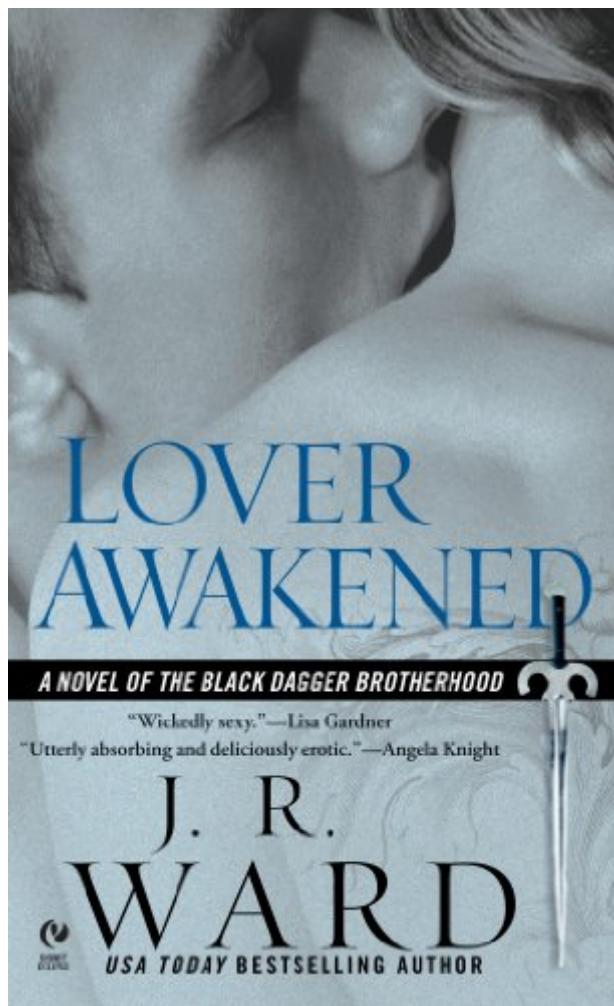


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Lover Awakened (Black Dagger Brotherhood, Book 3)



Synopsis

#1 New York Times bestselling author J.R. Wardâ™s wildly erotic and ferociously inventive series continues as the most fearsome member of the Black Dagger Brotherhood discovers just how tempting the night can be. A former blood slave, Zsadist still bears the scars from a past filled with suffering and humiliation. Renowned for his unquenchable fury and sinister deeds, he is a savage feared by humans and vampires alike. Anger is his only companion, and terror is his only passionâ"until he rescues a beautiful female from the evil Lessening Society. Bella is instantly entranced by the Brotherâ™s seething power. Except even as their desire for each other begins to overtake them, Zsadistâ™s thirst for vengeance against her abductor drives him to the brink of madness. Now Bella must help her lover not only overcome the wounds of his tortured past, but find a future with her...

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Customer Reviews

Ok, so I don't write a lot of reviews, I do however read them and that is why I decided to write a review on this book. I stumbled across J R Ward by accident and read a review on her and it said she is a must read author. So I purchased the first book in her Brotherhood of the Black Dagger

series on my Kindle, \$5.99 so I thought what the heck. It was a good book so then I purchased the second book and it was also good. I read some reviews about the third book and an overwhelmingly 799 people gave it 5 stars and only 7 people gave it 1 star, so of course I read those 7 reviews. I would agree with some of what those 7 people said about the books in general. I'm not going to go into the story line of these books, they are a paranormal romance series with a lot of hot sex scenes, if you are into that you will most likely like these books. One reviewer said that she could not get past the slang they use. I would agree with that, these vampires are hundreds of years old and the language they use is way too modern for them. It really does not make sense. These books do not read like any other romance novel series I have ever read. You have the main characters but there is also several more story lines going on in the book. I know she is doing this because she wants us to be familiar with all the characters because they will eventually have their own story, but some of it is just in the way, and I skip through parts that don't interest me. I have read 3 of these books so far and the skipping has not been a problem with the main story line. Ok so also there is A LOT of male bonding in these books. I mean these guys in the "Brotherhood" are very comfortable in their heterosexuality because they are very free with themselves around each other, also something else I'm not used to in a romance novel. I gave these books a 4 star rating because they are good and I want to keep on reading them. J R Ward is not the best of writers, I have read much better and the story lines can get a little crowded at times that is why I can not give it 5 stars. Kresley Cole's Immortals After Dark Series is a 5 STAR series. She is a wonderful writer and her books are very good. They are a paranormal romance series and erotica, so if that is not your thing then don't read them but if it is you will not be disappointed.

Zsadist is still tortured with the memories of being a blood slave and being owned as well as used. So he never sees goodness or love. He is savage and feared by all. When Bella sees Zsadist she is intrigued and wants nothing more than to be his. Bella will do anything to help Zsadist find his way to her. He will do anything for Bella, even save her from him and his tortured past. This book brought out so many emotions. I loved this story but it broke my heart at the same time. Bella and Zsadist's story is one of loss, love and trying to find your way to the love you deserve.

Bella: Met Z in book 2, she is from an aristocratic family. She was taken by the lessers in book 2. After one night of trying to seduce Z and being shut down quickly, she has pined for him. She is now the captive of a crazed lesser that is in love with her. She is beaten and kept in a cage. Z rescues her and takes care of her at the brother's house. Z is a tortured soul. He was kidnapped as a child,

forced into slavery and became a blood and sex slave after his transition. He has never recovered, until Bella came into his life. After servicing her during her needing, Z realizes that he has fallen in love but rejects love and Bella. After pushing her away, he decides to change himself to be the man she deserves. John Matthew is now immersed in the lives of Tor and Welsie. He is training with the brothers and getting accosted by Lash. Tor / Welsie have it all, a great mateing, John Matthew, and a baby on the way. But that doesn't last. Phury is in love with Bella and rejected by Bella. He has no idea how to cope with his feelings, so he just gets HIGH all the time on red smoke. Butch and V reach a whole new level of friendship.

**** JUST GOT REAL - In the other books of this I am always thinking about how uber over the top the males are but Zsadist really switches up the formula of the brotherhood to date. His backstory is utterly heartbreakingly and he is so broken that even making eye contact and touch are difficult for him. Since meeting him in the other books I couldn't wait to get to his story. The abuse from being a blood slave for years has left him hollow in places and totally screwed up when it comes to normal interactions with people. He thought about all the holes in him, the blank places, the voids where others felt things. When it came down to it, he was really just a screen, more empty than solid, his emotions blowing through him, only the anger catching and holding. Bella is still missing and it has been six weeks since she disappeared. Zsadist has never given up hope of finding her but everyday becomes a bigger struggle. Mr. O has an unnatural obsession with Bella and is keeping her as his captive sure that he is in love with her, but he is not the type of man you want that kind of attention from. Mr. O is super creepy and abuse that Bella suffers at his hands I think almost bonds her to Zsadist. "I was dead until you found me, though I breathed. I was sightless, though I could see. And then you came" and I was awakened. "I loved Zsadist's journey. He has been broken for so long that doesn't get fixed overnight just because you meet someone. He wants the best for Bella and sometimes he gets weird ideas in his head of what that is. Some of the scenes were so heartbreakingly amazing to see the effort that he has to put into just touching and speaking with another person. He is so scared and not just on the outside, everything inside of him has to heal as well and no matter how much you love someone else it isn't going to just happen in the blink of an eye. I appreciate that the author didn't poof all of his problems away after Bella comes into his life. Again there are the great Bromances. The interactions between Phury and Zsadist are just as important as the ones between Bella and Zsadist. Phury as Zsadist's twin has so many problems too. While always looking out for his brother he has forgotten to have his own life. Everything has been for Zsadist and the

guilt Phury feels that he couldn't save him sooner or that he wasn't taken as well. The guilt has eaten him up his whole life and what is he supposed to do now that Zsadist is working out of the darkness that has kept him most of his life. "You are the male I might have been. You are the potential I had and lost. You are the honor and the strength and the kindness she needs. You will take care of her. I want you to take care of her." This is a more serious story and I really wasn't prepared for that. Even the side characters had some epic tragedies that changed the entire tone of the series for me. I was more impressed by the chances the author took and the entire storyline was so much better than the other books in the series for me so far. Perhaps this isn't the formulaic cookie cutter story I initially took this for. Best book in the series to date.

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