

Love reading 4kids Reader reviews of **The Dark Days Club** by **Alison Goodman**



Below are the complete reviews, written by Love reading members.

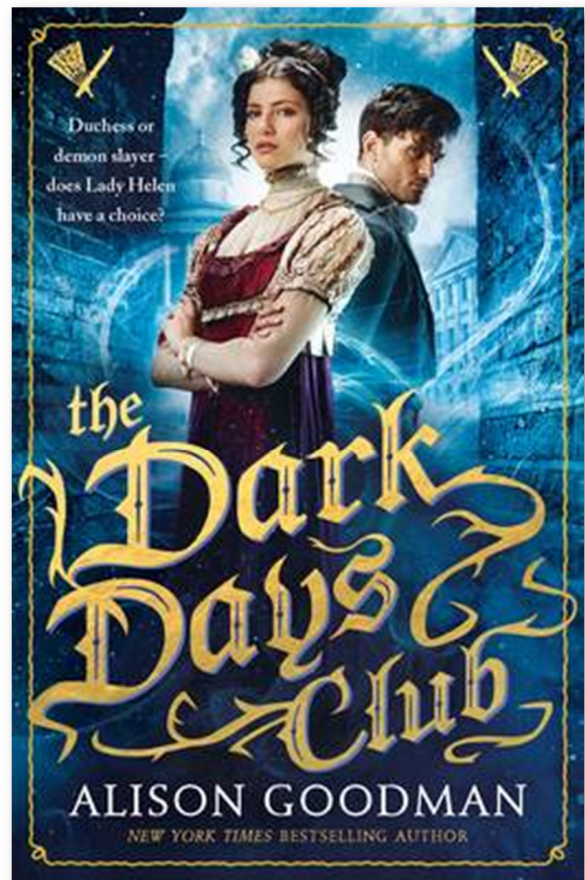
Humaira Kauser, age 17

'The Dark Days Club' is beautifully written, absolutely captivating and left me wanting more. I seriously can't wait for others to read it and experience the lavish Regency setting and the battles that Lady Helen has to fight.

I absolutely loved the Regency setting. More books should be written with this era in mind.

Lady Helen is quite easy to like and can be relatable at times. She is young, witty and yearns to be independent. She is feisty when she needs to be but has so much compassion. I love the relationship Lady Helen has with Darby- a character I had grown to love. I thoroughly enjoyed her character development and I have so much hope for her in the upcoming series.

The character development of Lord Carlston flourished and I absolutely adore him. What I like about him is that he was mysterious to begin with- I was thinking of lots of questions in my head about him hoping they would be answered, some of them were but not all. I like the fact that he is still sort of mysterious and we don't know him as fully as we do Lady Helen. I do hope we get to learn more about him in the next two books of 'The Dark Days Trilogy' and maybe we could learn some of his dark secrets?



Izzy Read

Lady Helen is the daughter of a disgraced Countess, one that drowned 10 years ago, along with Helen's father, fleeing the country. Now 18, Helen must look to her presentation to the queen and find a man to be married to – but that's the last thing she wants. When she meets Lord Carlston she discovers who she truly is and everything starts to change...

*1800s Regency London mixed with a shady underworld filled with magic, demons and deceit equals a romantic and daring novel that made me yearn for more! Helen was such a strong protagonist that was also very human and had her doubts about throwing herself into danger, which made it ten times more real for me. The love triangle that formed was unpredictable; even now it still could go both ways... Although I wouldn't normally pick up a historical fiction book, **'The Dark Days Club' was modern and classic all at the same time and I loved it! It was a whole new world of excitement, twists and turns, that I never saw coming. The only thing I'm devastated about is that I have to wait for the next one!***

Megan West, age 14

I think this was a good book with interesting plots and characters. I enjoyed that it was set in a past era and that it had similarities between novels by Cassandra Clare.

I enjoyed reading 'The Dark Days Club' and I thought it was a good book. It was very entertaining and had sound characters and plots. I liked the similarities between worlds that Cassandra Clare creates, but in the same way I found it was completely different. I really liked how clearly the era it was set in was depicted and how every detail was well researched and accurate. I thought the plot was interesting and I liked how the mysteries didn't go on for too long, preventing the book from becoming boring. The book was set up well for the sequel. However, whilst it was a good book, I think the beginning was a little slow getting started and could have moved at a faster pace in order to draw in readers. Overall, I thought that 'The Dark Days Club' was well written and had a good plot, but I felt it was a little slow getting started.

www.clutteredthinking.weebly.com

Megan Chambers, age 14

A slow start but over all a good read.

*The beginning of the book was quite slow paced, so it takes a while to really get gripped. But when the pace picks up it is really good. Persevere and you will really enjoy it. **Like always with Alison Goodman, the plot is unique, with nothing else like it. I would definitely recommend this book.***

Susie Holm, age 15

A brilliant read which explores the 19th century with a variety of characters that modern young adults can associate with in a way that is both easy and fun to follow.

This book is very clever in how it was written. It's set in the 1800's, and you can instantly tell that it is, as the writing wonderfully portrays that era. The words and vocabulary used in this novel are not the words that people in this time would use, which would prove how much effort was used to make this book seem true to its era. Another thing that's clever about this book is its storyline, and how immediately you are presented with un-answered questions, which persuades you to carry on reading.

Lady Helen is a wonderful protagonist, as she is someone who most teenage girls can relate to. She's curious, and does the logical thing to do in a certain situation, which normally isn't what other female protagonists do. She is also caring and understanding, which contrasts with the more evil and harsh characters to make everything more dramatic and interesting.

One of the only issues with this book is how slow it is at the beginning. Personally, I think the slowness of the beginning is a better problem than having a slowness at the end of the novel, but the beginning of a story is just as important as the ending, which makes it slightly harder to dive into.

I'm glad that this book is going to be part of a trilogy, as it means more mystery and more amazing plot twists will occur and make the plot stronger.

Destiny Maraj, age 14

*'The Dark Days Club' isn't the type of novel I usually read so I found it difficult to engage with. I didn't really enjoy it however it had **a great storyline with a clever plot, the development off all the characters was fantastic and it was a brilliantly written novel.***

Amelia Corrick-Gough, age 14

I really loved this book! It took a while to get into, but once you got stuck in, you were trapped! The best part was the ending, and I can't wait until the next book is released.

Edel Waugh

*'The Dark Days Club' combines Demons and Debutantes in the early 1800's in London in this first book in the Lady Helen series. Lady Helen lives with her aunt and long suffering Uncle who has nothing good to say about her mother and he will do everything in his power to make sure they are nothing alike but Helen has spirit and her uncle severely frowns upon it. This increases when Helen notices differences in herself and others around her as not all of them are as she first thought and they begin to get a lot more frightening when she is introduced to 'The Dark Days Club' and its members . Finding out about this elusive club leads her to find out about her own mothers past and not everything was as black and white as was explained to her growing up. **The story is a mix of elegance and demons set in a way that is almost believable, the characters and plot are divine as you never quite know which of them you can trust,** and Lady Helen is a strong willed independent young woman who does what is best despite what others may think of her, which I loved! Fearless and gutsy she is an inspiring character! This is a series I definitely want to continue reading.*

<http://www.edelwaugh.blogspot.com>

Jenny Duffy

Lady Helen Wrexhall is preparing for her presentation before Queen Charlotte, hoping to overcome the taint of her mother's treachery. Her aunt has fastidiously prepared her for this moment, but nothing could have prepared Helen for her encounter with Lord Carlston and the dark world he opens her eyes to. Regency London seemed like a treacherous place already, without adding demons into the mix...

This is a compelling read, combining a richly detailed Regency London setting with a shadowy world of demons and violence.

Goodman gives a fascinating insight into early nineteenth century London, telling readers of the customs of court and domestic life, and giving evocative descriptions of the costumes and balls. Helen is a compelling protagonist, a

witty and intelligent young woman who is out of keeping with the stifled customs of her society and the restrictions it places upon women. While Lord Carlston did not quite have me swooning, he is an intriguing and mysterious character. There are also a number of strong supporting characters, I particularly liked Helen's maid Darby. This book is the first in a trilogy, and there was a lot of set up with Lady Helen's newfound powers, her parents' past and the history of The Dark Days Club. However, I think this series has a lot of potential, and I look forward to reading the next instalment of Lady Helen's adventures.

Rose Heathcote, age 16

Even though I couldn't get into this book don't be disheartened. A wonderful story for fans of Jane Austen and Pride and Prejudice.

*My personal reading preferences are modern day adventure or horror. This book has more of an old fashioned, lords and ladies story line. This is not a bad thing, other people who enjoy this genre will like this book. A two stars **.*