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Possessed by the foul daemon Tz'arkan, the ruthless dark elf anti-hero Malus Darkblade is forced to seek a number of magic artefacts or his soul will be forfeit. He will have to call on all his cunning and dark wits to survive a magic labyrinth and defeat its fearsome guardian.

## Bloodstorm Details

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Author : Dan Abnett , Mike Lee

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## From Reader Review Bloodstorm for online ebook

### Batsap says

I enjoyed this one more than the first in the Malus Darkblade series.

I liked the new retainer Hauclir, I hope he sticks around for the next book. He was probably the most fun character. It was interesting getting to see more of Malus' brother Urial, as he only had a small role in the first book. Tanithra was a good character too, I would have liked to have seen a little more of her.

As for Malus... for a bad dude, there's a lot of much badder dudes that seem to spend their time finding inventive ways to torture him. At times he seemed like he was more bark than bite. Something that was highlighted in a scene between him and Hauclir.

The over-the-top violence for violence sake seemed to have been toned down a little for this book, which was good. I know that by reading Warhammer, I'm signing on for grim and bloody madness, but I do like there to be more of a reason behind it than senseless shock value.

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### Andrew says

the interesting thing about series where all the characters are evil is who you end up routing for

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### Vicente Ribes says

El segundo libro de esta saga supera al anterior. Malus poseído por un demonio se embarca en una expedición para encontrar un medallón en una isla peligrosa y llena de magia. Traiciones, asesinatos, enemigos horribles y horrendos, acción pirata en medio del mar, brujería, etc. La forma de ser de los druchii y los interesantes y cómicos secundarios que aparecen en el libro hacen de esta una obra de fantasía bastante original.

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### Sergio Armisen says

Siguen las aventuras de Malus Darkblade, el más infame y cabrón de los elfos oscuros. Y sigue la diversión a raudales. Aventuras a la antigua usanza pero con el toque gore y diferencial que el "héroe" sea más malo que pegarle a un padre. Muy entretenido, vamos a por la tercera entrega.

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### Nikki says

The second book chronicling the adventures of Malus Darkblade blows the first one out of the water!

Bloodstorm takes all of the things that made The Daemon's Curse great, such as the dark and sarcastic humour, imaginative settings, a sense of real adventure, and fast-paced plot, and turns it up ten notches! At the same time it managed to remove or fix every single problem that I had with the first one.

Trust me, if there were elements that you liked about the first one, but you disliked the extreme amount of fight scenes or long boring dry spells, THIS is the book for you.

While the first one relied on gory fighting, this is a book that uses its head. The scheming and plotting is intricate and the back stories on absolutely anything are detailed and woven together expertly.

While there are definitely very depraved, disgusting, horrifying elements to this book, it is all a part of the genre and the realities of the characters. While it was sometimes over the top in the first one, here it is toned down slightly and the horror becomes that much more frightening to behold.

Pros:

- Retains all the great elements of book 1, while doing away with most previous issues
- Cast of memorable and fascinating characters. (view spoiler)
- The complicated and ever-changing relationships between the highborn siblings. Getting to know Malus' family is very interesting.
- You never know who to trust, for the deadliest of adversaries can just as easily become your loyal partner and allies can become fierce foes
- Laugh out loud funny at parts

Cons:

- No real bond or friendship between characters is disheartening at times
- Incestual relationships heavily implied and referenced

And so, with the beautiful image of Malus skinning and wearing (view spoiler) as a mask in my mind's eye, I will continue onwards to Reaper of Souls!

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## **Kris43 says**

What a fantastic book this is! It was a joy to read.

The first one had a general feeling of slipping, uncontrollable falling deeper and deeper into the abyss. This one starts with the same general feeling. Malus returns from the wastes and he is in a sorry state indeed, about to collapse from hunger and fatigue. He also has a pack of pursuers after his hide.

And from there it only gets worse, like the first one, this is a very dark book. Despite a successful expedition, nothing really changes in Malus position or standing in his household. It even manages to deteriorate. So for a moment i was wondering like, what else can go wrong? Quite a lot, actually. You'll have to read and find out.

And then we get to part where this book differs from the last one. In one critical moment Malus manages to turn the tide, and takes advantage of the whole complicated plot of circumstances.

He takes the plunge and succeeds! In spite all the negative stuff around him he finds his equilibrium and thrives! From then on, all the things that were before contributing to all the slipping and falling, feel like they only add to the whole burning inferno of passion that drives Malus on. I loved the feeling! Feels like flying:))

This book is full of complicated schemes and plots and there are many layers of happenings, i loved the whole complexity.

There are also many many scenes full of all kinds of un-describable body fluids and lots of disgusting deeds and parts flying around to satisfy even the most hardened reader:))

And the best part? Malus stays true to him self! No sell-outs happening here. So if you didn't like him before, because he wasn't a Goody Two-Shoes, there's no chance of you suddenly having an epiphany and realizing he's really a nice guy. (Here i must congratulate the author for personal integrity!) But if you did like him before, you're going to LOVE him now.

And in the end? Malus gets the most awesome mask!  
Daddy's gonna love him when he gets home with it:)))

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## **José says**

Un excelente libro como parece ser todos libros de esta saga lo unico que siempre le saco mal a estos libros es que tiene problemas con el ritmo, pero cuando agarra el ritmo el libro es excelente.

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## **GrimNir says**

The ultimate anti-hero.

Malus Darkblade prides himself in being a devious, deceitful, back stabbing, murdering, lying, cut throat wretch and you will simply love and adore.

Book one Deamon's Curse sets the scene for the remaining four books, it is basically the set up where at the end Malus is cursed and infected by the Deamon. Its good on its own but is the weakest of all five books.

This however is arguably one of the best. Malus has a year to obtain certain artefacts or lose his soul. Those artefacts are of course all holy and powerful as far as chaos cults, chaos gods, and dark elves are concern and all jealously wanted or guarded. So he'll need to con trick, bribe, deceive, and threaten others into helping him. However if his fellow dark elves discover his curse they'll kill him for his weakness of being infected. Add to that siblings who want to use, manipulate and torture him to death and you can see Malus has a few problems on his hands.

This book then excels as Malus tries to be more devious and underhand and bloodthirsty than his rivals. He often falls foul of his own rash actions or back firing plans, and despite his strenuous attempts to avoid it often becomes a hero for his people saving the day. Which in Malus's eye is a bad thing, as it is in the opinions of all the Dark Elves who see heroism more as a curse or at least an act of childish stupidity.

You never mind how evil he gets, how deceitful, murderous or blood thirsty because not only is that his very intrinsic nature in which he revels, but because his victims are always far worse and steeped in great cosmic evil, as opposed to self serving egocentric evil.

In fact the absolute joy of this whole series of books is you can revel in the evil back stabbing murderous deeds with impunity because you know the victims deserve it and more. So this then becomes fun. A secret pleasure. A temptation indulged. Ever wanted to kind of secretly root for the bad guy? Now you can.

I own all five books and I've read them about four or five times each at least, and I'll continue to read them until Mr Abnett finally graces us with a new series of Malus Darkblade. One I know I'll definately be buying

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### **Mattias says**

Great read. Not for the faint of heart. Better than the first Malus Darkblade book!

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### **Paulo "paper books always" Carvalho says**

This is the second book of the five books series about Malus Darkblade. Damn.. only five? This is probably the best series I've ever read or knew that exist where the main character is a evil character. He is evil and almost more evil than the daemon inside him. I remenber reading the comic book (which the story is a bit different of this one) when Malus kills his father and the daemon upon hearing malus saying "goodbye father", the daemon ask... "You killed your own father? Somethimes you even scare me.. and I am a daemon." and the dark elf responded "Good!" That sentence never left my mind and from that point on I've loved Malus Darkblade.

So in this book the dark elf returns to his hometown. He is not received well. Captured and beaten (well there were too many ways of punish to put here...) by his father. His father wouldn't dare to kill him because of his mother so he try to punish him beyond limits so Malus could give up. That don't happen. He find out that he must go to some forsaken isle to retrieve the second artifact. To do this, Malus must betray, double cross, and even triple cross his dark elf siblings as he uses them to locate an island belonging to their enemies, the Skinriders. When I say triple cross I should say fourth and fifth cross eheh.

Just to give an example. Malus has four brothers so he must plan with each to do what he wants (all of them against another). They all want another of his brothers dead so it will be difficult to him to deliver what everybody wants.

One of the characters I like most (besides Malus) was his new retainer Hauclir. I just like him. And I don't wanted him to die. He's a good character and even if he was a Dark Elf he isn't that dark (but dark still). He responds back to Malus but was never kill because of it. Well in Malus defense he did threat him a lot.

Well... The final conclusion is this.. In the first book you see a lot of fights. Here we see a well conceived plot with a good knowlledge of the dark elf court and principles (or lack of them). But don't be alarm. The blood in this book flows in every page. One thing I like is the humans. They are slave and seen as pure livestock. Excelent.

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## Chris says

This is the 2nd book of what I think are 5 or 6 books in the Malus Darkblade series based in the world of Warhammer (not Warcraft). Malus is a Dark Elf, and there is much intrigue between him and the rest of his siblings as he continues his quest in search of another of the lost idols. His goal, as always, is to plot his rise to power, at the downfall of those about him. To this end, he obtains a Writ of Iron from the Drakhaur and conscripts his brothers, and one of his sisters to accompany him on a quest for the Isle of Morhaut (where the idol resides). Malus' lies to his siblings to move them in the direction he desires could backfire on him, as that is what can happen when one weaves that many lies together into a web as continues in this book. However, you may be surprised by the outcome (of course since we know there are 3-4 other books in this series, it's no spoiler to say Malus survives no matter what dire predicaments he gets into). Of course, it's still an enjoyable romp through the Warhammer fantasy world. This time we run afoul (no pun intended) of the plague god, Nurgle. Read it to find out more.

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## Jason says

the darkblade series is my close second favorite after the slayer set. malus is loathsome yet likeable. starting the next book immediately

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## Gilberto Garcia says

Excelente saga.

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## Terence says

Blood-storm is the second book in the Malus Darkblade series and tied for my favorite, the other book being "Lord of Ruin." Malus has just forfeited his soul to a (Implied Slaaneshi) daemon who had been orchestrating a grand plan that has spanned well over 2000 years, sealed in ages past by foolish chaos sorcerers and their mummified acolytes. Now in order to retrieve his soul from the daemon he must find six artifacts of these great sorcerers to unbind the daemon and cast it out of his mind forever!

What follows is a brutal tale of decadence, incest, hedonism, and murder (driven by Nagria and her cult of pleasure, followers of the Chaos God Slaanesh the Great Keeper of Secrets.) contrasted by a tale of bloodshed, gore, terror, and more murder. (Driven by the Druchii Lord of Murder Khela Mensha Khaine the Arch-nemesis of slaanesh, who may or may not be the Chaos God Khorne, Lord of Skulls.) as the travel to find the reality warping idol of kolkuth in the warp changed land of chill and the seas beyond.

But those chaos gods are not the only ones who have a stake in this, the Chaos God Nurgle and his rotting legions pour into the seas to keep the artifact for himself, for the Plague Crow...the Lord of All, does not give his possessions up easily...

Overall the story is well put together, and sets the stage well for the next four books, Malus struggles between Slaanesh and Khaine as they fight over his immortal soul, things aren't helped by his hated siblings, Nagria follower of Slaanesh and Malus's lover, and the cripple Ulral priest of Khela mensha Khaine. In the end Malus is destined to ruin them all...

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### **Dirk Grobbelaar says**

I enjoyed this book but I do have a slight complaint. At times I felt as if the author thought I was slow on the uptake. OK, so Malus Darkblade is not a good guy. OK, so Malus Darkblade is rather evil. The Druchii in general: they're all evil. I got it the first time round. The references to human hide and glistening human skin do get tedious after the umpteenth time. Also, there aren't any gray areas here. The protagonists, being inherently evil (remember), will ALWAYS do the predictably evil thing when confronted with a choice. Slay the human slave? Or do something else? Description of glistening human skin will soon follow. Another thing: the reader never actually feels anything for the characters. They are so unemotional it's to cry for.

This book is saved by its awesome action sequences. Dan Abnett is a very visceral author, and in the Warhammer universe that is certainly a boon. There is also the added gimmick of reading from the viewpoint of traditionally evil characters. Just remember, they're EVIL.

I'm probably making it sound a bit worse than it is. As I mentioned in starting, I actually enjoyed the book, and will read the next in the sequence. This is certainly some of the better writing in the Warhammer universe has to offer.

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