

# THE US Review of Books



## *The Black Diamond and the Witch's Curse*

by T-Pot  
Xlibris

book review by Mark Heisey

*"Omar saw the hatchet lodged in the wall, grabbed it, and ran to the zombie, which was standing directly in front of the control panel of the elevator."*

Derek James is beginning his freshman year at a prestigious university on a football scholarship as a wide receiver. He is excited to be on his own and start a new journey in his life. He looks forward to figuring out what his major will be, playing college ball, and meeting lots of new people. Naturally, this includes the young ladies. However, Derek also has a secret. He is a warlock. He is surprised and encouraged when he recognizes other warlocks with the help of a magic necklace, and they soon become good friends. What Derek doesn't expect nor want is for an evil entity with powerful accomplices to target him and his friends in a murderous plot.

The author has crafted a fantasy set in a modern era with some themes from the urban genre. T-Pot's writing is clear, well-edited, and easy to follow. The first portion of the book seems to struggle a bit with pacing as the characters are introduced and while the setting is being realized. However, readers who continue will soon find the pacing and plot quickly pick up as the story grows more engaging. Readers looking for an interesting fantasy series with an intriguing magic system set in a modern, urban environment will find it here. Considering this is the first book in a series, and seeing how the book continues to draw the readers in as it moves forward, it is to be expected that the next books will only be even more inviting and entertaining.