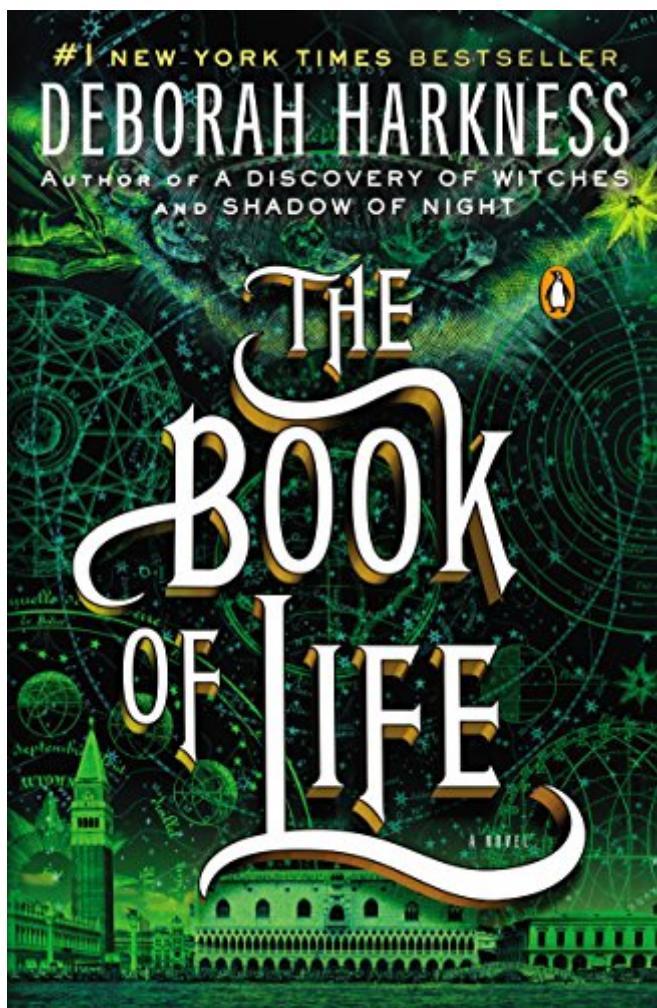


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The Book Of Life: A Novel (All Souls Trilogy, Book 3)



Synopsis

The highly anticipated finale to the #1 New York Times bestselling trilogy that began with *A Discovery of Witches*. After traveling through time in *Shadow of Night*, the second book in Deborah Harkness' enchanting series, historian and witch Diana Bishop and vampire scientist Matthew Clairmont return to the present to face new crises and old enemies. At Matthew's ancestral home at Sept-Tours, they reunite with the cast of characters from *A Discovery of Witches* with one significant exception. But the real threat to their future has yet to be revealed, and when it is, the search for Ashmole 782 and its missing pages takes on even more urgency. In the trilogy's final volume, Harkness deepens her themes of power and passion, family and caring, past deeds and their present consequences. In ancestral homes and university laboratories, using ancient knowledge and modern science, from the hills of the Auvergne to the palaces of Venice and beyond, the couple at last learn what the witches discovered so many centuries ago. With more than one million copies sold in the United States and appearing in thirty-eight foreign editions, *A Discovery of Witches* and *Shadow of Night* have landed on all of the major bestseller lists and garnered rave reviews from countless publications. Eagerly awaited by Harkness' legion of fans, *The Book of Life* brings this superbly written series to a deeply satisfying close.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This series was so much fun that I wish I could go back and read it again, right now! I miss the characters and the wonderful voice of Jennifer Ikeda. This series is best read with the narration. The experience is over the top! Anyone who knows me knows I am not into vampires. Okay, I watched Vampire Diary for a while but it was because of the witch more than anything else. So had this not started with A Discovery of Witches, and had my cousin not recommended it, I might not have gotten into this series. And the witches sure do kick b*** in this series, so I wasn't let down. Even writing this is giving me a sense of remorse that it is over. Gosh, what a sentimental mush brain, huh? But how else can I tell you how good this series is? I do have a complaint about the whispersync of this book. For some reason, it would skip over the bottom of each paragraph. But that didn't stop me. I just signed onto my Audible and played the story from there and read it on my tablet. Yeah, I had to turn pages, but I hardly noticed as the story moved me forward. I noticed that there were the slightest threads left undone. Nothing drastic, but it had me hoping there would be more to this series. Oh, and the last couple chapters felt rather anticlimactic, but I wasn't complaining. It just gave me more time with the family. This was the perfect read for the Halloween season, but it would hold its own over any other set of days too. Do read it! I think you'll enjoy it, too!

This is the second time that I have revisited this trilogy. I am still amazed at the talent and insight of Ms Harkness. This final book is wonderful. Reading it a second time is a must. However, as I said in my first review, it seems unfinished. So many lines left untugged. I loved the book, I will read it over and over again as I do all my most loved novels. I understand that a book can become too long, too wordy and therefore lose the reader. This didn't happen in this book. Many times I find myself quickly turning page after page in some books only to find myself thirty pages gone and still not lost and able to catch right up. All three books in this trilogy kept me reading each page to the end, with no desire to skip, or worse, got to the last few pages to read ending. As with all exceptional authors, even Irvine had, I would not have known the ending. My greatest disappointment is that she limited herself to a trilogy. My greatest hope is that she is beginning another one that will take us back to this place. Maybe we can find out what happened to our beloved characters and find out who becomes the new father of Phoebe.

Too much more of the same. The main character is so smug, and so down to earth. She can barely be bothered to explore her new mansion, she is just so darn salt of the earth. And her strings? Please. Strings are not magical, they are comical. Silly. Lame. The husband, and his protectiveness, and his barely controlled blood rage? Her best friend is secretly in love with her (of course! she is so awesome!)? Sounds like Twilight fan fiction! Lots of wishful thinking-- don't we all want to be magic, worshipped by our totally hot husbands, who are immortal so they will stay hot, incredibly, mind-bendingly wealthy, and modest in spite of it all? I was really disappointed in this book. Really enjoyed the first one, thought the second was filler till we got to the third one. Wrong. Second book was filler before more filler. I kept reading only because I figured (wrongly) that it HAD to get better.

The Book of Life is an action packed and thrilling conclusion to the All Souls Trilogy. It was a bit confusing at times as the parade of characters was often reintroduced to the reader without even the casual appositive to refresh the memory as to who this character happened to be and how they fit into the story. Some authors are better than others about reminding the reader who's who after a long absence from the series. After all, most of us are voracious readers who have encountered hundreds of characters since the last Book of Life installment. Aside from that, the story was captivating and difficult to put down. Harkness develops her characters well, and the reader finds it easy to identify with them and care for them. The book was brought to a satisfactory conclusion although there is the possibility that Harkness could continue the storyline at some point if she chooses to do so.

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