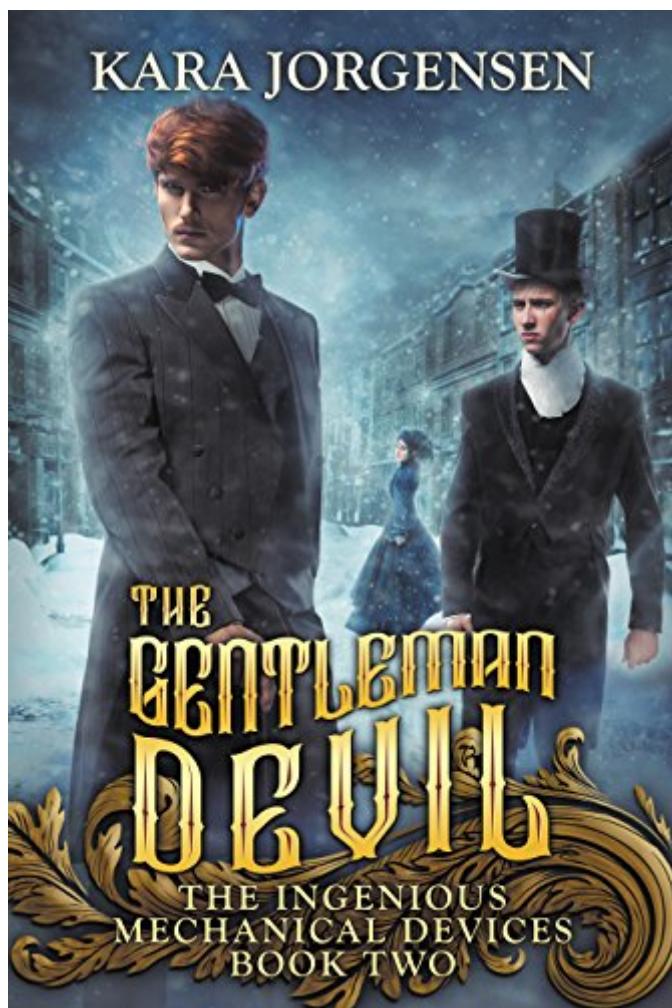


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The Gentleman Devil (The Ingenious Mechanical Devices Book 2)



Synopsis

Can death be conquered? When Immanuel Winter set off to the banks of the Thames, he never thought his life would be changed forever. Emmeline Jardine, a young Spiritualist medium, drowns, but the potion given to Immanuel by his mother brings her back from the dead and irrevocably intertwines their souls. But Emmeline and Immanuel aren't the only ones aware of his ancestors' legacy. Understanding the potential of such an elixir, the ruthlessly ambitious Alastair Rose knows securing the mysteries of death will get him everything he desires: power, a title, but more importantly, dominion over the dead and the living. Unaware of what the dashing madman is capable of, Emmeline follows him deeper into a world of corrupt mediums, unscrupulous scientists, and murder. All that stands between Lord Rose and his prize is the boy who refuses to die, but both men know the key to stopping him lies within the girl who shares Immanuel's soul.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Absolutely great and unique plot follows a German Student studying at Oxford University. On a botany inspired trip to the river Immanuel Winters ends up rescuing and reviving the teenage daughter of the head of the Oxford Spiritualists. This is observed by the villain of this book and leads to much suffering, death and danger. Very different. This is the second book of the series that started with the Earl of Brass. You don't have to read it first but it would be more enjoyable if you did as there are 6 characters that repeat and you would have more background on them. Nevertheless this story is complete without any problems. The writing style is smoother, fuller, more juicy with the descriptions and character development. Both the attitudes and reasoning of the teenage girl, for which one is greatly relieved as she matures; and of Immanuel as he recovers from PTSD and masters his fears, show a depth of psychological sensitivity by the author. Sensitivity is also displayed in the M/M relationship that later develops. I would love to say more but I don't wish to give away anything important. The hints above should not spoil anything as the plot is far different than anything you are imagining now. Kudos!

After reading and loving the first book in this series, I could not wait for The Winter Garden. Having read, it was worth the wait. In this installment, we shift focus not only to new characters, but also a new alt history dynamic. The steampunk elements are still there, though downplayed and more in the background. This time around, we are dealing with mysticism and the occult, which were very popular during Victorian times, but in this reality there exists a machine that is powerful enough to steal and entrap souls. To that end, the villain in this book is more than a little unnerving. But what really makes this book is the same careful attention to creating complex characters that made The Earl of Brass such a pleasure to read. From the book's description, one might think they know where the relationship dynamic is headed, and they would be wrong. Once again, the author weaves into the plot social issues that are as relevant today as they were in Victorian times and does so effortlessly. As I came to the end of the book, and the slight hints at what is to come, my only complaint is that once again, I must try to wait patiently for the next book to be written.

This book! Where do I even start. It exceeded all my expectations, it handled difficult subjects very subtly without shoving them down your throat, things like homophobia, woman's rights and torture! This is a stellar book; I devoured it quite honestly. I was impressed with Ms. Jorgensen's development of the relationship between Emmanuel and Adam. It could have easily eclipsed the mystery which was the driving force of the plot but it didn't. Their love grew naturally and I have to say I love this couple, I cannot get enough of them! I cannot wait for more books in this series.

The Winter Garden is the second novel in the Ingenious Mechanical Devices series by Kara Jorgensen. This book was extremely well-written and interesting. The characters were believable and significantly more dynamic than what we see in The Earl of Brass (Book 1). I thought it was very creative that while the main characters from Book 1 made an appearance, this story introduced us to wonderful new characters and gave some depth to familiar ones. The plot was filled with mystery, intrigue, and superstition, but still felt believable and well-developed. This is a very strong second book. While I enjoyed The Earl of Brass, Jorgensen has worked out some of the kinks that are bound to happen in a first publication. The story sucked me in right away and had just the right balance of horror and heart. I am really looking forward to her next book!

I didn't like the first book, and I'm so glad I gave this one a try. The story is very well thought and very well written, full-fledged thriller set in 19th century London with a dash of romance. Characters are believable, evolving, having their successes and failures, being lazy and going into a sulk. Not a trace of one dimensional cardboard characters from the first book remained. The author did a great job on this. Way to go!

True friendship, love, and an interesting story. This was unexpected when I first saw the book available to download. Sometimes the truly inexpensive books are rather superficial; this one was very engaging however. Give it a chance. I am looking forward to the others in the series.

Ms. Jorgensen has a gift for story-telling. I advise her to double check the meaning of her adjectives. More than once I found myself smiling of some of mismatched mental images her writing evoked. I'd read her again.

A good read for open-minded, nonjudgmental people. Interesting, heartbreak, and heartwarming. I would suggest reading the first book first, although it is not required.

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