



Snake in the Glass

Seanan McGuire

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After New Orleans, Verity and Dominic are continuing to put their relationship through what can only be termed the ultimate stress-test: after all, there's a lot of country left to cover before they get to Oregon, and it's not like Verity is picking the most direct route. After all, she'd like him to meet her extended family before he meets her parents. Her parents are more likely to let him live if he has a few letters of recommendation.

The Carmichael Hotel in Chicago has long been a favorite destination of the Price family when they need a home away from home, and what better way to test Dominic's evolving attitudes toward the cryptid world than by dropping him into a nest of gorgons? Besides, any excuse to see Uncle Mike and Aunt Lea is a good one...although there may be a few complications. There always are.

When the modern world meets tradition and tradition meets practicality, it will be down to Dominic and Verity to show that sometimes, the ways you think are best are the ones that won't do anything to save you.

Snake in the Glass Details

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From Reader Review Snake in the Glass for online ebook

Erin (PT) says

One of the better Incryptid shorts; a just-plotty-enough short about Verity and Dominic going to the gorgon-run Carmichael Hotel in Chicago. We've spent so much time with Alex now that I'd almost forgotten how much I miss and love Verity, but this brought it all rushing back and I feel like this short, more than anything in the novels, really gets to how much Dominic loves her and how he envisions his future.

The plotty bit with the gorgons brought in a vague but pleasant Pride and Prejudice flashback for me and, all in all, it was a lovely if too brief visit to the Incryptid world.

Also and always: Aeslin mice. <3

Nilchance says

WORLDBUILDING :D

Debrac2014 says

Very entertaining short story with Verity and Dominic, stopping over in Chicago on their way to Portland.

Veronica says

No real action in this short story, just some nice downtime spent with Verity and Dominic, with some nice insight into the changes Dominic is facing now that he's chosen to follow his heart.

Ivy says

5 stars

Good short story. Seems Verity and Dominic are having a very long road trip. Nice to see them, Uncle Mike, the mice, and the Gorgons again. Nice to see Aunt Lea as well. Glad that the Carmichael Hotel is still around. Nice to learn more about the Gorgon culture. Hope Sarah will be okay. Also hope Verity and Dominic get back okay.

Sonia says

It's kinda sweet to look at Dominic and his journey to shed the covenant side. He has a long road ahead of him, and I'm going to enjoy the ride.

This one was so funny and sweet :)

Hisham El-far says

(Copied from my Yelp Review)

The Carmichael Hotel. Chicago, Illinois.

Parking: Once we fought our way through the rush hour traffic and found the hotel, we found that the parking was free for guests and very plentiful! Private Parking FTW!!!! 11/10

Hotel: On the outside, The Carmichael has a fantastic "Murder in the Night" vibe. Awesome! 10/10

Check In & Reception Staff: There was a bit of a snafu when we first arrived, the guy at reception couldn't find our booking. No big deal, seemed he was new! 9/10

Rooms: Brilliant, also there is Cable! 10/10

Dining: A weird but tasty fusion experience. 10/10

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Not gonna lie, I love the Incryptid series!

Overall: Would definitely stay here again. 10/10 all around!

:)

Angela says

We get to visit the Carmichael Hotel in Chicago once again. I love that the Price's have just as much of a connection there as Jonathan and Fran used to (and that beginning quote by Fran nearly broke my heart to start this off).

I also am really enjoying seeing Dominic introduced to the world that he's now inhabiting. The fact that he's doing it with such a continuously renewed conscious choice makes my love for him stronger. He admits the instinctive reaction isn't always relaxed understanding, and that's not only understandable but realistic, but he makes the choice to observe, interact, and learn. I have to respect that. The fact that he's showing he has an unabashed romantic side is a huge bonus.

I can't wait to see where we end up next!

Louisa says

Another great short story, and yeah, really enjoyed it! Glad to see Dominic with the Chicago family! So fantastic!

Sarah says

Verity and Dominic are still travelling cross country making their way to Verity's home in Oregon and this short story lets us join them as they stop over in Chicago to catch up with Uncle Mike and Aunt Lea. It would be far too easy for Dominic if they were just stay with family though so once again Verity drops him in at the deep end by booking them in at the local gorgon hotel.

You may remember the hotel from the Fran and Jonathan short stories so it was nice to catch up with the friendly gorgon family who run it. There is no mystery waiting for Verity and Dominic to solve so instead this story gives us the chance to see them just relaxing together while Dominic gets to know her friends a bit better.

What I enjoyed most was hearing from Dominic about how he views the changes in his life since he met Verity. His character has changed so much since the beginning and I love the way he looks at things now he's met her and she's shown him a whole different side to the cryptid community. There were some very sweet moments between them as a couple too and I'm glad we're getting the chance to spend more time with them both.

carol. says

Discount Armageddon, first in the InCryptid series, amused me a great deal, a clever bit of urban fantasy fluff. McGuire has filled in around the edges of the InCryptid world with a number of short stories. Some go back in time, detailing events in family lore such as when Verity's grandparents first met. *Snake in the Glass* fills in some of the details post *Discount*; as such, I don't recommend it for people who wish to avoid spoilers and who would like to read the first. For those who don't mind, it does give a nice little flavor to the kind of writing found throughout the series.

Verity Price and her boyfriend are taking the very slow route back home from New York to Oregon, giving boyfriend a chance to acclimate to all the strange in Verity's world. They stop at a very special, apparently derelict hotel in Chicago for a few days to have dinner with family friends and her aunt and uncle. It takes some social navigating to manage the stay, but it's an amusing process.

I enjoy the series, and this short has Verity's trademark directness and humor. There's still a bit too much "telling" in McGuire's technique, although this time it's largely disguised as Verity educating boyfriend and conversations between strangers.

Still, I giggled out loud at "'Most things grow better in fertile soil,' said Uncle Mike. We all turned to look at him. 'What? I thought this was 'say pretentious shit like it somehow makes sense' night.' 'He has a point there,' I said. 'I love you all but you sort of talk like you think you are being graded sometimes.'"

And with the mice in a supporting role, you can't really go wrong.

Hail!

Coyora Dokusho says

I am vastly amused by how they're still wandering around.... XD

Holly Hand Grenade says

"Love can't be the only thing we depend upon, but if there is a chance to find it, it should be pursued."

Verity continues to take Dominic to the people and places that mean the most to her-so he can decide she's not worth it and leave. She still hasn't realized that Dominic's mind was made up a while ago. They visit the Carmichael Hotel in Chicago, catch up with Uncle Mike & Aunt Lea and help settle some romantic issues the gorgons are having.

Marjolein says

Read all my reviews on <http://urlphantomhive.booklikes.com>

Snake in the Glass returns to a familiar setting for those who have been following the short stories that have been published on Seanan McGuire's web site and which can be all found there for free.

I liked the Chicago hotel when I first read about it, and liked it again this time. Now, I'm not an expert in American geography but it doesn't seem to me that via New Orleans and Chicago is the easiest route from New York to Portland.

Anelis says

Gorgons and Greeks in a cryptic hotel. There's also matchmaking. A great opportunity to show the romantic side of duce Dominic. Didn't care much for it.
