



Hell to Heaven: Journey to Wudang: Book Two

Kylie Chan

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A fantastic adventure featuring Chinese gods, horrific demons, bizarre creatures from Asian mythology, and electrifying martial arts action, *Hell to Heaven* is the second book in Kylie Chan's second fresh and exciting urban fantasy series. Fans of John Wu and other Hong Kong Kung Fu movie masters will thrill to the latest exploits Emma Donahoe Chen, badass wife of the God of the Northern Heavens, who faces the grim prospect of turning all-demon and vows to fight to the death to regain her imperiled humanity. *Hell to Heaven* is fresh and ingeniously different urban fantasy that readers of Lilith Saintcrow, Liz Williams, Karen Chance, Devon Monk, and Ilona Andrews will love.

Hell to Heaven: Journey to Wudang: Book Two Details

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Author : Kylie Chan

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Denise Thomson says

Wow!

What a page turner, the story continues to twist and turn!

Can't wait to start next one.

A fantastic read....

Bridget says

I have to start rating these five stars. Alone, I would not do that, but together the story is so engrossing, compelling and surprising, that it has kept my interest into this fifth book of the series. The characters grow on you and the world of the Eastern theology is amazing. Here Emma continues to battle her artificial demon nature, to the point that she is being destroyed by it. John is still making odd appearances, but his memories are gone much of the time. Simone has grown into a force and Tiger (being Tiger) still shows continuing loyalty to help. Some great characters. Worth the effort.

Annie says

oh wow.. what a ride!!! especially towards the end where it left my mind boggled with many unanswered questions making me jump to Wudang III straight away!!! A great read!!!

Csw says

Wow.

Belinda. Hamilton says

There is good reason the first question Kylie Chan is asked at public appearances is 'When is the next book coming out?'

Do you want to be the last one to know why everyone is putting this woman on the top of the best sellers lists?

Kylie has continued her remarkable narrative in Heaven to Hell, the second book of the Journey to Wudang series.

There are moments that may bring a tear to your eye and a few places that may get the book banned from the bedroom if you tend to be reading late at night.

If you've read the other 4 books Kylie has written, you'll be pleased at the continuation of the adventure. If not, some of the references to past happenings may confuse you, so do yourself a favor and start at the beginning with White Tiger.

Best bit for me was Emma asking what the Rods were for. Yep, you'll have to read the book to find out what the heck I'm talking about.

Have fun!!!

Philip Spick says

Celestial Martial Arts.

Well thought out story telling. The trials and tribulations of a woman becoming partner to a celestial Chinese God of martial arts is well written. Recommended as a good read if you like this genre. Not for anyone looking for intellectual enjoyment, just straight forward escapism.

Peter says

Have read before, excellent read, highly recommend.

Jodie says

This series has really taken off and made sticking through all the "we don't need words" bs worthwhile. All the characters have grown up and the action is really driven. Still can't give 5 stars, while I enjoy these books the writing is sometimes choppy and leaves you with unanswered questions.

Jeanette Schaeche says

The beautiful thing about Kylie Chan is that she has a unique gift for story telling, and it has the ability to take your breath away with every new story.

Hell to Heaven is an improvement upon Earth to Hell. It contains so much more than just "filler" that sets up for upcoming events in the series. It resolves some issues, establishes events, develops character, and introduces us to a lot more of the beautiful culture o Chinese mythology.

I forgot how heartbreakingly sad the ending was.

Now it's time to read and finish Heaven to Wudang, and then I'll move on to new territory with the third volume.

Bring. It. On.

Sarah McGrath says

Rating 4 1/2 stars

Awesome read! Could have had a bit more action in the book...it was more full on towards the end but overall still a fantastic book. I loved how Xuan Wu(John)was included more in this book compared to 'Earth to Hell' which is why I gave an extra half star ;)

Estara says

This time it suffers from middle book syndrome a bit, although we get a few nifty turns and twists that were foreshadowed taken care of. I bet it reads better if you read the second trilogy all in one go, but of course at the moment the third book isn't out yet.

Jeffrey says

Kylie Chan's confidence in her work shows in her fifth book, second in the current trilogy.

With Leo thankfully back among the living, Emma must try to deal with her and Simone's personal issues while maintaining an ever weakening grasp on the Regency of the North. With foes both without Wudang and within, Emma undertakes a dangerous mission to try and cleanse herself. Meanwhile, the renegade demons continue to plot and Emma's oldest foe emerges as, potentially, the ultimate threat.

It's odd. Like last volume, there is an extra scene, a lesser final confrontation after the climax, but this one flows more naturally than the one from last volume. I won't get into details, spoilers, but whereas the last one felt like the movie needed something more, this made a logical sense. The consequences of this one will be felt in the next volume.

Chan has relaxed her writing style and it becomes more accessible, if more referential. Characters are now willing expound on topics outside of the narrow region in which the series is based. While most of these references are arguably timeless, some (e.g. Inspector Gadget) date the work slightly. While it makes sense for the characters to know them, after all, they are immortal, not all readers will. Still, this is a minor complaint in a series that I've come to really love.

Jenny Delandro says

[

Why did Rhonda get destroyed when she drank the Exilar of Immortality? "a victim of her heritage?" was she a demon? Is that what Michael got so upset about?

Who the hell is Kitty Kwok? She has pursued Emma and was doing experiments on her before Emma went to work for John and she was very insistent about Emma coming back to her... Why is she so obsessed with putting demon essence

Dianne says

Hell to Heaven: Journey to Wudang: Book Two by Kylie Chan (Oct 30, 2012)

I am most likely going to be the only dissenting reader that did not adore this book once more reviews are posted. Don't get me wrong though...while I don't LOVE these books, they do keep me curious and fascinated enough to keep reading and to slog through the long passages that can be repetitious or rambling or unnecessary to the progression of the plot.

As others have said, do not try reading this novel without reading the first four books in this series. You will find yourself lost if you do not. For fans, I may even suggest a skim through, at the least, the last two books to refresh your memory. I wish I had done this for at least the third book before attempting these next 3!

In this book, we get a very, very slow start, which is somewhat typical of this series and then the last 50% really picks up with the last chapters being the most emotional. So emotional that ad I was reading them I was sobbing my heart out. This is somewhat silly since fans will; know that none of these main characters can really die!

We find in this addition to the series, Emma still battling her Demon nature, John still missing but showing up when really needed and the 'Devil' still being a pain in the butt,
In a clever twist of the plot (and a true surprise to me), someone who had a fairly major role in the first book "White Tiger", shows up to make Emma's life even more difficult. You can actually hear the evil cackling laugh when you read these passages.

There is not much character development in this book. The only thing different is we know that 10 years have gone by and Emma has a lot of responsibility, but the other major characters like Simone and Leo seem to have stuck in a rut. Simone is still exhibiting her rebellious streak, but then again she was doing that in "Earth to Hell" Neither feels to me that they've grown or matured at all. They seem very stagnant. The plot to this book seems to have the feel of the plot in the first novel. They are still fighting demons, this time there is something a little different about these (then again when are there normal demons!?)

It is an interesting read but most especially if you are interested in Chinese Mythology since this series leans heavily on the mythology and teachings to keep things moving. Actually, the mythology and the world Ms Chan has created make it very easy for the author to get her protagonists out of hot water when things look dire.

This was an interesting, if a tad tedious at times, read. A necessity for fans and collectors of this series.

Robin says

This review is pasted for all of the following:

4 1/2 STARS

Reasons I bloody **LOVE!** Kylie Chan's "Dark Heavens" & "Journey to Wudang" (& soon to be "Celestial Battle") trilogies. . .

#1. You do not need to read the "Dark Heavens" trilogy before reading the "Journey to Wudang" trilogy. It wouldn't hurt, because you'll want to know what happened, but essentially, you can just jump right in at book 4 of the complete series or book 1 of "Journey to Wudang".

#2. These books are written with a lot of humor. The characters always have a light and funny tone, especially with everything that happens in the books.

#3. I love the little asides for those who are like myself. Examples being the mention of **Sailor Moon**, **Cardcaptor Sakura** & other animes (mainly in the "Dark Heavens" trilogy) & the **STAR WARS**, **Inspector Gadget**, **Doctor Who** & I think I even read a **STAR TREK** reference. I also enjoy the jokes the characters play on each other, keeping it all in the family.

#4. CH/Celestial High. I admit it, I am a HUGE **Harry Potter** fan. When they introduced CH officially in Hell to Heaven, I *squeed* like a fan girl. I want to write a letter to Kylie Chan and beg her to do an offshoot book featured at CH. Could you imagine all the fun and hijinks the characters would get into at a place like that? I mean, a principal who starts classes at 11am because he thinks it's too early to get up after staying up all night playing video games! I laughed so hard. I also loved how he banned all the Anne McCaffrey books from the library because he is a dragon. OMBG, still laughing over here. I cannot say enough about it.

#5. The mythology. This **might** just be for people like myself, so if you're not as interested in this part, skip over this. The book itself is an interesting read **BESIDES** the mythology, but I do love how the mythology is woven throughout the books & series. Basically, I am obsessed with Asian Literature and Culture (of course my fields of study were Japanese and Korean, but . . .), so I highly enjoy these books. Kylie Chan is kind enough to put not only a glossary at the back of the books, but also adds a list of books for further reading, while in the books themselves, she give you a small cliffs note version.

Now that I mentioned the pluses, I will tell you my two biggest cons:

#1. It takes too bloody long for the next one to be available! Please note I said that in a whinny tone and with a sigh of exasperation. I truly love this series, and having to wait for the next one is so difficult, because I need to know what is going to happen - NOW.

#2. A little similar to above, Kylie Chan is from Australia. So, of course when they are released, they are first released over in Australia/NZ (say hello fishpond.com). Then, a while after that, they are released for the UK (say hello Amazon.uk). Then, after that, they are released here in the States & I can re-buy it on my Nook. - YEP, I buy them from fishpond.com so I can have them quicker.

So, you can take my opinion or not, it's up to you. My suggestion is try reading White Tiger or Earth

to Hell. If you like it, feel free to drop a line at the bottom of my review here & say what you think. And if you didn't like it, same thing. I'd love to hear other peoples thoughts.

PS: When I read it in Paperback, I always use a **BSSM** bookmark. ;D Anyone who reads it will understand.
