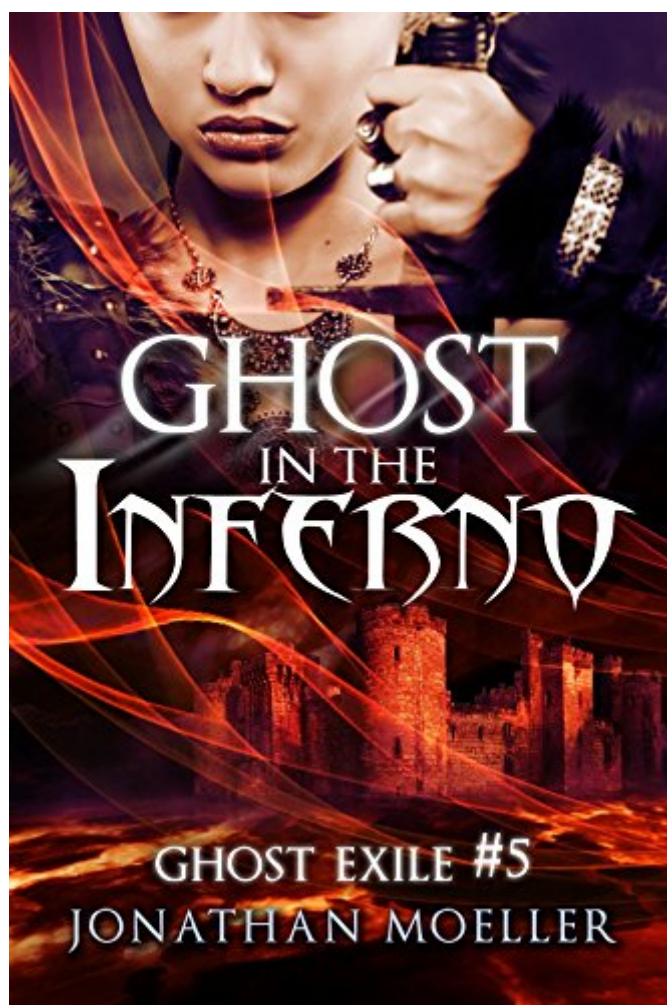


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Ghost In The Inferno (Ghost Exile #5)



Synopsis

CAINA AMALAS is the Ghost circlemaster of Istarinmul, leader of the Emperor's spies in the city. She has defeated powerful foes, but more dangerous enemies lie before her. A sorcerous catastrophe threatens to destroy Istarinmul, and the only the mysterious sorceress Annarah, last loremaster of lost Iramis, knows how to stop it. To rescue Annarah and save Istarinmul, Caina must brave the Inferno, the hellish fortress of the sinister Immortals. But those who enter the Inferno never return...ABOUT THE AUTHOR Standing over six feet tall, Jonathan Moeller has the piercing blue eyes of a Conan of Cimmeria, the bronze-colored hair of a Visigothic warrior-king, and the stern visage of a captain of men, none of which are useful in his career as a computer repairman, alas. He has written the DEMONSOULED series of sword-and-sorcery novels, and continues to write THE GHOSTS sequence about assassin and spy Caina Amalas, the COMPUTER BEGINNER'S GUIDE series of computer books, and numerous other works.

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Customer Reviews

Moeller's "Ghosts" series, and now the "Ghost Exile" series, is one of my guiltiest pleasures. I'll drop everything else when I realize that there is another book available. I've often tried to figure out just why I love these books so much. There are so many reasons why I wouldn't. Moeller is almost a throwback to another time. His writing style is stiff and serious, and more suited to the pulp fiction of the 30's than to contemporary tastes. The books are all action based and action oriented, with very little time spent by the characters in introspection. It's pretty much "eat, sleep, kill people, kill monsters, repeat". Yet -- there is just something about these books. Lately, Moeller has become more adept at character development. I will never expect to see his characters really become insightful, or understand why they do what they do, except in the most basic of ways, but recently, I've seen a lot of growth in his style. His plots are always captivating. He has an incredible imagination for this kind of fantasy writing. His world building is impressive, and he is consistent. When you read about creatures or landscapes in one book, you can expect to recognize them 6 books down the line. Every detail is correct, and builds on the ones before. His action scenes are heart stopping. He writes clearly and carefully, and every leap and spin, even the ones that are physically impossible, (except in his books), can be visualized to the finish. I am mesmerized by these books. I don't know why, I just am. I will read every single one of them. Also recently, I've noticed another trend that Moeller hasn't been, in the past, all that good at. There is humor and wit spread throughout the series, now. His dialogue is always very stiff and unrealistic, which can't be explained by the fact that the books take place in a fantasy world. None of his characters have ever displayed much of a sense of humor, except in very simple terms. In this book, however, we're treated to lots of snarky remarks and actually funny dialogue. His characters are developing distinct personalities with distinct ways of looking at things. Morgant the Razor, for example, has become one of my favorite guys. While all the characters are "observers" (because most of them are spies or assassins), Morgant has risen above this to become an observer who tries to unravel the folks he has decided to cast in his lot with, however reluctantly. We also get much more of his interior dialogue than with the rest, with the exception of Caina. He is NOT in love with Annarah, which was my first assumption, nor is he particularly filled with the burning desire to rescue humanity from, well, everything out there. He was, at first, simply "keeping his word" to rescue Annarah. He knew where she was, but also knew that there was no chance that he could go get her. She was hidden in the Inferno. Yet, even after the rescue has taken place, he can't seem to leave this band of thieves he's joined. He's a loner by nature, and seemingly an indiscriminate despiser of people, in general. And, he doesn't have any real love for any of these characters. On the contrary, he picks them apart

constantly, in his mind and to them personally. Yet -- he is staying. Nasser Glasshand has always been one of the most mysterious characters in this series. (Who the Heck is this guy???) Well - he's not what anyone imagined, and we DO find out, in this book, exactly who he is, and what his story is. Nasser has always displayed a sort of sense of humor, but it is a gentle, semi-mocking, and, actually, self-deprecating kind of humor. He doesn't really want to hurt anyone. He's always above the fray, and yet is so accomplished and competent, that when the group finds itself in battle, which is every few pages, he outfights and out-thinks almost all of them. He has an overarching view of events, and a path that he is following. We get to learn what that is, in this book. Another character who has captured my imagination is Azaces. We also learn all about him, in this book. And, it is also a tremendous surprise. We've had absolutely no interior dialogues from him in the past, and don't get any here. It's almost as though Moeller has decided that because he doesn't have a tongue, and is mute and illiterate, that he doesn't think to himself at all. Azaces becomes more of a pivotal character in this book, and saves the day in a way that is altogether unlike everything we've come to expect from him. He has always been reactive - he protects Nerina. Period. In this book, he becomes proactive, and through his actions, the group survives, and the Inferno is destroyed. And the Inferno is destroyed. We already know that wherever Caina goes, there will be lots of explosions and fires. Lots of destruction, on a mega scale. This book kind of takes that into different territory. The destruction of Maglarion's bloodcrystal, the destruction of the Craven's Tower, the Day of the Golden Dead, etc. were all spectacular finishes, and yet the destruction of the Inferno rates its own category within all the demolition that follows Caina wherever she goes. This one is really breathtaking. Sulaman appears here, in an unexpected way and place. We do NOT learn, in this book, who he is, and how he knows everything that he seems to know, and yet, as we've always known, he is someone extremely important. I can't wait to find out who Sulaman is. And, then there is Kylon Shipbreaker, of House Kardamnos, former Archon, nobility of New Kyre, brother of Andromache, stormdancer. Kylon Stormdancer. It's probably no surprise that he is my favorite. We aren't treated to very much of his interior life, and what there is, is pretty straightforward. He wants revenge. He kind of likes being anonymous now. He loves stormdancing his way through life. He's falling for Caina, and doesn't quite know whether that is proper. He's always going back and forth, in his mind, about his overall plan of exacting vengeance on those who killed his pregnant wife, and how best to accomplish this. And yet, like all of the other members of this band, he's pretty much solidly wedded himself to them and their larger goals. He also loves Caina, whether or not he really knows it yet, and he always has, despite marrying Thalastre at a time when he needed a wife and family. His position as a leader of New Kyre demanded this, and he chose her. But, even back then,

we would be privy to his conversations with his wife, when she perceptively informed him that he was thinking of the Ghost, and not her. The story has come around to the point where they are clearly intended for each other (a development that I have waited through many books for). I knew this would eventually happen, all the way back to the destruction of Marsis, and the chase through the streets, where Caina and Kylon tried desperately to kill each other. Or rather, he tried to kill her, and she tried to elude him and defend herself. These defensive actions of hers ordinarily result in the deaths of many folks, and would have been the result here, except that Kylon is a match for her. And she is to him, which was an astounding situation for him to find himself in. Even when he had the clear opportunity to kill her, at the end of that book, he just couldn't do it. She was magnificent to him, and worthy of living. So, now the Stormdancer is part of the group, and is moving towards claiming her. Moeller has grown as a writer while I've been reading him. (I've also loved Mazael Cravenlock, the Demonsouled, but not anywhere near as much as the characters in this series.) Moeller is beginning to write his characters as real people. They have emotions that he understands, and he is showing us who they are. I love this. I love when characters examine themselves and try to understand their motivations. I love it when they question themselves. It always gives me a more enriching sense of ownership when I follow their lives. And, I DO own these characters. It's why I love this series so much. They have all become real to me. This is, hands down, the best book of the series so far. We get answers to questions that have existed for many, many books. We've enjoyed the characters becoming more fully fleshed. We've felt the satisfaction of watching a relationship beginning that I know is right. (Corvalis wasn't the right man for Caina, and I have whined about that in previous reviews.) We have taken mega steps ahead in this book, plotwise. We now know where the regalia of the Princes of Iramis lies hidden. We also know who the shadow is who has been stalking Caina, and what her game is. The central theme of the next book is laid out for us at the end of this one, not in a cliff hanger sort of way, but in a way that simply whets our appetites for the next part of the story. The next installment of the story will be available Summer of 2015. I know it's probably physically impossible to write any faster, especially when Moeller has so many other series in progress, but I wish that he would just write this series 24/7. I really do love it that much. There are only a few long series that command such devotion from me. (I'm actually kind of curious to know who would win out if Moeller and Lindsay Buroker published books on the same day. Probably the Ghosts.) 5 Stars. Absolutely. Classic Moeller, and each book gets better than the ones before.

I don't know how Jonathan Moeller continues to make excellent additions to an already excellent

series. In this book, we find Caina and team attempting to find and free the last Loremaster. We get to see views from other beloved characters as the story progresses. Personally I loved the witty dialogue between one my favorite characters Morgant, and everyone else. Morgant-"My associate and I arrived in the nick of time." "Yes" said Kylon in a flat voice, "What he said. That is what happened." Morgant-Gods but that man was a terrible liar. "Brevity is a virtue" said Laertes. "One you would do well to cultivate." Morgant-"At my age it would be a crime to deny the world the benefit of my wisdom." Morgant claimed to only kill people who deserved it, but she noticed that restraint did not extend to anyone who attacked him. Morgant- "A man of my age and dignity is entitled to a lisp of perception every so often." "You use your age quite often as an excuse, I note," murmured Nasser. Without giving much away, let's just say Caina does what she does best. Whether that be rescuing those in need, blowing things up, breaking and entering, and coming out on top. Major secrets are also revealed and important information ends up in the wrong hands. Did I mention we also get a lot of stormdancer action. Love this series. Kudos to the author for continuing to give us quality with quantity. I can't wait for the next adventure with Caina.

Another riveting Adventure. Caina again crashes seemingly unbeatable odds to keep herself and the ghosts safe. Rescuing the lore master and destroying another deadly foe. Her luck holds for now but the huntress is still watching and waiting.

I chose the 5 stars because it was an excellent book, it kept my attention and my curiosity at all times! I loved the way the characters kept shifting and changing. The only thing that I had an issue was either the editing or the fact that it was purchased via a kindle, some of the sentences were lacking pronouns and/ or nouns. I still gave it the 5 star rating because the book was written in a way that kept me reading. I would definitely recommend this book to my family and friends.

Excellent job! Mr. Jonathan Moeller!!!!

I've followed this series for a while now, and I have to say I enjoy the books quite a bit. Jonathan Moeller can get a little repetitive in some of his descriptions of actions, but even that has improved as he's written more books. Overall for the price point, I would recommend them to anyone who enjoys a bit of fantasy.

I enjoyed the story line and characters in this series, it kept my attention and made me look forward to more. I would recommend this for its entertainment value. I always enjoy Mr. Moeller's work.

I loved this whole series. I read this series before the Ghost series but oh well. Jonathan Moeller has become my favorite author. I loved each @ every one of the books in the series.

What a great adventure. The many things that try to capture Caina are mind boggling. Surely she will end up with Kylon and be able to have a child. The suspense is frustrating. I hope that there is a new saga very soon thanks Jonathan Moeller.

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