



## Spoils of War

*Adrian Tchaikovsky*

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Tales of the Apt is a companion series to the best-selling decalogy *Shadows of the Apt* (Tor UK), gathering together short stories from disparate places and supplementing them with a wealth of new tales written especially for the series. Together, they combine to provide a different perspective, an alternative history that parallels and unfolds alongside the familiar one, filling in the gaps and revealing intriguing backstories for many established characters. A must read for any fan of the *Shadows of the Apt* books, where epic fantasy meets steampunk and so much more.

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## **Spoils of War Details**

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Author : Adrian Tchaikovsky

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## From Reader Review Spoils of War for online ebook

### Joseph Vanucchi says

#### Loved it

Was upset about the book being over, wondering if more Tales would be forthcoming(upcoming?it's early) but then saw at the end that one is already in works. Yay! Always loved this world, this concept. Great being back. Really enjoyed all the stories, though it definitely brought up some characters I wish had been more featured in Shadows. I usually don't like short stories- the exceptions being Road Brothers(Lawrence) and Sharp Ends(Abercrombie) and, obviously, this. So glad I still have Tchaikovsky's Tiger and the Wolf still unread on my kindle! Highly recommended for anyone who liked Shadows of the Apt, a wonderful epic, or to see if you wanna check that out-

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### Jimmit Shah says

Don't read unless you have read the entire Shadows of the Apt Series. For those who have made it through...

What a wonderful idea! We have come across so many small but interesting characters throughout the series and what a way to know the back stories of some of them. The Shadow of the Apt series shows the world that already knows the lash of the Wasp and the ambitions of the Wasp. This book (and the series) shows in small glimpses here how the Wasp Empire shaped up to be the vast killing machine it is and how other Kinden come to live with the new reality. The Ironclads are shown in full glory here - waiting for 'The Last Ironclad' in the next installment.

It was a pain to see the 12 year war play out (again in glimpses) the way it did. It is one thing to know of it as a thing of the past in the Shadows series but to experience it from the viewpoint the falling Dragonflies is too gut wrenching (Dragonfly falling was probably one of my most go-back-to novels in the Shadows series). The magnificence of Art... being mowed down like so much grass in a lawn by the artifice of the Apt kindles too many bad feelings of what could have happened to Collegium has Stenwold Maker not been prescient enough.

Except for two stories, the Wasps are everywhere, killing all that is good (and bad) in the name of the Empire. Grim satisfaction then when Wasps get betrayed (sometimes by their own). Dragonflies and Grasshoppers get killed like their namesakes in real world - in droves. And the Fly Kinden are as ubiquitous as ever. We get to see a few Mantids, Moth, Spider and Scorpion Kinden too.

Next book in the series please! Fast (I see there is a Sep 2016 release date - yay!)

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### Eric says

4 Stars

This was a quick, enjoyable book offering some additional depth to the world created in the Shadows of the Apt series. Full of short stories, they give some backstory to secondary characters from the novels as well as introduce some new characters. This book will be enjoyed most by those who have read the main series, as without that background info from the series it will be much harder to follow these short stories.

Many of these stories take place in the Commonweal, either during or after the 12 year war. I enjoyed the book from the series set in the Commonweal, so I was pleased to be able to spend more time there. The nature of that war was so tragic and devastating that many of the stories had a strong sense of melancholy.

Throughout the main series, Tchaikovsky did a fantastic job creating memorable and distinct secondary characters, and we get to see more of a few of them here. Many of these characters are more rogues than heroes, and I found their stories thoroughly entertaining. Another strength of the main series that was found here as well is the complex portrayal of the Wasp Empire, showing the conflict as far more layered than a simple clash between good and evil. There are people on both sides who fall into each of those categories. Showing the humanity of both sides is one of the ways that I think the author was able to create a world that truly felt real.

If you haven't read the Shadows of the Apt series, go give it a try. If you have and want to read more stories set in that world, you'll enjoy this collection.

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### **Blind\_guardian says**

Tchaikovsky has rapidly become one of my favorite modern authors, and I love the world he's created in his Shadows of the Apt series. This new anthology trilogy gives us fresh perspectives on the world, and starts us before the beginning of Book 1, setting most of the stories in the end of the Twelve Year War with the Commonweal. It serves well as a prequel or as a way to return to the rich world of the bug-kind. Looking forward to the second book!

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### **Tom Lloyd says**

An excellent companion collection from one of the best and most versatile authors in the genre today. There were no weak stories to be found and it was all highly entertaining. They're pretty much all focused on the 12 year war and the aftermath, but while that makes sense it did mean there wasn't quite the same variety of races etc that you find in the series - that's really not a big complaint though and I'm keen to read the next collection.

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### **Josh says**

Short stories set predominately in the Commonweal during the Empire's occupation in the 12 year war containing a vast array of characters, some new, some favorites, some obscure yet all equally engaging and fun to read. As vast as the characters in this series are, so are their stories. Author Adrian Tchaikovsky writes diverse stories that take his characters on many interesting journeys distinct in their own right but complementary to the series proper. I would recommend reading the Shadows of the Apt series first in order to fully appreciate how good this collection is. 5/5 stars.

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### **Mike Gething says**

I'm not a huge fan of short stories in general but this collection is superb and an absolute must for anyone who enjoyed the Shadows of the Apt series. Intriguing, evocative tales. Some familiar faces and a whole array of insect kinden. A Roach's desperate search for his enslaved daughter, a Wasp's fascination with a Dragonfly warrioress, a Thorn-bug's private war, and a Mosquito.....

(Warning: Subject matter includes slavery and rape)

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### **Uriah Mach says**

As I greatly enjoy the Shadows of the Apt series, I feel like the author left a lot of red slippers lying around in that world. This book, and hopefully the other two collections of short stories, pick up and run with them.

The stories themselves range from good to excellent and take you back to the Commonweal, Myna, and Helleron. I've greatly enjoyed all of them, particularly Ironclad.

If you enjoyed the Shadow of the Apt, you cannot go wrong with The Tales of the Apt.

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### **Alytha says**

I loved the main Shadows of the Apt series, and these stories felt like coming home to that awesome world.

However, the kindle version has tons of typos, which make reading it a bit annoying :(

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