



Shades of Memory

Diana Pharaoh Francis

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Book 4 of The Diamond City Magic Novels

“Exceptional!” —Jill Smith, RT Book Reviews on The Diamond City Magic series

Riley’s lost the last damned thing she’s willing to lose. She’s declaring war and prisoners are optional.

After escaping the FBI, Riley and her family have become fugitives, and not just from the law. Every bad guy on the planet wants a piece of Riley. Gregg has been kidnapped. Worse than that, Price’s newly discovered magic is dangerously out of control, and her own is trying to kill her. She has little time to worry about any of that before all hell breaks loose in Diamond City, and she finds herself smack dab in the crossfire.

With the clock ticking down, Riley gathers her friends and family to execute a Hail Mary plan that will pit them against seven of the most dangerous thugs in Diamond City, a serial killer, Riley’s psychopath father, and a mysterious billionaire with plans of his own. If she succeeds, she makes herself an even bigger target. If she fails, everybody she cares about dies.

But the shadows hold danger even Riley will never see coming

Diana Pharaoh Francis is the acclaimed author of a dozen fantasy and urban fantasy novels. Her books have been nominated for the Mary Roberts Rinehart Award and RT’s Best Urban Fantasy. *Shades of Memory* is the fourth book in her exciting new urban fantasy series—The Diamond City Magic Novels.

Shades of Memory Details

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Author : Diana Pharaoh Francis

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From Reader Review **Shades of Memory** for online ebook

Lisa Elizabeth says

Fair warning: the author loves cliffhangers.

This was a great addition to the series. The pace was fantastic and the complexities keep multiplying by the page. I don't know what is coming next but you best believe I'm going to be reading it in one sitting, just like I did with this book.

Penny Noble says

This book is the fourth in the Diamond City Magic series. Just days after the raid of the FBI compound, Riley is trying to help Price deal with his deadly new magic and his worry about his brother Gregg's kidnapping. Soon Riley has bigger problems to worry about: there is a new power vacuum in the tyets in Diamond City, and Riley must do something to protect her family. However, there are elements at play she has no idea about, but she's about to find out about them. I just love this series! It's one those that I forget just how good it is until I start reading it. Ms. Francis has a wonderful way of weaving different threads together in a book, and her characterizations are off the chart. I love how much Riley has grown, and how her and Price have grown closer. Riley's sister has two possible love interests, too, and I have to say I'm not sure which one I want her to pick because I like them both even if they are "bad" guys. The book was full of non-stop action, and I really didn't want to put it down. Yes, there was a cliffhanger, but that's to be expected in this series. And, if you haven't read this series, it is best to start from the beginning as you might be lost otherwise. This was a great addition to the series, and I cannot wait until the next one. Highly recommend! Thanks to the author for the e-copy which I voluntarily reviewed.

Celia says

Oh, this series! It's been a bit too long since I read book 3, so I was a bit at-sea for a while until I remembered the important details and everything fell into place. This is 150% not a book that can be read as a standalone, but that's okay, because it's awesome as part of the series. I am now desperately awaiting the cliffhanger resolution in the next book.

Adrienne says

Shades of Memory is Francis's best novel yet. Her characters are beautifully drawn, and she's put every one of them in dire peril. I love seeing Price's more vulnerable side. I love Riley's sense of humor. I love the way her friends and family come together to face down the forces arrayed against them. Francis takes advantage of the world's unique magical powers to offer up fascinating plot twists. The story races along at breakneck speed with enthralling reversals, breakthroughs, and mystery characters, until it lasers down into a riveting Trojan Horse scene that left me shaking and desperate to find out what happens next. This book will win awards next year.

Nicole Luiken says

Excellent new entry into the Diamond City Magic series by one of my favorite UF authors. Riley and Price are put through the wringer again, and the plot turned in an unexpected way, as both the snow and enemies begin piling up. The big plot arc is emerging.

Lysaelle says

I was really hooked to this series and was waiting eagerly for the next book. But the story is progressing at a snail's pace and I'm growing frustrated with the characters. Very few is resolved and most of the book is still Riley blundering about. Still an enjoyable read, but I hope things will pick up in the next book.

Stacey Brutger says

4.5 Stars

DESCRIPTION:

Riley's lost the last damned thing she's willing to lose. She's declaring war and prisoners are optional.

After escaping the FBI, Riley and her family have become fugitives, and not just from the law. Every bad guy on the planet wants a piece of Riley. Gregg has been kidnapped. Worse than that, Price's newly discovered magic is dangerously out of control, and her own is trying to kill her. She has little time to worry about any of that before all hell breaks loose in Diamond City, and she finds herself smack dab in the crossfire.

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But the shadows hold danger even Riley will never see coming

REVIEW:

I'm a huge fan of *The Diamond City Magic Novels*. I love dark urban fantasy books, and this series is one of the best. *Diana Pharaoh Francis* writing is right on point and highly entertaining. What I enjoy most about these books is the unpredictability of the story line. Riley is snarky, smart and doesn't take sh*t from anyone, not to mention she has a unique magical talent that can be nearly unstoppable...when it's working. What makes her a complete package is her vulnerability and her compassion for others. The supporting cast of characters are fantastic, their foibles highly entertaining, the tension between them adding another dimension to the story.

I had a little trouble getting into this book, the first chapter didn't capture me immediately, but I'm glad I kept reading. The rest of the book well made up for it...until I reached the harsh cliffhanger ending. The story just

stopped in the middle of the action—I wasn't ready for the book to be over yet! Despite the rocky beginning and abrupt ending, I enjoyed getting to know Riley, Price and their group of friends again in their latest adventure. I can't wait for the next book. These novels are a part of a series and cannot be read as a stand alone.

I received a copy of this book from NetGalley. Posted from my site: www.StaceyButger.com

Books In Brogan says

Loaded with subtle emotions, sizzling chemistry and the pain of making the hard choices. The vibrant characters and an innovative world of magic make this one an interesting twist on the standard urban fantasy.

The only note I would say is that you really must have read the others in the series or you would be lost. This review was originally posted on Books In Brogan

Jennifer Reed says

I was given a copy of this book by Netgalley for an honest review.

Another Awesome read! The characters and story line are well-developed. Riley, Price and her family have escaped the FBI, but Price's brother Gregg is still in their custody. They have to find a way to release him. Riley will make a decision that will affect all of Diamond City. Price also has to learn how to control his new-found power or he will end up destroying Diamond City. Riley will also push her powers to the limit. This is such a great book and series. I recommend it to everyone! I give *Shades of Memory* (The Diamond City Magic Novels) 5/5 stars.

Narelle Richards says

This series just keeps getting better and better. If you have not discovered Diana Pharaoh Francis yet and you are a lover of strong paranormal fiction with a solid touch of romance then you are missing out. This particular book is the fourth in an awesome series that has a powerful central female character, Riley Hollis, who stands for everyone who can't stand for themselves even when they might not be completely the good guys.

Riley has been on a rollercoaster of a ride for a while now and it is not about to slow down. She knows that her love for Clay Price is very real and that together they can pretty much tackle anything which is going to be pretty important as Clay comes to terms with his new powers released at the end of the last book. Still adding a bit more spice to the mix is the fact that Price's brother, Greg Touray, is one of the top Tyet bosses and you have plenty of action, particularly as he is need of rescuing at the beginning of the story.

There is a real sense of family loyalty within this series as Riley's family are always there for her (well everyone except her father) and each of them capture the reader's attention with their antics especially now it appears that Riley's sister has a couple of interesting men in her life (who should she choose - either or

neither or both).

All I can say is make sure if you haven't read these books yet - do start with one and if you have been reading them, stop reading this review right now and start reading this book. Carve out a few hours as you won't want to be interrupted. Bring on book five.

Thanks NetGalley and the publisher for the opportunity to read this book in return for an honest review. So delighted.

Nicole says

How could this story end so quickly? Everything is coming together. Things are still tough, but Riley is learning. Then some big crap happens, and oh wait the book is done?! Ok, there has to be a 5th one in the works? Please!

Tracie R says

4.5 Stars Mystery, Magic and Killers! A great addition to the Diamond City Magic series!! Riley protects those who can't protect themselves and they will need her now more than ever. The storyline is well written, and the character dynamics is engaging I can't wait to read more. I would recommend this book and series for lovers of great paranormal books

Lisarenee says

>>>> My Synopsis (Review Follows): <<<<

Most of Riley Hollis' life has been spent in the shadows--staying out of trouble, avoiding both the cops and the Tyet (magical mob) whenever humanly possible, and keeping under the radar. There are five major kinds of magic in the world: tracer, maker, binder, dreamer, traveller. Riley is a tracer. Everybody leaves a magical trail of sorts, like an indelible ribbon unrolling behind them. It isn't actually on this plane, but in a sort of other dimension that only tracers like Riley can see. It fades pretty quick for most tracers, disappearing in a matter of hours or maybe a week or two if they are really strong. For Riley it never fades. She can even track those who have died. This makes her a highly sought after commodity by the Tyet who would love to use and control her skills.

Riley uses her talent to find missing children. Just months ago while working a case she caught the attention of Clay Price. Price was a cop with connections to Gregg Touray. Touray is one of the top Tyet bosses in the city. What Riley didn't realize at the time was that Price is Gregg Touray's brother. To complicate matters even more, she found herself undeniably attracted to Price and the feeling was mutual. Their relationship took off, but eventually her secrets were revealed in front of the biggest Tyet kingpins in Diamond City. Price then struck a bargain with his brother to put Riley under Gregg's protection.

A lot can and has happened in a short period of time. As Riley realizes a major power struggle is about to go down in Diamond City, she has to figure out a way to keep herself and her family safe. Aligning herself with Touray is looking less and less like the right choice. Her decision on how to handle things will change everything...

>>>> **My Review:** <<<<

This is the fourth book in the Diamond City Magic series. If you haven't read any of the previous books in the series, I strongly encourage you to do so. The books build on one another and if you skip one, you'll miss out on some of the finer nuances of the relationships between the characters, the intricacies of the world, and the complexities of Riley's current situation. Just be aware this series is highly addictive and it's hard to stop with just one. So you may want to set aside some time for yourself to read these. I devoured the series pretty quickly and can't wait for the next book to come out.

One of the things I like about this series is the relationship between Riley and Price. Being a cop and Touray's brother made Riley want absolutely nothing to do with him in the beginning. The attraction between them, however, once they actually got to know one another was intense. All of Price's instincts scream for him to protect Riley and put her somewhere safe where nothing can harm her, but over time he's come to the realization he has to let her spread her wings and fly. If he doesn't, he'll lose her--and that is something he never wants to have happen. In the time the two have known one another, Price has helped Riley grow as an individual and come into her own. This time Riley gets to return the favor.

This book is a real game changer. Riley must make some hard decisions and will need a little help from both her family and friends. Things in Diamond City are about to change in a big way and Riley will be in the middle of it all. Relationships will be tested, lives will be put on the line, and a new threat will enter into the fray making for a highly intense, compelling, and gripping read.

I couldn't help but give this one **5 out of 5 roses**. I love this dynamic duo and the world Ms. Francis has created. The chemistry between Price and Riley is off the charts, and I love the way they banter back and forth. Price gives as good as he gets from Riley which keeps her on her toes. Be forewarned, however, that this one ends abruptly in a huge cliffhanger. Gah! (If you heard someone screaming loudly last night that was probably me shouting, "NOOOOOOooooooo!" **smirk**) On the Lisarenee Romance Rating Scale this one earned a **FAN** rating--the temperature in the room seems to have suddenly gone up a couple of degrees and a fan would be nice. I highly recommend this series. This series is destined for my keeper shelf.

Josephine says

It took me along time to finish this book, the minute the author took Riley on another path, I lost interest. The character she had formulated in the past 4 books does not have the capacity for evil. I got bored because I love the authors writing style, I continued to see if things would change. Sorry this is the last book I read in this series.

Heidi says

This would be 4 stars but I'm too annoyed by the cliffhanger.

Good action, there's some progress on the overall story, but meh on the experience of the book. It's just unfulfilling to read a book that has a cliffhanger when the next story hasn't been published yet. I don't think I'll read anymore Diana Pharaoh Francis unless the entire series is complete.
