



## The Wicked

*L.A. Banks*

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## **The Wicked L.A. Banks**

Damali and Carlos have finally tied the knot, but there is no happily ever after on the horizon. Cain, the son of Eve and the new chairman of the Vampire Council is amassing an army of creatures like no one has ever seen before. But while a band of human scientists are conducting secret experiments they open the dimension that holds Cain and he is released into the human world, bigger and badder than ever. Her family slaughtered, Damali heads for hell to serve justice and faces off with a nemesis the likes of which she has never encountered. Carlos doesn't take his wife's disappearance lightly and races against time to get Damali back... only to learn that his wife might be pregnant. The question: is the child his or the Chairman's?

## **The Wicked Details**

Date : Published September 5th 2000 by St. Martins Press-3pl

ISBN : 9780312352363

Author : L.A. Banks

Format : Paperback 389 pages

Genre : Paranormal, Vampires, Fantasy, Urban Fantasy, Romance, Paranormal Romance

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## From Reader Review The Wicked for online ebook

### shona bailey says

#### Awesome!

Never disappointed with her books. What a great author. How she ties everything going in the world within her books.

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### Dallas says

Wow... the Arizona adventures were hard on the eyes... they were nothing compared to Mexico. Rider is still my favorite Guardian. I felt sorry for Cain until "he pushed Damali in a corner" that is. I almost wish there was more of Yonnie and Nuit; they were almost an after thought in this book - even during the major battle. For some of the characters I thought the ending was a bit much (but then again I haven't gone through what Bobby and Krissy have so who am I to say? LOL)

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### Cara says

I just want to start out by saying that this is the first book I've read by L.A. Banks and the first book I've read of the Vampire Huntress series.

Part of me really enjoyed the book while another part was sooooo annoyed while reading it.

The parts I enjoyed was how she incorporated well-known and even popular real people to be on the Kings and Queens Council. And how she paired them (with the exception of Akhenaten, guy wasn't a warrior) with their real life counterparts, genius. The draw on religion without feeling was I was drowning in it was great.

Bad part, which unfortunately, overshadowed the entire book for me was the writing. While the writing itself was decent usually, the constant use of slang for nearly every character was just awful to read. They all sounded the same and seriously, one or two characters talking like 'aw'ight' is more than enough to make me want to punch myself in the face, but when the entire cast (pretty much) is doing it? No fucking thanks.

It's a pity really because I really enjoyed the plot, and was able to follow along, for the most part, considering I've never read any of the other books in the series. The heavy influence of silver, gold, electricity was lost on me. I didn't understand why they were important, just that they were.

If it hadn't been for the constant slang, the outdated verbiage for genitalia, and heavy, knock of the head unconscious, sex with Lilith (sex doesn't bother me, sex is great, but Lilith has sex with everyone and everything for seemingly every damn reason = healing, rituals, negotiations, etc. Shoot me), I easily could have given this book 4 stars. Sadly, it was not the case.

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### **Tina says**

This is a great series. D and Carlos keep it together with love and demons, angels and hybrids. Something is always going on.

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### **Necia says**

Wow, Carlos character has really developed in this book. With everything that's going on, it's almost unbelievable. He GREW up a lot! Damali too for that matter! The series is getting better and better, and I'm really unsure how the author can keep coming up with such off the wall plots. The only thing I wasn't too happy about was the ending. It was ridculously over the top, and unbelievable! However, I'm am anxiously awaiting for the next title to get here from my Book Club.

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### **M.J. Friday says**

This book will have you on the edge of your seat, I love the action, the suspense and of course the drama. I am so happy the author decided to give the team their own mates who also have divine powers they bring to the table in the war against good and evil. I love this series, it just keeps getting better. I love it. In book the 8th book of the VHS Series, Damali and Carlos are finally married and are enjoying their honeymoon when something from Carlos old life jolts him and those in his old vampire line, causing some of the team members( who have now been paired with mates of their own) to act violently towards their mates, meanwhile in Nod Cain get upset when he finds out that Damali has married Carlos when he is sure he is the better man and add to that he also discovers his sword of Heru is fake and Carlos has the real one. This causes Cain to go mad with envy and head to Hell to take over the throne held by his father. Together He and Lilith set out to destroy the Guardian team, kill Carlos and claim Damali as Cain's mate to produce daywalkers, by making a deal with the Devil & bring back one of the teams old enemies Fallon Nuit. But Lilith as always has her own agenda, and she a secret even the Unnamed one will be suprised by. With the threat of Cain , Lilith, and now Fallon the Neterus and the Guardian team w/ its members new and old must fight for humanity again.

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### **Kat (Kindred Dreamheart) says**

I'm just glad Marlene didn't get killed in this book. Geez that mother-seer was starting to look like Kenny from South Park! Instead of being sad, I laughed because it was like if somebody got a mortal wound.....it's kill Marlene time, then bring her back to die again!

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### **TinaMarie says**

Cain and Lilith face off with the Neteru's, dealing with possible pregnancies, Banks continues to bring in the interpersonal while keeping the suspense going.

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### **Takiyah Dudley says**

not one of her best installments but not the worst either. its entertaining.

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### **Amber says**

You know what I love about these books? They have it all: romance, drama, fantasy, kick ass battle scenes, historical and mythological threads, everything. And to top it all off, it's very well written. Banks draws you into the story until you feel like you never want to resurface. I am so glad that there are thirteen books in this series. Four out of five stars to The Wicked!!!

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### **Tracey says**

Banks had really outdone herself with this book. It's just all around amazing. The big baddie, the fight scenes, the ending. I literally cried during some scenes. And I have never cried while reading this series. I kinda almost wish the story ended here, on such a high note.

Damali and Carlos have their work cut out for them when Cain decides to leave the Land of Nod and go for his father's throne in Hell. All the stops have to be pulled to overcome his literal reign of terror. The council of kings, council of queens, other squads, and angels are brought in for the final battle. It was gut wrenching. Some of the deaths scenes had me hollering. I had to put the book down in several occasions.

Everything was just awesome, all of the elements came together for an amazing story. I wasn't even mad at the over detailed writing style or how long the book was. From the first page, I was hooked. The pacing finally felt natural. I now have high hopes for the rest of the series. My standards are at an all time high right now.

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### **James III says**

Ok im plowing through this and must admit, I never thought Carlos would GET IT, and Damali would learn to back down ..damn im loving this series!!

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### **Sabrina says**

Every time I read one of these books, I find myself conflicted. on one hand, I find them a little tedious. Though the dialogue is really wonderful and really sinks you deep into the world and culture of Damali and her crew, there are gigantic spans of book spent on explaining one problem to multiple people until you are so sick of reading about said problem you could just scream. Also, little catch phrases are used ad nauseum, and they don't always really fit with the character that's saying them. These books are also filled with sex,

violence, and language conventionally thought as "foul", and are truly not for anyone who would find any of the above offensive. That aside, Banks displays a cast of characters who are loveable, fallable, and real - human. In a world where good vs. evil is more than political rhetoric and religious debate, these Neteru squads are on the front lines of the ultimate battle, and every new development is a thrill. Best of all, in a genre that glorifies the darkness within, this series is based on a fundamental truth: it's easy to let yourself be led by the promise of great power into darkness, and, in doing so, there is always a consequence beyond your imagining. Conversely, the journey on the road into the Light is difficult and a constant struggle to get to the next clear stretch, but the Light gives you unlimited chances to stay on the path, will reward you for your struggles, and is all powerful and can grant your wildest wish. In the end, the Light (goodness, truth, and GOD) will always win.

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### **Adrienna says**

The synopsis will draw eagerly readers like myself in. The opening chapter or prologue was steamy, wickedly hot and a bit too graphic for my liking. You can get lost in a trance with these two evil creatures: Cain and Lilith. But after this chapter, it went a bit downhill for my reading tastes to see Damali and Carlos discussing minuscule things about a steak vs vegetarian eating until he gives her a bit that takes longer to heal. This love bite is not your normal bite either. When she goes back to the crew, she finds out what's up with Juanita, Carlos ex and his brother's new girlfriend and his vamp issues. This brother Jose sounds quite abusive, or his urges can be beyond belief or repair. However when the couple, Carlos and Damali, explain the thingy with Cain, I was lost (literally) in the explanation and only caught parts of it myself. Not sure if it was gibberish or confusion in the explanation; yet to see the book of Genesis characters: Satan (serpent), Cain, Eve, and Adam aforementioned in the beginning was astounding but all play different roles from the author's creative mindset in reference to good versus evil.

I have enjoyed some books in the series and others have fell off for my reading tastes, but I do love how the LA Banks puts spiritual concepts no matter how eccentric it can be in the storyline and love her writing style at times, especially action scenes which in some cases can be a bit lost in that too. (I hope someday to write as good as this author.)

sadly this book didn't flow well for me nor grasp my attention as normal which seemed like 2/3 was fluff. but I did like the part concerning the genesis of the original sin and mishap with Lilith and eve too. cain's character stood out in beginning and middle parts of novel.

Leisure read 2014

Adrienna Turner  
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### **Monique says**

#### Plot:

The plot of The Wicked continues where the last book ended, setting up for Armageddon. Damali and Carlos are finally married and her ex-almost-lover Cain is pissed. There is not much to say about the plot, it follows

the rest of the books well and is just another piece in the puzzle needed for the final battle.

Characters:

I love the characters in this series. Mainly, I love Carlos. In this installment, Carlos grows a lot as a person. His relationship with Damali is tested but he is able to overcome the past and move forward not only to save their marriage but also for the good of the team. Damali has always been a solid character to me. She pretty much the same character wise. She did learn that she is not invincible and learned a bit of humility.

One thing that has always bothered me about Banks characters is that they all have about the same voice. There was no real variations in the dialogue to distinguish between characters. The only time that the characters "voice" was different was when dealing with hybrids or the vampire from Louisiana, that used French terms. Otherwise there was no variation in speech patterns which is annoying since Banks uses dialogue to give readers important information.

Writing:

LA Banks writing style is very engaging. I finished this book in two sittings, staying up until 3am the first night. I just did not want to put it down. The only negatives in Banks writing other then the dialogue issue is that she tends to do a lot of information dumping. Which I normally skip because sometimes the information is not that important (at least to me). Also, her fight scenes are a little confusing. I don't always understand what is going on and end up having to read some sections several times before I get it.

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