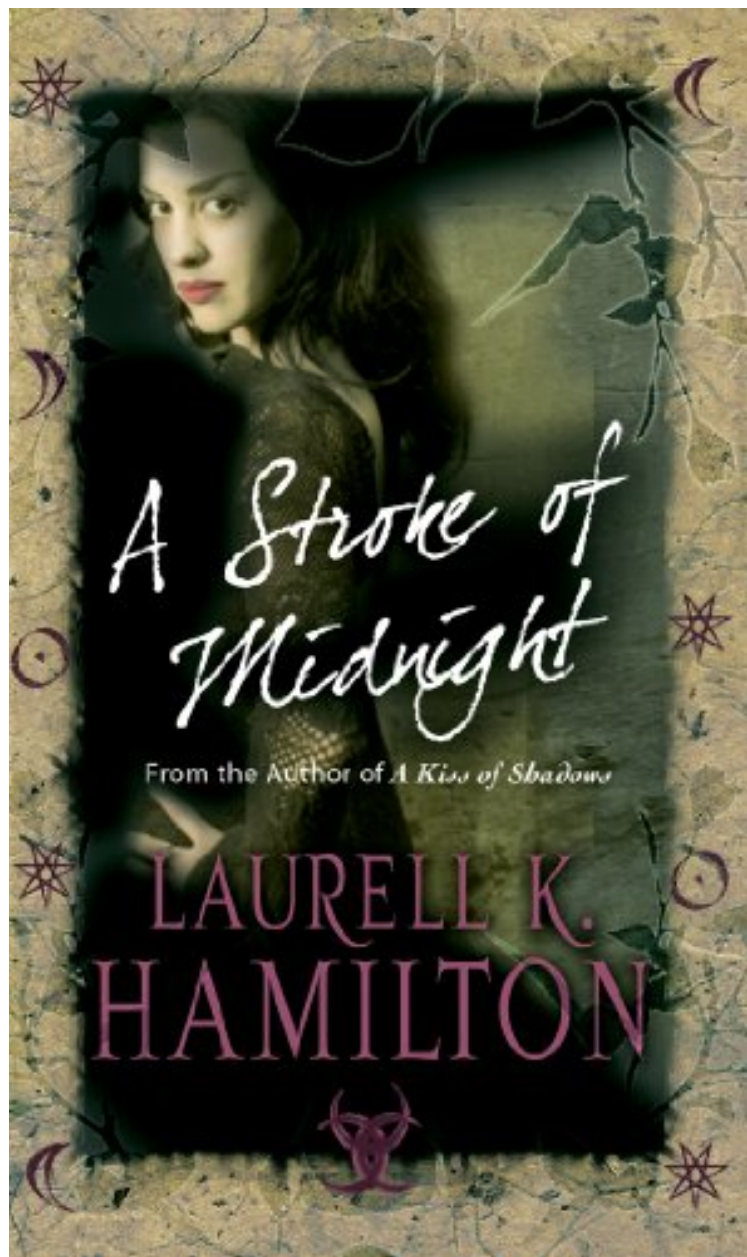


(Free download) A Stroke Of Midnight: Urban Fantasy (Merry Gentry 4) (A Merry Gentry Novel) (English Edition)

## A Stroke Of Midnight: Urban Fantasy (Merry Gentry 4) (A Merry Gentry Novel) (English Edition)

Von *Laurell K. Hamilton*

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before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Stroke Of Midnight: Urban Fantasy (Merry Gentry 4) (A Merry Gentry Novel) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen20 von 23 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Just a day in the life of Princess Meredith NicEssusVon Lawrance BernaboYou look at the title of the fourth Meredith Gentry novel from Laurell K. Hamilton and wonder how long it will be before Merry engages in another attempt to see if the Goddess has found her a king. The answer is eight chapters and of course the test for kingship in the Unseelie Court is getting Meredith NicEssus, Princess of Flesh and Blood, pregnant. The Queen of Air and Darkness has ordered member of her guard, held celibate for so many long years at her cruel whim, to go to Merry's bed to see if her ring will acknowledge one of them as her king and give her the throne. By this political expediency Hamilton justifies the sex in this series in a way she has been unable to do, as far as I am concerned in her Anita Blake series.The climax of the previous novel, "Seduced by Moonlight," was encouraging to me because when Merry and her company returned to the Unseelie Court to meet again with the Queen of Air and Darkness we finally got to the point where Hamilton provided proof she can still deliver the horror that made her Anita Blake novels so great. I really did not care if Hamilton wants to keep throwing soft core porn into her novels as long as she also delivers on the gut-wrenching horror. My major complaint with "A Stroke of Midnight" is that Hamilton takes her foot back off the pedal, which is why I ended up rounding down on this one. I thought Hamilton had reached the beginning of the end game, but the story really does not advance much father. Indeed, we do not get close to the next stroke of midnight as this story take place the next day (but apparently in more than 24 hours).The best part of the Meredith Gentry series is the chess game that is going on between Princess Meredith and Prince Cel to be chosen as the heir to the throne of Andais, Queen of Air and Darkness. It does not matter than Cel only half way through his imprisonment, chained and covered in Branwyn's Tears, as punishment for one of the previous assassination attempt on Merry, the game is still being played and the metaphor still applies (just think of Cel as having been castled). The only thing that has changed after the developments at the end of "Seduced by Moonlight" is that the other side has figured out that taking out some of Merry's pieces can be as important as getting the princess herself. Consequently we have a constant mix of assassination attempts and sex scenes.Also, of course, Merry is exhibiting new powers. It is simply not a Laurell K. Hamilton novel unless her heroine has new powers that develop in the last chapters of the novel. This becomes somewhat maddening because when this happens it usually means the action has to ground to a stop while the other characters explain to Merry what is happening. This is also rather frustrating because neither Queen Andais nor the rest of the Unseelie Court is getting up to speed on the significance of the powers Princess Meredith is exhibiting. At some point even her Aunt Andais has to get it through her thick skull that the Goddess, the sithen, and most of her guards, have endorsed Merry's claim to the throne. It is not going to be pretty when that happens, and I strongly suspect that when the Queen forces Merry to her bed she is going to get an unpleasant surprise.I want Hamilton to get to that point where the horror a lot quicker than she obviously intends to at this point in the series. Maybe given the pressures of having to top her endings in a dozen Anita Blake novels has forced the author to take a different tack with the Meredith Gentry series, which is to avoid the challenge by avoiding the big finishes with the giant doses of horror. "A Stroke of Midnight" actually ends with both a bang and a whimper, but neither is of the sort I was really hoping for.Quite simply, we should be father along in the story, and if it is still three months until Cel is released from his imprisonment you hate to think how many novels would be between now and then given the pace of this one (I suspect Cel will be given an early release although I am not sure who will do the freeing). Then there is the question of the ring choosing a king for Merry, because you have to think if Galen, Frost, Doyle or any of the others were going to be chosen it would have happened by now. Maybe it has to do with the idea that if she gets pregnant she gets married and sharing her body with so many would just be for fun rather than politics. But I think the true problem is that unlike the Anita Blake series the Meredith Gentry saga is going to be over when she wins the game, which is why Hamilton is just stringing us along at this point.1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Qualitt ber QuantittVon AltheneLaurell K. Hamilton, sollte sich mehr Zeit lassen, ihre Bcher auf den Markt zu bringen. Die Ideen sind gut und ich mag ihren Schreibstil sehr. Doch der Zwang, jedes Jahr ein o. mehr Bcher zu verffentlichen, senkt bei mir die Lesebegeisterung, denn die Qualitt gegenber den ersten Bnden hat doch extrem gelitten.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Einfach superVon SakaJuIch habe das Buch gerne und flott durchgelesen, obwohl ich in englischen Bchern nicht so versiert bin. Hamilton schrieb wie immer wieder sehr unterhaltsam und spannend.

KurzbeschreibungI am Meredith Gentry, P.I. and Princess Merry, heir to the throne of Fairie. I have departed the safe haven of Los Angeles to face the peril and deception of my first home, the Unseelie court. There, my enemies are many, and my guards may not be able to protect me from the treachery of the unseen foes that will stop at nothing to keep me from the throne.As for my quest to produce an heir and thereby save myself and all that is faerie from utter destruction - well, I am still trying. As pregnancy becomes ever more urgent, I must leave the protected beds of the

Queen's Ravens and lie with other men, men whose designs and allegiances remain in question. And a night of delirious passion will transport me and my new lovers to another place, the mysterious dead gardens - an event that portends great unrest in the forces of magic. In order to save myself and those I love, I must walk into the very mouth of danger, and visit the Goblins in their lair - as well as the cunning King Taranis himself, who has an astonishing proposal for me. For I alone hold the power to rescue the universe, even if it requires aligning with my greatest and most dangerous of adversaries. But I'm running out of time. . . .

From Publishers Weekly: Solving a double homicide, avoiding assassins and coping with growing, sometimes uncontrollable, power keep faerie private detective Princess Meredith NicEssus (aka Meredith Gentry) busy in the fourth and strongest entry in Hamilton's adult fairy tale series (after 2004's *Seduced by Moonlight*). When someone murders a fey and a reporter during a press conference inside the Unseelie's headquarters, Merry calls in the cops to assist (and inadvertently involves the FBI as well). But once on magical turf, human police face challenges and dangers of which the princess was unaware. Meanwhile, Merry lives up to the five fertility deities in her lineage and lustily fulfills her royal duty of mating with sidhe males and making sex beyond mere human comprehension. As Merry matures, the meaning of all the sex and magic comes into more effective focus, as does Hamilton's underlying mythos of the restoration of the faerie race's true power. The absence of complicated politics results in a more palatable plot than in previous volumes. By the end, the Unseelie court seems to be tiring of Merry's super-sadistic Aunt Andais, the Queen of Air and Darkness (as are, most likely, many readers). The queen's son and Merry's rival for the throne, Prince Cel, looms as an even greater, more corrupt menace to her future. Faeries, fornication and forensics fuse for yet another darkly fantastic frolic for Hamilton fans. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. *Pressestimmen* Praise for Laurell K. Hamilton: *A Kiss of Shadows* I've never read a writer with a more fertile imagination. DIANA GABALDON *Sizzling* . . . Memorable characters and wicked wit make it all delicious, ribald fun. Publishers Weekly *A Caress of Twilight* Sensual, without a doubt . . . This book moves like a whirlwind. St. Louis Post-Dispatch [A] sexy, tension-charged dark fantasy mystery. Locus *Seduced by Moonlight* This [faerie] society is one of the most detailed, imaginative, and lovingly drawn in all fantastic fiction, and the Meredith Gentry series has become something special. San Jose Mercury News Hamilton's books [are] must-reads. The Denver Post From the Hardcover edition.