



These Vicious Masks

By Tarun Shanker, Kelly Zekas

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Jane Austen meets X-Men in this thrilling Victorian adventure full of magic and mysticism, perfect for anyone who loves a confident, rebellious heroine, snappy dialogue, and a hint of romance.

England, 1882. Evelyn is bored with society and its expectations. So when her beloved sister, Rose, mysteriously vanishes, she ignores her parents and travels to London to find her, accompanied by the dashing Mr. Kent. But they're not the only ones looking for Rose. The reclusive, young gentleman Sebastian Braddock is also searching for her, claiming that both sisters have special healing powers. Evelyn is convinced that Sebastian must be mad, until she discovers that his strange tales of extraordinary people are true—and that her sister is in graver danger than she feared.

Chosen by readers like you for Macmillan's young adult imprint Swoon Reads, *These Vicious Masks* is an action-packed, genre-bending novel by debut authors Tarun Shanker and Kelly Zekas.

Praise for *These Vicious Masks*:

"Striking a strong balance between **romance and mystery**, this novel captures society's rules just as well as it does the unbelievable powers of the main characters. Readers will easily be swept up in its **fast pace and sympathetic narrator**, who is filled with both self-doubt and resolve to do anything to protect those she loves. This is a perfect pick for someone who wants a little magic in their Victorian novels, and its combination of **historical fiction and mysticism** will remind readers of Libba Bray's Gemma Doyle trilogy." *?Booklist*

"This tale has **brisk pacing, plenty of action**, and a heroine with more than her fair share of **girl-power confidence**." *?School Library Journal*

"This is a great read, **compelling and addictive**. Well written and great character development you cannot stop reading. I was spellbound from the beginning and I thoroughly enjoyed the journey!" *?Sue Speakman, reader on Swoon Reads.com*

"My favorite thing about this book is the dialogue. The authors intricately composed period-style phrasing with a modern-day wit that is incredibly

nuanced and thoughtful – very well done. I was successfully transported by the characters in a way that rivaled my indulgence in Harry Potterland.” ?Cayla O'Connell, reader on SwoonReads.com

“So much fun! Like a story by one of the Bronte sisters or Jane Austen, except the characters are much more **self-aware and genre-savvy.**” ?Duncan Pflaster, reader on SwoonReads.com

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These Vicious Masks By Tarun Shanker, Kelly Zekas Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #24513 in Books

- Published on: 2016-02-09
- Released on: 2016-02-09
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 209.30" h x 20.95" w x 5.51" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 320 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

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"I need book two!! Where is book two?? This sucked me in right away (it was a terrible idea to start reading on a break at work – I could barely bring myself to go back to work) and kept me engaged the whole way through. Some really great characters. (Also any book that mentions self-defenestration wins). But seriously, can I read book two now??" *?Erin Keskeny, Swoon Reader*

About the Author

Mild-mannered assistant by day, milder-mannered writer by night, **Tarun Shanker** is a New York University graduate currently living in Los Angeles. His idea of paradise is a place where kung-fu movies are projected on clouds, David Bowie's music fills the air and chai tea flows freely from fountains.

Kelly Zekas, an NYU graduate, writes, acts, and reads in New York City. YA is her absolute favorite thing on earth (other than cupcakes) and she has spent many hours crying over fictional deaths. She also started reading Harlequin romances at a possibly too early age (12?), and still loves a good paperback romance.

These Vicious Masks is their first novel.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Gina Hill:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children until adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important for us. The book *These Vicious Masks* seemed to be making you to know about other knowledge and of course you can take more information. It is extremely advantages for you. The guide *These Vicious Masks* is not only giving you considerably more new information but also to be your friend when you experience bored. You can spend your personal spend time to read your guide. Try to make relationship using the book *These Vicious Masks*. You never experience lose out for everything if you read some books.

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Jose Rivera:

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