drives or rather drove Nick's father. Kody's exact heritage is confirmed but of course I have many more questions that stem from the answers we have been given.

What really sold me on this book was that Sherrie lost the lecture tone. Inferno drove me nuts because so much of the important stuff was brought to us in lecture tone. Where the characters would write letters or pontificate, overly so. It was important stuff but I was happy to see Illusion turn back to Kenyon's kickass roots.

A grand adventure that is pivotal to both Nick's story but also the DH world in general. A true five plus plus star book.

Shauni

Brittney says

I seriously love all of these. I'm sad there is only three books left.

Stephanie E says

[Adraian is dead (hide spoiler)]

Taschima says

THE COVER IS OUT!!!!

Maja (The Nocturnal Library) says

I suspect I'm one of the very few people who are enjoying this YA spin-off, but aren't at all familiar with the original adult paranormal romance series. In all honesty, Kenyon's Dark Hunter series doesn't appeal to me in the least. It's not the type of thing I normally read, having developed allergies to PNR a long time ago, but her Chronicles of Nick, now at their fifth installment no less, are a whole different thing.

Even though it's often more Middle Grade than Young Adult, I've been a fan of this series from the start. Sherrilyn Kenyon has a fabulous sense of humor and her series is often laugh-out-loud funny. Nick's self-deprecating voice, his modesty and kindness, his protectiveness toward his tiny but fierce mother are all such endearing traits. He is an easy boy to love.

Illusion picks up exactly where *Inferno* left off, with Nick unwillingly thrown into a different dimension. Everything is different here: Caleb is human and a geek, Nick's mother is married to Bubba (who just happens to be a shrewd businessman), and Nick himself, as Bubba's son and not the Malakai, is significantly shorter, whinier, and entirely powerless. Kody is gone, the history is different, and Nick is, once again, in constant danger.

Kenyon expanded the world significantly in this installment, adding a never-ending number of enemies for Nick, and I must admit if all became a bit confusing. I kept forgetting the names and all the different species, I couldn't keep track of all Nick's friends and enemies even though I was trying very hard to keep track.

But the end result was still the same. I was entertained by Nick's sarcastic remarks, warmed by his love for his family and friends, I cheered quite loudly when he faced his enemies and teared up when it all became too much for him. Not bad for a mostly Middle Grade series, huh? Not bad at all.
