



## Bone Key

*Keith R.A. DeCandido*

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Twenty-two years ago, Sam and Dean Winchester lost their mother to a mysterious and demonic supernatural force. In the years after, their father, John, taught them about the paranormal evil that lives in the dark corners and on the back roads of America . . . and he taught them how to kill it.

Sam and Dean are headed for Key West, Florida, home to Hemingway, hurricanes, and a whole lot of demons. The tropical town has so many ghouls on the loose that one of its main moneymakers has long been a series of ghost tours. But the tours are no more, not since one of the guides was found dead of an apparent heart attack . . . his face frozen in mid-scream. No one knows what horrors he saw, but the Winchester brothers are about to find out.

Soon they'll be face-to-face with the ghosts of the island's most infamous residents, demons with a hidden agenda, and a mysterious ancient power looking for revenge. It's up to Sam and Dean to save the citizens of Key West . . . before the beautiful island is reduced to nothing more than a pile of bones.

## **Bone Key Details**

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Author : Keith R.A. DeCandido

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## From Reader Review Bone Key for online ebook

### **J.L. says**

My quest to become a genuine Keith R.A. DeCandido fangirl continues today with his second Supernatural media tie-in novel. I enjoyed this one a lot more than his first, Nevermore, for a variety of reasons.

While I thought he did an okay job in Nevermore of capturing Sam and Dean's characters, I know that was a major complaint of other readers. Their representation in this novel felt a lot smoother -- honestly, as if the author just didn't try as hard. The addition of Bobby as a secondary character was a welcome surprise, and while I thought his appearance at the end was a tad contrived (though necessary for point of view purposes), Bobby's voice was spot-on.

The author's familiarity and love for Key West show through the words and description, and it's always very cool to see the brothers in an environment that's not a Midwestern small town with a vague resemblance to Vancouver.

I also really appreciated a seeing mythology that wasn't based in generic Judeo-Christian stereotype. At the same time, this Native mythology was well-researched, far from generic, and most importantly, felt respectful (despite being the villain). (I am not an expert, so your mileage may vary.)

Some of the interlude scenes tilted just on the edge of dragging on too long, and didn't always feel especially relevant at first. But overall, this was a fast (and fast-paced), enjoyable visit with the Winchester brothers.

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### **Julene Ds says**

There are a few reasons why I gave this book such a low rating, despite being a supernatural book with a decent enemy.

#### **\*NO PLOT SPOILERS\***

1. The use of certain phrases in conversation that Dean or Sam would never use. 'lockpicking skillz' (yes with a z) and 'emo' were used in normal conversation way too much. What they would say didn't always feel like their character (to be far most of the time it was ok).

2. Horrible, annoying and long back stories. An entire chapter to just say another person died. And it wasn't just once. The first 5 chapters weren't of much use, and there were more back stories of ghosts towards the end.

\*slight spoiler\* (And seriously what's the girl who was being sexually harassed by her step brothers but her mom just said 'boys will be boys' and she played it off like nothing? Seriously that pissed me off and yet it had nothing to do with the story).

3. I was confused for half of the book because of misleading sentences (and again because an entire chapter at a time wouldn't be relevant). For example, "... didn't start off planning to kill tourists" - so reading this

quickly you may establish that this is the killer, but it turns out the girl just didn't like tourists when she thought she would like them. So I went an entire chapter with her being the killer in my mind.

If you do read this book, it won't be a total waste of time...the actual plot was good. I really liked the idea behind the enemy of book and how it was defeated.

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### **Carys says**

such an amazing book. I like the plot and the characters in this story as I am a huge supernatural fan. these series of books go perfectly with the series and I would have liked to see them make these into actual episodes as I think they would be spectacular.

This book was set during season 3 of the TV show where Dean has to deal with the fact that he only has a year to live due to his deal with the demon. At times when I was reading this book I found that I could actually imagine and hear Sam, Dean and Bobby talking. amazing and I would recommend this book to anyone and especially the Supernatural fans. It did take me longer than expected to finish this book because of my school work but that doesn't mean that it wasn't interesting. 5 stars, I couldn't put it down. :)

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### **Brandi says**

This book takes place about 6 months before Dean is to go to hell. Sam and Dean end up in Key West working a case that even has all the spirit moving about the area where all can see them. During their stay they end up learning about a lost tribe of people. It was fun to read and I could see this book could have been transformed into the TV show. I did find a few issues with the story but it was still fun.

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### **oxana says**

This would be 4 and 1/2 stars, but since that rating isn't possible, I will lower it to 4.

“Bone Key” was pretty much like its fellow books, “Nevermore” and “Witch’s Canyon”; full of light teasing between the brothers Dean and Sam, little hints towards the TV show (some bigger than others), and action mingled with light but solid story-telling, which keeps your nose glued to the pages and doesn’t make a dull read on the worst of days.

As a story, “Bone Key” is traditional *Supernatural* quality. The theme deals with ghosts and spirits and a lost tribe’s vengeance, and beneath it struggle the forces of good and evil; Dean has less than a year to live because he traded his soul to keep Sam alive, and Sam has a problem with that. Also, the brothers have to deal with the possibility that they may have to work with a demon to outcome their current problem – which naturally isn’t an easy decision for any Winchester.

In my opinion, while “Bone Key” is a brilliant, nice, fun-to-read book, it lacked a little bit in what the previous books had. Maybe the action wasn’t good enough, or the climax of the story. Perhaps the job was so ordinary that it didn’t stand out among all the other books and TV episodes.

A definite must read to anyone enjoying the show, though. The plot and the spirit of the story are good, just

lacking a little in intensity.

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### **Kelly Flanagan says**

When it comes to 'based on TV type books my assumptions aren't very high. So going into this book I was not expecting very big words or much beyond a fluffed up script from a tv episode.

Well, I'm at least happy to say that I was wrong there. The book may be an adaptation, and as such the characters follow there on screen personal exactly, but the book is well written, and I will admit to giggling a few times out loud. :P

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### **graveyardgremlin says**

While I like the idea behind this, it just didn't come together very well. Part of the problem may have been that there were too many viewpoints from characters that usually had no other purpose than to die. A few of these would have been fine, but there was more than enough. The characterizations of Sam and Dean were on maybe half the time -- maybe -- though I'd venture closer to forty percent. Bobby fared better after a somewhat strange beginning. Some of the dialogue was so badly worded I couldn't imagine either of them saying what they did, or using such poor grammar in one sentence, even Dean. Now we get to the word 'gonna.' Would it kill anyone -- *anyone!* -- to say 'going to' every once in a while? Or is there some kind of curse that will give them continuous diarrhea for a year if they do? That really started setting my teeth on edge after a while. There was one passage from Dean that was particularly painful and I wish I had kept the page number so I could have typed the passage out for posterity. I can't say the book was horrible, but it wasn't good either and it's definitely the worst out of the first three *Supernatural* books.

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### **Merin says**

Much like the first two tie-in novels I read, this one was a good way to pass the time, although it's nothing spectacular. I did like the case the boys were working, and the way the author really fleshed out Key West and the people you'd see there. I also felt like the boys were more in character than the previous two installments, which was definitely a good thing; with a show like *Supernatural* as your basis, you kind of need the characters to sound like the characters you see on TV! I also liked the appearance from Bobby, and the nods to the season this is set in (season 3), particularly Dean's looming trip to hell. All in all this was a solid story, and definitely the best of the three tie-in novels I've read so far.

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### **Melissa says**

Wow, I've seriously got a love-hate relationship with these books. Love: they give me something to do while it's not *Supernatural* Tuesday (or Wednesday, since I live in Belgium). Hate: I don't even like reading them half of the time. But I can't stop! What is this black magic?

I had high hopes for this one, still turned out to be disappointing. All characters were as flat as paper, even Sam and Dean. I had to roll my eyes at a couple of their overambitious one-liners and there was something off

about the two of them in general. It's a good thing the book got better towards the end, because in the beginning I was thinking "there's fanfiction out there, better than this". And is it me, or are Dean's eyes more green than they are hazel?

Witch Canyon was slightly better, in my opinion. However, even though I'm complaining about these books constantly, I can't seem to stop reading them. Guess I'm pretty addicted to Supernatural and I'll always come back for my fix. So yes, I'll be reading the next book in the series, thank you very much. Chances are I'll hate that one, too, but maybe it's a good kind of hate. An addicting one. So, Heart of the Dragon, here I come. If I don't decide to salt and burn all of those novels first...

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### **? Irena ? says**

#### **1.5**

A combination of a potentially great story and complete cheesiness in the end.

The potential is in 'the mysterious ancient power looking for revenge'. Though it is dubious how evil that power is, it could have been a great story. Until the cheese fest near the end of the book. It got so bad that I was embarrassed.

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### **Jamie says**

Lots of mixed feelings on this Supernatural-based novel. It wasn't bad, especially for being a spin-off from a tv series, yet was far from impressive. The best paranormal-hunting brothers are always worth reading about.

\*\*Warning if you have not seen at least the first 2 seasons of the tv series, this review may contain spoilers for you\*\*

This story takes Sam and Dean to Key West. It takes place during the tv series' season three. Dean is trying to live up to his last year, Sam wants to find a way to save him. This is one of the greatest positives for this book. I loved knowing when this takes place in the timeline. There is a lot happening in this novel. Ancient evil, demons and ghosts! While parts seem like it could make a good episode, there is a bit too much happening to make it work. And a fair share is left unresolved.

This is also quite cheesy. Just like the show has some light-hearted episodes (such as Yellow Fever), this goes right along. Yet it tries to toss in the serious aspect with Sam wanting to help Dean out. Bit of messy confusion as to how to perceive the focus. Especially being as I didn't get that strong relationship feel between the brothers here. Way too casual with the mix.

I did enjoy the Hemingway ghost stop. And all the cats!! Craziness! But very fun to read about. I suppose I

now have a slight reason for visiting Key West myself one day!

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### **Oceana2602 says**

Ah, this is more like it! Sam and Dean go down to Key West to hunt ghosts. what's not to like?

I liked this book better than "Witch's Canyon", because the story was more what I had expected from these kinds of books. Where "Witch's Canyon" just introduced tons of OCs seemingly without direction, Bone Key creates OCs, people you get to know and who actually play a part in the things that are about to happen.

And there's tons of things going on, starting with Sam and Dean going down to Key West, tons of ghosts, including Hemingway (and maybe some cats) and a honest-to-god doll (Chucky! The Killer Puppet! \*evil laugh\*), demons, more ghosts, salting and burning and Dean flirting in bars, and just generally tons of supernatural fun. Yep, I liked it.

Now, I know that some have criticized the inaccuracy in the book, the voices sounding a little off, Dean's eye color etc., and you are right about those things. It's just that I can easily overlook them in favor of the story. I have my own version of these characters in my head, I know what they look like, I know how they act - so if the book is slightly off on these things, I just don't notice, because I really didn't care about the author's version of Sam and Dean in the first place, since I like my own just fine.

I mean, if you were really looking for good SPN fic with amazing characterization, you'd go looking at fanfic, right? You don't expect these kinds of things from a tv-tie-in, do you?

Anyway, these are just details, most of the book is well-written and in character, so if you are a Supernatural fan, I would recommend this book to you without hesitation.

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### **Jeneé says**

I tend to be very picky when it comes to reading the Supernatural novels, because like most books that are based on a TV show, they can be pretty bad. So before I read one I read as many reviews as I can. This one surprisingly had pretty good reviews and I'm not sure why. I ended up skipping Nevermore because it was reviewed poorly and read Witch's Canyon first. Which I enjoyed it was fairly spot on when it came to the characters and the story was entertaining. I should have realized when picking up Bone Key that it was written by the same author that wrote Nevermore.

That being said, Bone Key was not very good. The story was rather interesting and creative but that wasn't enough to redeem it. First off, the characters, if you are going to write a novel based on TV show it would be beneficial to research the characters enough so that you know exactly how they act. The Dean and Sam in Bone Key were not the same as in the show, they said and did things that they would never do. And for some reason the author loved using the word "emo" which was just very out of place in the supernatural world.

And lastly, even though the story was creative, it wasn't supernatural, I know it sounds weird but it was too much. I know I shouldn't expect much from these books but they are fun to read when I'm feeling like I need more Supernatural outside of the show. But in the future I plan on skipping any other ones that were written by this author.

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### **Han?a says**

?ekala jsem, že tato knížka nebude nic sv?toborného... Vlastn? jsem myslela, že bude opravdu hrozná, ale k mému p?ekvapení to nebylo TAK hrozné. Ano, je tam spooooouuuusta zbyte?ných v?cí, v?ty, které by Dean ani Sam nevypustili z pusy, ale kol a kolem je tato knížka dobrá, když není co jiného ?íst.

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### **Rissa says**

This was cute.

Sam  
Dean  
Bobby  
Key west  
Ghosts  
possessions  
Lots of fun

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