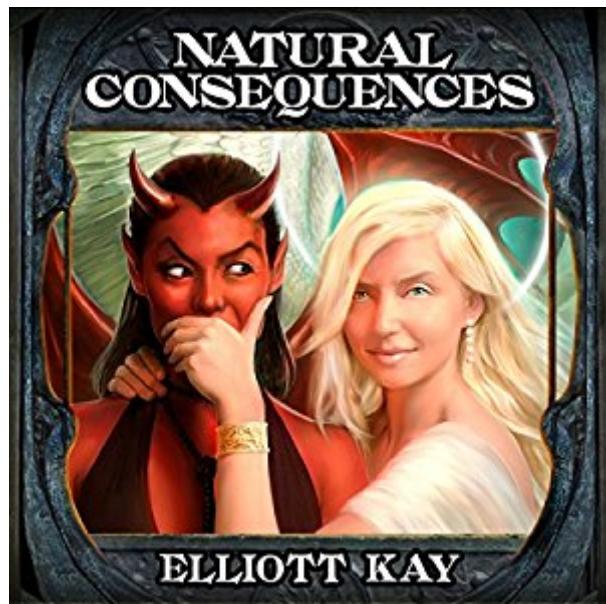


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Natural Consequences



Synopsis

The exciting sequel to Good Intentions! Alex Carlisle has enough to deal with even on quiet days. Living with an angel and a succubus is no easy feat. One has divine responsibilities she can't explain, and the other tempts him toward a decadent lifestyle he's not sure he can manage. Add to that the stresses of college and trying to hold down a job, and it's lucky Alex can even keep his head on straight. Yet the complications keep on coming. An amorous (and terrifying) werewolf won't take no for an answer. Vampires from across the country want to know what happened to their allies in Seattle. To top it all off, events in the city have drawn the attention of federal agents who know far too much about the supernatural, and they have no patience for the chaos that Alex and his friends leave in their wake.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Well how to explain it. I would rate the first book a 5 easily. Lovely characters, quirky, sexy and lovable. Especially that bond between Alex, Lorelei and Rachel. I loved how his kindness and goodness helps Lorelei change, it was so sweet, and how his actions heal Rachel. Not to speak of how hot she gets from his 'scent of goodness'. It feels like a real triad there at the end. Those three. A deep wonderful love. So part of the disappointment in this book not having that, will shine through as a bit of bitterness I guess. Then comes book three. Suddenly Alex isn't enough for Lorelei, after only month she is working hard to get away from him and stray. She is more manipulative, to the point of taking any chance to get him to hook up with someone else. Although this time it feels like she wants him occupied so she can be with others and so she don't have to be with him more than

necessary. The expanded and deepening love between Lorelei and Rachel is sexy and cute, until it feels like Alex is only an appendage to those two, mentioned as a side-note in their relationship. It is like you have Lorelei and Rachel and then Onyx and Molly with Alex not really belonging anywhere. Odd after the first book where Lorelei and Rachel really deeply loved him. It makes me uneasy how quickly that changed. Also in book one it was Alex goodness, and the ritual taking some of Lorelei's evil away, that gave her a chance to change, to be someone better. Now suddenly in book two she always wanted to be better and did it herself, with Rachel and maybe Alex giving her a chance. The plot and action is better described this time around and while there aren't as many erotic scenes they are a bit more explicit I feel. Though not tasteless. It is still a decent book when it comes to plot and the humor is still there. I just wish it hadn't left me feeling like Alex was an outsider in the demon/angel romance without any real part, except for now being not much more than prey and victim for Lorelei. The exciting Master/slave play with them taking turns is more or less gone now with Lorelei dictating most of it. She feels like more of a bully this time, taking Alex for granted. Jason shines more in this book though and stands for most of the real sweet romantic part. Onyx and Molly are there more and are really sweet together again. Sexy and cool. All in all it is a decent sequel. Just don't expect Alex to be much more than a side-note in the Rachel/Lorelei bond as they go on their own and you will be fine. At this point I'm quite fearful for another part as that might have them break with him entirely to either go off just those two or find some other men to entertain them. Lorelei already has control of both Rachel and Alex and she feels more callous, more manipulative, this time around. Makes me wonder what the plan really is, and if it is the way the author wanted to portray it.

Let me start by saying I really enjoyed the first book. I really like the idea behind the characters and the world for the most part but I cannot get past how unbelievable the human characters from this book behave. They are capable of being so completely passionate and desiring and loving but when it comes to finding things that would essentially decimate or severely damage a relationship for a long period of time they are just a-okay nothing wrong here and move on without sparing it a second thought. **Spoilers ahead if you intend to purchase do not read past this point:** Jason: Find out his girlfriend is a FBI agent and simply forgives her for virtually no reason. Why would he forgive her so quickly and easily? He finds out while getting taken away likely to rot in prison for a long time and he simply just up and forgives her without really even talking to her? I mean I guess it would be possible if you're an emotionless drone driven solely by the promise of sex it could happen but otherwise not buying it. Alex: We have a person who literally spends 1/2 the book reliving all of his

terrible past lives having every single one of his romantic interests completely screw him over and then when the sex demon has sex with a male FBI agent without his prior knowledge or consent he simply JUST DOESN'T REACT AT ALL. Not the slightest hint of feeling betrayed at all. With lifetimes of personal baggage essentially making it so this guy should basically kill himself after he learns this he just doesn't care at all and then even encourages her to pursue the relationship further. This is the most perfect, logical, reasonable, emotionless-yet-somehow-passionately-loving character ever invented. He is essentially perfect in every single way. Thanks but no thanks I'll take some flaws in my characters please or at least some realistic representation. Enjoy the money but I will not be continuing on with this series.

This sequel to Good Intentions picks up right where that one left off and in many ways tries to deal with the fallout that the climax of Good Intentions generated. It's a good idea and Elliot clearly was in tune with his main characters as he wrote this. They fit the story and the plot quite well. Unfortunately, the rest of the tale isn't as strong. First some characters vanish from this tale after being significant in the first book. Part of this is the direction this story takes, but it still was a bit disappointing to not see a few characters. Second, after the climax of the first book one of the characters makes a statement that rings true, but 90% of the plot in Natural Consequences only works when that statement is proved completely, utterly and incomprehensibly false. There are 3 "villain" groups in this tale and the presence of 2 of them makes little sense when you consider the entire situation. Their being involved did help push the plot and the climax of Natural Consequences could not occur if they don't show up, but I couldn't believe that they'd be as involved as they were. It's still an excellent story and fun to read. I just wish the plot had been more tied to the first story and a lot stronger overall. There are a few too many McGuffins used to keep the plot moving, and the development of character and story never felt right. It's a step down from Good Intentions

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