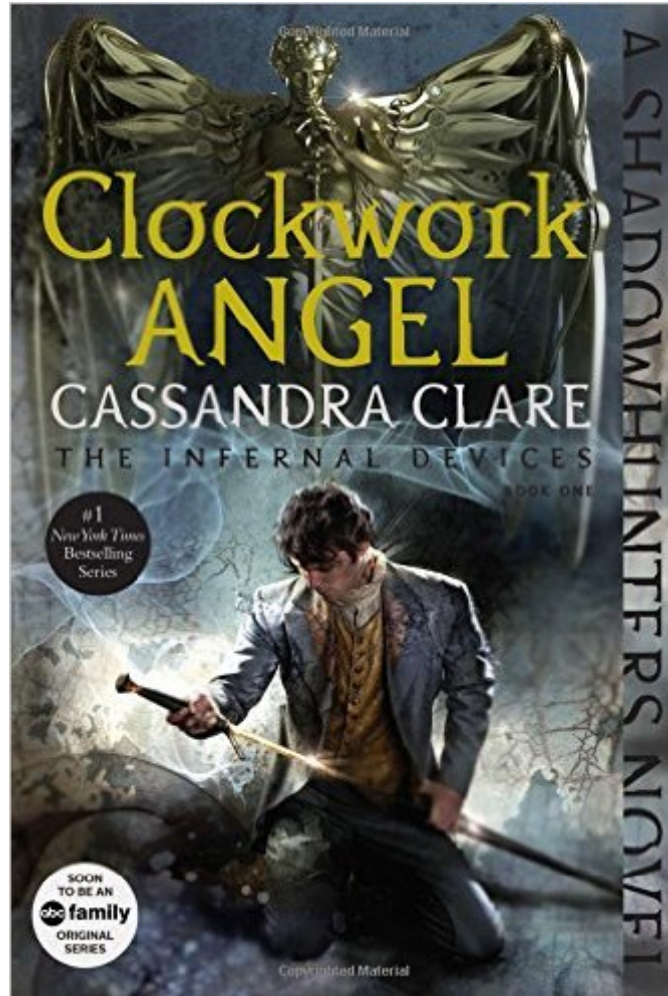


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Clockwork Angel (The Infernal Devices)



Synopsis

Magic is dangerousâbut love is more dangerous still. Discover the âcompulsively readableâ • (Booklist) first book in the #1 New York Times bestselling Infernal Devices trilogy, prequel to the internationally bestselling Mortal Instruments seriesânow with a gorgeous new cover, a map, a foreword, and exclusive bonus content! Clockwork Angel is a Shadowhunters novel. When Tessa Gray crosses the ocean to find her brother, her destination is England, the time is the reign of Queen Victoria, and something terrifying is waiting for her in London's Downworld, where vampires, warlocks, and other supernatural folk stalk the gaslit streets. Only the Shadowhunters, warriors dedicated to ridding the world of demons, keep order amidst the chaos. Kidnapped by a secret organization called The Pandemonium Club, Tessa learns that she herself is a Downworlder with a rare ability: the power to transform into another person. Whatâs more, the Magister, the shadowy figure who runs the Club, will stop at nothing to claim Tessa's power for his own. Friendless and hunted, Tessa takes refuge with the Shadowhunters of the London Institute, who swear to find her brother if she will use her power to help them. She soon finds herself fascinated byâand torn betweenâtwo best friends: James, whose fragile beauty hides a deadly secret, and Will, whose caustic wit and volatile moods keep everyone in his life at armâs lengthâeveryone, that is, but Tessa. As their search draws them deep into the heart of an arcane plot that threatens to destroy the Shadowhunters, Tessa realizes that she may need to choose between saving her brother and helping her new friends save the worldâand that love may be the most dangerous magic of all.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When Tessa Gray arrives in London on a ship from New York, she's eager to see her brother, Nate. But before she can find him, she's intercepted by two women, known as the Dark Sisters, who kidnap her and force her to learn how to use the strange magical powers she never knew she had, all the while promising her that she is lucky, and she will soon meet the sinister Magister. Terrified and confused, Tessa is rescued by two young Shadowhunters, Will and Jem, and is taken to the London Institute, where she learns that her powers are just the beginning of a strange, magical world she never knew existed, full of wonder, but also full of hate, prejudice, and danger...and Tessa is in the center of it. *Clockwork Angel*, the first in Cassandra Clare's new *Infernal Devices* trilogy, is a descriptive and elaborate book and a strong start to what is sure to be another knock-out trilogy. It takes about thirty pages or so before the book, which is set in the Victorian era, to reach familiar ground readers might be looking for, but once it does, the book unfolds quickly and smoothly. The times dictate that the mannerisms are a bit more refined in the characters, but Clare manages to sneak in plenty of humor and fun alongside the darker and riskier action scenes. There are a plethora of excellent new characters readers are introduced to, and each one is very realistic, and many have their secrets and mysteries--for Tessa, it is her heritage, and Will and Jem both have hazy backgrounds that are bound to become bigger issues later on. One conflict that Clare portrays quite well was the struggle for the women Shadowhunters to be proper young ladies and women that society demands while balancing the Shadowhunters' need for strong fighters. Two characters, Jessamine and Charlotte, while on opposite ends of the controversy, both have to deal with it in their own way, and it's an issue that sets *Clockwork Angel* apart from Clare's previous work while at the same time making the setting more believable. The idea of a clockwork army is brilliant, and the forethought and plotting that went into the book is impressive. There are plenty of intriguing mysteries and labyrinthine twists toward the end that will leave the reader far from where they were at the beginning of the book. Clare's talent for writing well-developed and entertaining characters and her fearlessness when it comes to creating dramatic, complicated conclusions to her books will garner *Clockwork Angel* plenty of attention and will leave readers impatient for the sequel.

I am going to be honest, I put off reading this series because, while I loved the first three books in *Mortal Instruments*, I was slightly upset that the author had decided to make the trilogy a series of six instead. I know what you are thinking, why in the world would that upset me? The simple answer? Because I was happy with the way it had ended after book three and I didn't feel more books were necessary and honestly, that they were nothing more than a ploy to make more

money. Not very nice at all, I know, but it was how I felt at the time and so, I decided against reading the Internal Devices anytime soon and put it off and kept putting it off until I finally decided I couldn't put it off anymore. What an idiot I can be sometimes. I was quickly reminded why I fell in love with Clare's writing from the very first page and kicking myself that I had been such a fool. And even though it took me a really long time to warm up to Will, I fell in love with Tessa and Jem from the get go. It was fun to see familiar faces (oh Magnus how I love thee) and meet some familiar surnames from characters from the original series. I definitely won't be putting off reading book two and three.

The Following Review will have SOME SPOILERS so read at your OWN risk! I apparently read this back in 2012, but for whatever reason never read the other books and didn't remember much about this one except that I liked the characters and found it to be better than City of Bones. Plot: I liked the overall plot and while there were a few instances that were predictable, for the most part I didn't see a lot of events coming. It does get a little slow in the middle, but I really enjoy the beginning and next to end/end of the story. I haven't read many stories that involve angels, but this is probably the best so far. Setting: I love books set in different countries, particularly England. The setting felt very realistic and I could picture it well despite the fact that I've never been there. The Institute was a little difficult to picture but sounded like an interesting place. Characters: I really enjoyed Tessa's character. She seems ordinary but has a great sense of humor, passion, an admiring thirst for the truth, and is also very loyal, even when others do her wrong. I especially liked how she typically wasn't afraid to speak her mind or ask questions when she didn't understand something. A lot of fans are in love with Will Herondale, and while I did like him and find him to be interesting, complex, and amusing, I also didn't love him out of the two love interests. I liked him, but I felt he had no chemistry with Tessa. I guess we'll see how I feel in the next two books, though. Jem was my favorite of the two boys. I found him to be sweet but also down to earth, with the occasional sense of humor. Unlike Will, he is also pretty honest and his situation makes me ache. I'm also a sucker for men who like cats. I actually enjoyed most of the side characters. Henry was amusing (especially when he recognizes Tessa for being the one who bit him), Charlotte was compassionate yet battling her own demons, and the help (Sophie, Agatha, and Thomas) were also interesting. Even Jessamine, who is a bit of a brat, was an interesting character. I also liked Camille. I did feel like The Magister was a little weak for a villain, but the clockwork servants were an interesting idea. Mrs. Black and Mrs. Dark reminded me of the sisters from James and the Giant Peach but they were interesting villains. Relationships: My favorite relationship was Will and

Jem & Will's friendship. The way they interacted make me think of brothers almost, and it's so sweet how they both want to protect one another from the demons that haunt them. I'm not usually a fan of love triangles because they are often poorly done, but I could see this one being interesting, especially in regards to what would happen between the boys. I wasn't a big fan of Tessa/Will, though I did enjoy their bickering and conversations. I just didn't feel any chemistry between them and am usually not a big fan of guys who are kinda jerks, though Tessa seems to find it romantic in a Mr. Darcy way. So far I'm rooting for Tessa and Will, though I suspect that will be the pairing that doesn't make it. I feel the characters have more chemistry and that their relationship is a little more healthy than the prickly one forming between Tessa and Will. I do like the relationship Tessa has with the boys as a team—they act like friends. Henry and Charlotte are cute and kind of remind me of my husband and myself in some ways. I also liked the idea of Thomas harboring feelings toward Sophie, though that makes things really sad in the end. Tessa's relationship with her brother was interesting and the twist definitely complicates things. I'm interested in seeing how it changes now that Tessa knows the truth. Writing/Voice For the most part Cassandra Clare does a good job with the character's POV and their voice, though at times I find her writing a little hard to get into. It's easier in this series (so far) though. Ending: The climax was pretty exciting and hard for me to put down. I was a little surprised that two of the side characters were killed off. I also love Jem's scenes with the cat. I like the way the series is going by the end as well. Overall, this was a pretty good start to a series and hopefully I'll like the other books as well, if not better. If you are having a hard time getting into City of Bones or wasn't really feeling it, I recommend trying this one. I found it a lot easier to get into. Now, onto Clockwork Prince! 4 stars.

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