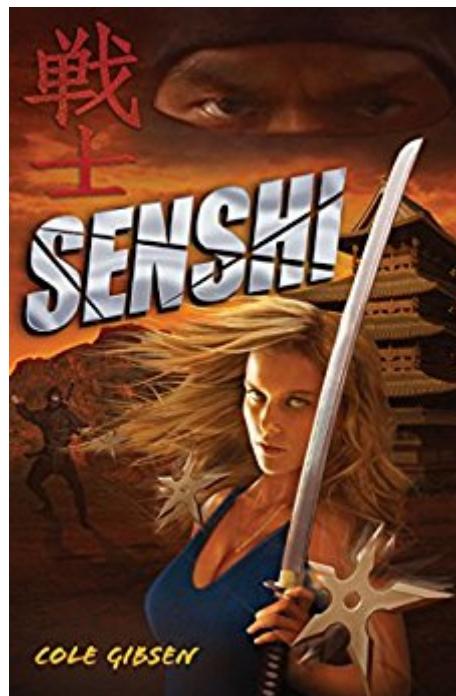


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Senshi (A Katana Novel Book 2)



Synopsis

Is Rileigh's only hope for salvation to team up with her sworn enemy? Rileigh Martin just wants to do normal teenage things like go on romantic dates with Kim, her boyfriend and past-life soul mate. Although that seems impossible when she's the reincarnation of Senshi, a fifteenth-century samurai warrior. After a ninja ambush leaves her unable to control her ki powers, Rileigh vows to get them under control before her friends lose more than their eyebrows. But when Kim leaves her for his past-life betrothed and the other samurai stop talking to her, Rileigh realizes she doesn't have any friends left to worry about. As the ninja attacks increase, Rileigh learns that the reincarnated kunoichi, a powerful female ninja, wants to kill her in order to reclaim her destructive powers. Alone and with increasingly unstable powers, Rileigh's only offer of help comes from Whitley, her sworn past-life enemy. Rileigh knows she doesn't stand a chance against the kunoichi by herself, but Whitley's sudden allegiance might be hiding a much deadlier agenda.

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Customer Reviews

The adventure continues, jam packed with suspense and action and a bit of romance as the saga

continues and more of Rileigh's personality is revealed! Great work Cole.

Like the characters and the story line. Nice background history. Conclusion was very good but not as fulfilling as I would expect.

This was fun and cute, lots of action and a revisit of all the characters from Katana. There were parts of this book that were better than in the first book, and others that didn't work for the second time around. But in my opinion it was too similar to Katana. Around halfway I was rolling eyes at Righley's snarky comments rather than laughing about them- they got old! The charter building this time around was definitely better than Katana. While in Katana all of the characters were very cliche and even sometimes cartoon like, Gibsen definitely added different dimensions to them in Senshi. Righley was her snarky kick-ass self- and when things turned half way through, she acted more mature than I would have expected. In fact I could totally relate to her heartache. Q character was such an improvement. While he still was the gay bestie stereotype- the overly superficial side to him was toned down to a pleasantly funny side effect. Still when he in one scene exclaimed: I am not just stereotypes! I couldn't help but scoff! YES you are! Kim was again closed up but this time not so mysterious in the good way he was in Katana. To be honest there isn't much to be said to the character even though they were a slight bit better than in the first book. The writing style is fast, fun and lighthearted most of the times. Except when it comes to the scenes with Senshi. Then Gibson manages to evoke beautiful pictures, deep feelings and shows off a writing talent that seems lost in the rest of the book. What a pity! I felt the same in Katana, and this time around I felt the contrast even more. Gibson definitely knows how to write beautifully, sadly that wouldn't come through without the Senshi Scenes. The plot line- was at first a bit of a re-run of the first book. Then there were actually quite interesting twists! The concept of soul mates and the one big love, was given a different look at. Which I really liked. I did find some of the story line a bit out there and definitely did wonder if this was worth a sequel. All in all a fun light read. The second half definitely better than the first half. Fans of Katana will definitely enjoy it

Being introduced to Rileigh Martin in Katana [book one of this series] didn't exactly leave a memorable impression on me. I enjoyed reading the book but I voiced out a lot qualms about it in my review of Katana. The thought of having fun reading it was enough to make me give Senshi [book two] a try. I expected nothing special from Senshi. In fact, the first parts were rather annoying to me that I was beginning to feel like I didn't want to continue reading

anymore. I question a lot of Rileigh's decisions. Like, this is probably petty but I couldn't get it off my head, when she broke the car interior light so that it wouldn't turn on once she opens the door [so it wouldn't give away her location to the ninja]. Uh, hello?! From what I know all cars nowadays have that off switch for that? No need to break the little thing. Sheesh! Then again, she wrecked the entire car using her ki anyway so, never mind. Another thing I noticed was the simile she used to describe her pain, this probably another petty thing but I couldn't help myself. She said,

"Pain blossomed under my skin like an angry flower..."

which flower are we referring to and how exactly does it get angry? LOL. I'm sorry, I'm being sarcastic. Okay I'm going to stop there on the insignificant complains. Let's move on to something else...In my review of Katana, I noticed that the skater side of Rileigh wasn't exactly given proof that she truly was a skater. I don't recall having seen her have a skate scene, and I just had as much of a fit over her complaining that she's not about to sacrifice skating over serving the Network. Dude, nobody saw you skate at all! And speaking of the Network, I really didn't understand her angst over it. She barely knows anything about it to begin with so it's hard to find justice towards how she feels. I'm not exactly a fan of the sweet scenes between Rileigh and Kim. It was just too cheesy. It was hard to buy the idea. It feels forced and unrealistic. That is until Sumi's character came into picture. Well now, I didn't see that one coming. And goodness, how I loved that! I only came to appreciate Rileigh and Kim's relationship then, and also during the flashbacks on how Senshi and Yoshido met in Japan. I also loved the story on how Senshi came upon becoming a samurai. So this is where my feelings about Senshi changed. Ah, finally! I see all the fuss about these two lovebirds. And I finally get to see the other characters get the recognition they deserve; Quentin most of all. At least now, every single one of the members of the group had a very significant role to play, even the villains. By the way, the revelation of who the kuniochi really was... that was a good one! That just caught my breath there. And guess what? I finally got to see her skate! It was one quick scene, but better than nothing, right? The ending wasn't exactly a happy one. But boy am I excited to see how that would turn out in book three. That's one true test of love right there! I appreciated that more than the cheesy parts from the beginning, very touching. Senshi is an impressive follow up to Katana, and I guess this series is one of those that get better as it progresses. I will definitely be watching out for book three's release.

Cole Gibsen took me on a roller coaster with the first book in this series, Katana, and now she's done it again with Senshi. Magic, lost love, and ninja- lots and lots of ninja. Reincarnation rolls out a few more hiccups and alliances are broken and reformed as our samurai try to make sense of the increased attacks on Rileigh. Where's Kim, her love and partner? I can't say for spoilers but I can tell you Cole will wring your heart out on this one. Great book and I can't wait for the next!

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