

A Drop of Corruption

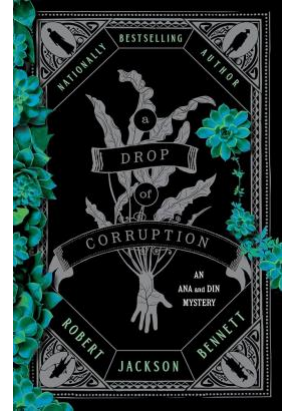
Robert Jackson Bennett

Reviewed by: Cheri Li, 16

Star Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity

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In the second book in the Shadow of the Leviathan, Din and Ana travel to Yarrow, a territory on the outskirts of the Empire. However, this canton is still controlled by the King of Yarrow and occupied by Yarrow people with their own distinct culture and lineage. Even this unstable tribute state remains significant to the Empire, as it is the location of the Shroud, where the Empire's most gifted work to dissect fallen Leviathans, collect their blood, and extract its magical abilities. The precious resources flowing in and out of Yarrow set the scene for widespread crime, including one that is seemingly impossible. A member of the Empire's Treasury has vanished from a locked building under heavy security, with not a single trace of the abductor. As Din and Ana continue to investigate, they discover that they are dealing with a murderer, a seemingly ingenious one, and the stakes are even higher than last time.



Like the first Shadow of the Leviathan book, Bennett writes an extremely compelling narrative, where even the impossible has a clear explanation. The suspense and the particularly high stakes of solving this mystery made this novel very enjoyable. Even while writing a novel so complex in terms of plot, Din and Ana continue to develop as characters from the last book. Like the first book, there were many side characters, but they had very distinct characteristics that made them easier to remember. The fantasy universe that Bennett wrote became so intriguing over the last two books, and I hope he continues writing this high fantasy world in the future.

I would recommend this book for anyone looking for a fantasy with many twists and amusing characters. This book is perfect as a continuation of the Shadow of Leviathan series, but I would recommend reading the first book before reading this one. This book contains strong language and depictions of violence and death.

Recommended Titles:

The Tainted Cup by Robert Jackson Bennett

The Sword of Kaigen by M.L. Wang

Circe by Madeline Miller