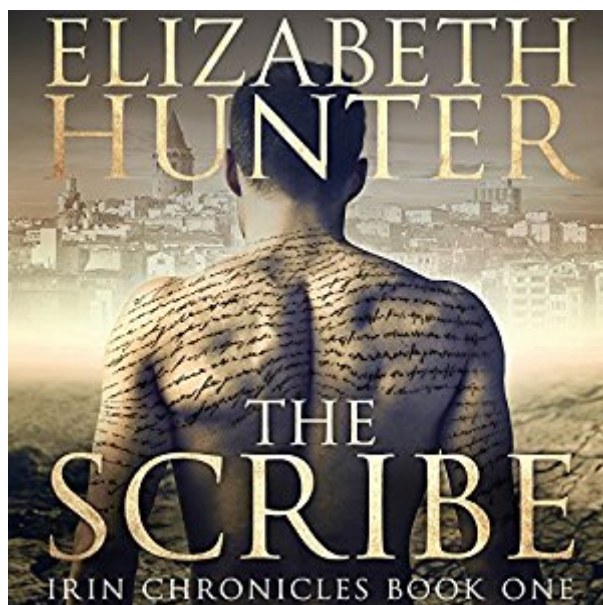


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The Scribe



Synopsis

Hidden at the crossroads of the world, an ancient race battles to protect humanity, even as it dies from within. Ava Matheson came to Istanbul looking for answers, but others came looking for her. A reckless warrior guards her steps, but will Malachi's own past blind him to the truth of who Ava might be? While ancient forces gather around them, both Ava and Malachi search for answers. Whispering voices. Deadly touch. Their passion should be impossible... or it could be the only thing that will keep them alive. The Scribe is the first book in the Irin Chronicles, the new paranormal romance series from Elizabeth Hunter, author of the Elemental Mysteries.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am thinking that authors wait to release some of their best books until later in the year just to have reviewers like me sound like idiots repeating ourselves about "this is the best thing this year" and similar accolades. I think I have said that about 3-4 times this year already. All that is to prepare you for me to say it again, this may actually be THE best thing I have read this year even though since it is book 1 of a trilogy the story is not complete yet. Malachi is one of the Irin, a race of mostly males that have inscribed magical symbols/spells into their skin to allow them to fight off attacks to humanity by the Grigori a race of mixed blood of The Fallen. Ava is a young woman, professional photographer that has been hearing "voices" all her life and has managed through mainly strength of will to remain sane. Through her meeting and developing relationship with Malachi she has found out some of the answers to her "voices" but not all. This quest for knowledge and a romance that

crosses all barriers will be the crux of this series. This seems to be a romance at the heart of the story since that is what drives much of the action and to paraphrase another reviewer, this is indeed the best mix of romance and action I have read in years, the mix of good, evil, and powerful beings with motives that are completely unknown are all thrown together in a mix of fantasy, romance and action that is addicting to the reader and by the end of the book you will be desperate for the next release. The ending while stirring elements of tragedy, hope and frustration is not a cliffhanger but does indeed hook you into the next book shamelessly which is what a good author is supposed to do but it does make us mere mortals wish for time to pass quickly so we can see what happens next. This has all the feel of an epic story as was her earlier Elemental Mysteries series of 4 books but this story seems to be taking it to a much higher level and now I anxiously await the next installment. 5 Stars and I can only hope the other books in this series will be as exceptional.

An amazing story of discovery and finding a true love. As with Elizabeth Hunter books, this goes beyond your average romance book. There is power in her words, of finding love in unexpected places and it not being insta-love. This is a story of Ava, who thinks she's crazy, but really is not entirely human. This, she finds out later by meeting Malachi an Irin Scribe. This book is full of action and surprises, and an ending that astounds you, only to wonder what comes next. The power of people to be considered family and not feeling alone. For me it was thought provoking, meaning that true family doesn't necessarily mean by blood. Elizabeth Hunter's words, build a world so believable, you could be living in the pages with her characters. Speaking of her characters, they are full of depth and well rounded. Her style of writing is detailed without being long winded, truly a master of her art. I am looking forward to reading the next book in this series.

SPOILER FREE review - Before you read The Scribe, prepare yourself to buy the 1st 3 books at least. You have to. You won't be able to live with not knowing. It's just that good. Ava and Malachi are one of the best romance couples I've met in any genre. They feel real. Their interactions, the pace of their relationship, their doubts, worries, enchantments with each other, as well as their fights and irritations with one another, but mostly, their love...it grows and develops in a natural and believable way. I fell in love with them both. Add to that the multidimensional characters of the other Istanbul scribes in this book, and the singers, Fallen, and grigori in the following books, and the series is rife with personalities. E. Hunter peopled a world with more than just the usual archetypes and tropes. Sari, Damien, Mala, Rhys, and all of them are as rich and unique as the world Hunter framed for them to exist in. Hauntingly beautiful. The writing was prosaic and smooth. She crafted

settings and scenes so well you forget you're reading at all. The story itself was wholly unique and the premise fascinating. I loved this book. My only real criticisms are these. The cliffhanger is a doozy, so as I said before, you'll want to be ready to buy *The Singer*, then *The Secret* after that. No question. Still, the cliffhanger was not just some ploy to get you to keep buying her books, it is integral to the story, so do not despair. You are being taken through a tale, not just used as a sucker for an extra buck. Still, the ending - Ouch. I cried. Aaand in book 2, still cried some more. Also, the third book was a whole lotta politics and a bit of repetition that was unnecessary. Then it had a bit of a crackerbox ending. Sigh. Could have endeavored to be a little less predictable, but so be it. *The Secret* took much longer for me to read, by virtue of its more trudging details. I had to take boredom breaks, but also HAD to know what would happen. Still, an acceptable ending to this series. I have yet to read Book 4 (about Damian and Sari) and until the price goes down, I doubt I will. Sorry, Ms. Hunter, it's just not in the budget. But still, well done. I enjoyed this trilogy more than I have enjoyed a series in a very long time.

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