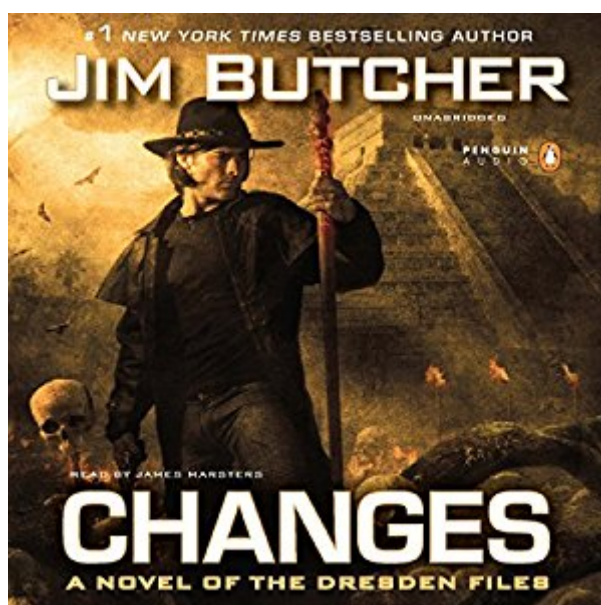


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Changes: The Dresden Files, Book 12



Synopsis

View our feature on Jim Butcher's *Changes*. The new novel in the #1 New York Times bestselling Dresden Files series. Long ago, Susan Rodriguez was Harry Dresden's lover-until she was attacked by his enemies, leaving her torn between her own humanity and the bloodlust of the vampiric Red Court. Susan then disappeared to South America, where she could fight both her savage gift and those who cursed her with it. Now Arianna Ortega, Duchess of the Red Court, has discovered a secret Susan has long kept, and she plans to use it-against Harry. To prevail this time, he may have no choice but to embrace the raging fury of his own untapped dark power. Because Harry's not fighting to save the world... He's fighting to save his child. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

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Customer Reviews

Book lives up to title. Read it expecting that almost anything, no matter how much of a constant it's been over the past eleven books, might be altered, revised, or destroyed. Any given plotline you've been waiting for Butcher to move forward or develop, there's good odds you'll find out more here, and more than one multiple-book plot thread finds its end. Butcher is at the top of his game here, and it may be the best overall book in the series to date; from the very first line -- "I answered the phone, and Susan Rodriguez said, 'They've taken our daughter[,]'" -- the book moves at a page-tearing clip, and I read it pacing back and forth in my living room, so wholly and obviously absorbed that my girlfriend gave me the night off from household chores ("Sorry I haven't done the

dishes, dear. I can't. Book." "I know. It's okay.")Butcher's spent the past eleven books developing Harry's character, establishing his hunger for family, his devotion to saving innocents, especially children, and his willingness to burn the world in order to do the right thing, regardless of cost; he's also balanced Harry on the knife's edge of several different horrible temptations, and shown that Harry's passion has the potential to lead him very badly astray. This book drops Harry onto that knife edge and then hits him with a truck, and much of the tension in the book comes from watching Harry discover just how many moral and emotional lines he is, after all, willing to cross, and how many irrevocable steps he's willing to take, in order to save his daughter.

Changes is book #12 of the Dresden Files and is definitely NOT the place to start this series. There are simply too many characters and situations from past books mentioned for a newbie to make any sense of this book. However, one thing I love about this series is that, if you start from the beginning and read along, you'll notice that Jim Butcher only introduces a few new characters and/or concepts in each book. He periodically refers back to these characters and concepts in later books, makes connections among them, etc. So by the time you get to a book like this, it's pretty easy to remember who everyone is. I like the gradual buildup of complexity. (If it's been a long time since you read the last one, there are decent Wikipedia summaries for the books in this series.)I thought book #11 was a little different in tone from the rest of the series and ended on a sad/downbeat note, but this book kind of blew that out of the water. However, don't lose hope at the end. There are at least three more books already published in the series after this, and it's my understanding there are more to come. So keep that in mind...I'm glad I can download #13 as soon as I finish writing this review. Sometimes I take a break between reading Dresden books but I don't think I will, not this time.First difference: in other books, Harry has a mystery to solve. The mystery gets resolved by the end of the book, and we learn some things about the larger story arc of the whole series. This time, however, there is a quest, but there's not much of a mystery involved (although there are a couple of big revelations at the end).

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