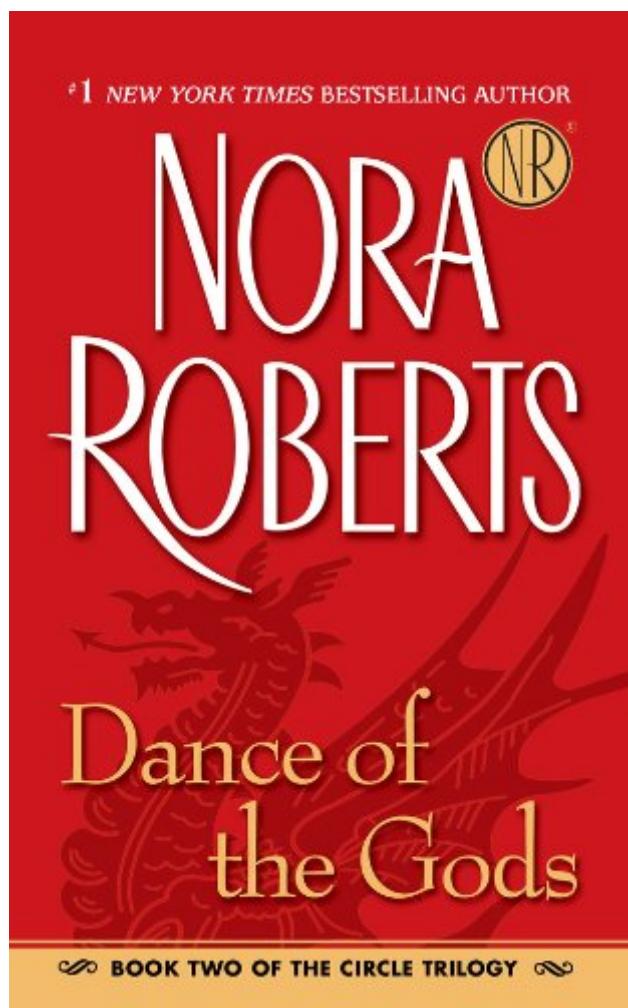


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Dance Of The Gods (Circle Trilogy Book 2)



Synopsis

Combining elements of the supernatural with gripping suspense and seduction, #1 New York Times bestselling author Nora Roberts presents the second novel in her Circle Trilogy. He saw where the earth was scorched, where it was trampled. He saw his own hoofprints left in the sodden earth when he'd galloped through the battle in the form of a horse. And he saw the woman who'd ridden him, slashing destruction with a flaming sword. Blair Murphy has always worked alone. Destined to be a demon hunter in a world that doesn't believe in such things, she lives for the kill. But now, she finds herself the warrior in a circle of six, chosen by the goddess Morrigan to defeat the vampire Lilith and her minions. Learning to trust the others has been hard, for Blair has never allowed herself such a luxury. But she finds herself drawn to Larkin, a man of many shapes. As a horse, he is proud and graceful; as a dragon, beautifully fierce; and as a man, well, Blair has never seen one quite so ruggedly handsome and playfully charming as this nobleman from the past. In two months' time, the circle of six will face Lilith and her army in Geall. To complete preparations and round up forces to fight, the circle travels through time to Larkin's world, where Blair must choose between battling her overwhelming attraction to him or risking everything for a love that can never be. Don't miss the other books in the Circle Trilogy: *Morrigan's Cross*, *Valley of Silence* (From the Trade Paperback edition).

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Customer Reviews

I must admit that I bought this one because I love Ms. Roberts' writing, not because I loved the first book and couldn't wait for this one. Usually, the first books in her series get me all excited about the books to follow, but the first one didn't do that for me. It was okay, but not great. I liked the characters, generally speaking, but some of them (Blair, in particular) did not appeal to me. She felt like a slightly revamped (no pun intended, given the nature of one of the characters) version of Buffy. So when I saw this book on my local grocery store's shelf on Sunday (yes, before the scheduled release date), I picked it up, but not with any great anticipation. I was pretty surprised to find that I came to like and respect Blair. This book in the series really develops her character, and she becomes far less stereotypical. I also liked Larkin more than I expected to. In her usual fashion, Ms. Roberts develops part of the unique group of characters so that we're not focusing on too much character development at once, but she makes clear what's coming up in the series by how she develops the relationships between non-central characters. In this case, the upcoming book will likely be focused on the relationship between Moira and Cian. Honestly, that's the relationship I've been waiting to read about, and I knew halfway through book one that it would be the last to be explored. In one sense, I wish I already had THAT book in my hot little hands, but in another, I'm all for building the anticipation/suspense and getting people panting for the last book. It's just that. .well. . .Cian is the only character I found truly enticing and thought-provoking all along, so I'm kind of REALLY wishing his story was being told. Heh. I lack patience.

"Dance of the Gods" continues the excellent Circle Trilogy. Since there are already many recaps of plot, I will skip over that. Although this book would be a fine read on its own, I think that these three novels should be treated as one long book issued in three installments, instead of a trilogy. There is so much character development in the first novel, that jumping straight into this book will have you missing out on a lot of the subtle nuances that make this book not just a good read, but a great story. I loved the character of Blair. While there are bound to Buffy comparisons, I think that Nora Roberts did a good job of creating a demon hunter in her own vision of what one should be. Just because Buffy existed, doesn't mean that demon/vampire hunters aren't an interesting concept and Roberts' twist on this is just fantastic. Vampire/demon hunter stories existed long before Buffy did, and not all of them need to be compared to each other. Blair is a great heroine. She is strong and heroic. She doesn't shy away from the darker aspects of her job or the hard decisions her job

brings. Larkin is also a great character, although he did annoy me a couple of times in his over emotional reactions to the situations they were in. However, he annoyed me as a person would annoy me, which means he was very well drawn. Roberts does a marvelous job of creating a strong female character who is genuinely strong and not the typical "feisty but weak" you see in so many other books. Blair isn't weak, she's human. Larkin isn't so insecure in his masculinity that he needs her to be something she isn't. It is a great pairing. I am glad that these three books were released so closely together. They are difficult to put down once you start reading them.

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