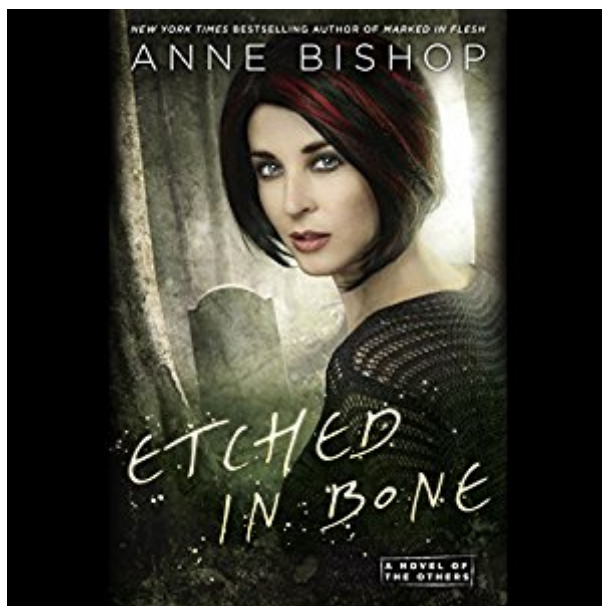


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Etched In Bone: A Novel Of The Others



Synopsis

New York Times best-selling author Anne Bishop returns to her world of the Others, as humans struggle to survive in the shadow of shape-shifters and vampires far more powerful than themselves.... After a human uprising was brutally put down by the Elders - a primitive and lethal form of the Others - the few cities left under human control are far-flung. And the people within them now know to fear the no man's land beyond their borders - and the darkness.... As some communities struggle to rebuild, Lakeside Courtyard has emerged relatively unscathed, though Simon Wolfgard, its wolf shifter leader, and blood prophet Meg Corbyn must work with the human pack to maintain the fragile peace. But all their efforts are threatened when Lieutenant Montgomery's shady brother arrives, looking for a free ride and easy pickings. With the humans on guard against one of their own, tensions rise, drawing the attention of the Elders, who are curious about the effect such an insignificant predator can have on a pack. But Meg knows the dangers, for she has seen in the cards how it will all end: with her standing beside a grave.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Oh boy, did I love this book. It was slower than some of the other in the series, but just as entertaining. You could see the conflict building but the story took its time being told, which was perfect. We got to know some of the side characters more fully, and saw the relationship between Simon and Meg deepen. I cannot recommend this series highly enough. It is well worth the time to read. In fact, I am going to go do a re-read of everything so far. Would I read it again? Absolutely!

I'm sorry that I have to say goodbye to one of my favorite series. However, I understand that Anne Bishop has announced she'll be returning to THE OTHERS world in 2018! I certainly enjoyed ETCHED IN BONE, in part, because it's narrower in scope than book 4 (which I also loved), which means that we get to spend more time with Meg & Simon and less with the rest of Thaisia. This character driven plot has a focal point around Cyrus James Montgomery, a con artist (and the family he drags along), who sees Lakeside as easy pickings because he has an in with his brother, mother and sister already in residence. Jimmy's presumptuous, arrogant, and just plain stupid if he believes that he can hide behind human laws in the Courtyard. The terra indigene mete out their own brand of justice and while it's ugly and barbaric, it certainly fits the crime. CJ's schemes escalate until he does the unthinkable. A shot to the heart would have probably hurt less! Anyway, the citizens are busy picking up the pieces of whatever is left in the wake of Namid's claws and teeth. Cel-Romano has practically fallen off the map, most of the land has been reclaimed by the wild country, and food rations abound in the surviving cities, including Lakeside. The Simple Life folk and the Intuits are thriving, and the Cassandra Sanguine are still a work-in-progress, but for the average human, life is simply hard. Meg's female pack make inroads with the Others by breaking bread together for the first time, and two Elders observe it all like some twisted science experiment. There are several delightful moments in this book which I'd found to be lacking in the previous volume. Skippy will surprise you; also we see first hand what happens when a Cassandra Sanguine's previous cuts are crossed with new cuts; Meg Corbyn's saved in the wild because she's the howling not-Wolf, and, yes, something DOES happen between Simon & Meg on the romantic front but don't get your hopes set too high. I would certainly have been happier if there was another book in this series to answer some of my remaining questions but I'd have to say Etched in Bone was certainly a happy finale and I look forward to additional OTHER books in the future. Jack Murphy

Perfect ending to the story arc! The main theme of the book is how much human to keep? Which could be interpreted as: Is the Terra Indigene at risk of becoming more human? or is all humanity on the brink of getting eradicated from this world because some humans overstep their boundaries? The Elders, the most powerful Others, are almost ready to make a decision about Thaisia but before they do it, two Elders leave the wild country to watch over the Courtyard. The Elders are intrigued about Simon and Meg. Their curiosity has been piqued. They want to know how a blood prophet has changed the dynamics in the Courtyard and their leader Simon Wolfguard. "You would kill the sweet blood not-Wolf?" "When

detective Montgomery's brother Cyrus arrives at the Courtyard unexpectedly, everyone can smell trouble. The Others know he's dangerous but the Elders want to learn more about him. They want to know how one human can create problems for both human and Terra Indigene interacting together. To say the least, Cyrus is definitely a rotten apple. He's nothing like Montgomery or his mother Twyla. Twyla has become like a grandmother to most of the Courtyard. Even the Others have a hard time denying her things. She has taken special affection towards Skippy. A certain scene involving both had me crying. Etched in Bone has the same winning recipe. The characters are all important. Yes, Simon and Meg's relationship is the glue that keeps these two worlds together (and I love them both) but I'm as much invested in the human pack, the Others living in the Courtyard, the blood prophets, the Intuit people, Prairie Gold and the characters living in Great Island to name a few. I'm sad this part of the Others' world has come to an end. It's hard for me to part ways with so many great characters and I can only hope we get to see some of them in the next book. Cliffhanger: No5/5 Fangs

Already read the book twice, once quickly for the story line and then a second time to savor the characters and rich description. Now I'll probably do a third read just to take my time to enjoy such a wonderful combination of the writer's artistry and complex characters. You understand the villain...you sure don't like him but he is so well crafted that you understand him. The ongoing characters, the Others, Meg, the humans struggling to survive in an Other dominated world, continue to grow in depth. I look forward to many more visits to the world of the Others, but just now I am going to head to the Courtyard and find a table at Tess's A little Bite, order a cup of coffee and enjoy the show. Anne in Virginia

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