



# On the Edge

*Ilona Andrews*

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## On the Edge Ilona Andrews

Rose Drayton lives on the Edge, between the world of the Broken (where people drive cars, shop at Wal-Mart, and magic is a fairy tale) and the Weird (where blueblood aristocrats rule, changelings roam, and the strength of your magic can change your destiny). Only Edgers like Rose can easily travel from one world to the next, but they never truly belong in either.

Rose thought if she practiced her magic, she could build a better life for herself. But things didn't turn out how she planned, and now she works a minimum wage, off the books job in the Broken just to survive. Then Declan Camarine, a blueblood noble straight out of the deepest part of the Weird, comes into her life, determined to have her (and her power).

But when a terrible danger invades the Edge from the Weird, a flood of creatures hungry for magic, Declan and Rose must work together to destroy them—or they'll devour the Edge and everyone in it.

## On the Edge Details

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Author : Ilona Andrews

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# From Reader Review On the Edge for online ebook

Anne says

*If* I were the kind of person who DNFs books rather easily, and *If* I hadn't been a huge fan of the Andrews' Kate Daniels series, I would have given up on this one after Declan showed up.

He kind of pops up on her property and threatens to steal her away to be his *woman*.

For me to even attempt to like a story with forced marriage (or whatever he had in mind), it has to be set waaaaaaaaay back in medieval times. But since I trusted the authors, I decided to keep reading.

And I'm glad I did.

**Don't worry, there's a good (*non-rap*ey) explanation for Declan's atrocious behavior!**

The story?

Well, Rose lives in **The Edge**. Which, kind of reminded me of a backwards swampy voodooish area.

*No offense to anyone who lives in a backwards swampy voodoo part of the country.*

There's magic there, but not as much as there is in **The Wild**.

Now, the Wild is where all of the powerful magic users live. They don't have technology there, but they *do* have laws and a justice system. Which is more than the people in the Edge have.

And then there's **The Broken**.

That's where *we*, and the People Of Walmart live. And Walmart is almost a character in this novel because it's Rose's go-to place to shop for everything. Seriously, poor chick spends almost as much time there in this book as I do in real life.

*Speaking of, would it **KILL** them to put a few more cashiers on during the day?! I'm not getting any younger standing in this line. It's like, 50 deep, and wrapping around into the frozen foods section!*

Don't worry Walmart, those of us who are perpetually broke will continue to flock to your doors, standing side by side with the unwashed masses in order to take advantage of your unbeatable low prices. Oh, and for the prompt & friendly customer service...

Ugh. Where was I?

Ok, yes. The Broken.

Rose has the ability (like most folks who live in the Edge) to go back and forth between the two places, so she supports her two young brothers by working (under the table) in our world.

*If it sucks so bad in Swampland, why don't the people who live there just head on over to the magical (and clean) Wild?*

I'm glad you asked!

Most of the Edgers don't have enough magic to cross over into that...*dimension*, I guess you would call it.

So, they're stuck in Hillbillyville.

Anyway, Rose is trying to eek (yes, eek, not eke. She's frigging scared shitless, Tadiana) out an existence,

while staying under the radar, because she has some powerful mojo that makes her a target. More specifically, unscrupulous families want her for a broodmare.

Ewww, right?

And that's where the story starts out. But there's a whole lot more to this one than just *that*.

A villain from the Wild is on the loose in the Edge, there's a feral shapeshifter hunting in the area, and lots of backwoods politics being played by the people in Rose's small town. Plus, she's got to come up with a way to get rid of her unwanted suitor, before he clubs her over the head and drags her back to his cave.

Except things aren't always what they seem...

If you like urban fantasy, or you're looking for something to read while you're waiting for the next Kate Daniels book to come out, give this one a shot.

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### **Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says**

Ilona Andrews (writing team of Ilona and Gordon) caught and kept my interest when I read *Magic Bites*. I liked the distinctive voice I saw in that story, one that has stayed true in the subsequent stories that I have read by this team. With *On the Edge*, they have continued that excellence, providing me with a novel that is multi-faceted, genre-wise and story-wise.

Although I grew up in the Midwest, my roots are Southern, and I do appreciate books set in the South that show the real ways of Southerners. In this case, I saw something very real and almost familiar in Rose, her brothers, grandmother, and friends and neighbors. I smiled when Rose threw the boys in the car and took them to Walmart. Yeah, that's real. Real people do shop there. How many times do you read a book where the characters go to Walmart to buy not the designer shoes, but the ones that look close enough to pass muster? How about a heroine who buys ground beef and adds rice and bread crumbs to stretch it? Yup, that's real alright. How about those moments when you have to stretch your paycheck and hope you have enough money left over the week to buy gas so you can get to work? I've definitely been there. And the love and ties of family, having to work hard all day and get home, take care of your family, go to bed, and get up and do it again. I think a lot of readers can identify with that. So what if Rose is magical, along with everyone in her family? That's a little more on the fantasy part of the scale. But this combination is why urban fantasy is so irresistible to me. The real and the surreal nicely entwined.

The ideas in this story strike me as very unique and different. I liked it a lot, even if some elements was pretty odd, like a reanimated grandfather who likes to eat stray dogs' brains. Or the fact that a lot folks in the Edge community can curse people, or send flashes of powerful energy out of their bodies. And then there is the shapeshifting younger brother of Rose, Jack. The other young brother is a powerful necromancer (hence the zombie granddad). And things get even more interesting when Declan shows up. Rose's powerful flash abilities have made her an asset to Blueblood families who want to integrate her genes into their family lines, one way or the other. She has become wary of men for that reason, since most of her suitors didn't ask nicely. So when too good to be true Declan shows up to claim her and take her back to the Weird, the magical lands that are adjacent to the Edge, she definitely doesn't eagerly go off with him. She makes an oath with the handsome warrior that he can have her if he succeeds in her three challenges. However, they have big problems on their hands, as there are horrible, magical hounds that are devouring Edgers for their magic. And they really want to get their hands on Rose and her family.

I loved Rose. She was a heroine that you could hang with, and that you'd be slightly in awe of, because she knows how to take care of business. She's the type that you tell to do something, and she takes about five minutes or more, and she's back and ready to get the job done. Not the heroine who is infallible and annoyingly perfect. Nope, she's the heroine that you love because she tries so hard, and she has the determination to do what is necessary. I loved Rose's commitment to her brothers, how she raised them from a young age after her mother lost her mind and her father ran off treasure-hunting. Jack and Georgie (her brothers) are adorable and genuine little boys, despite their very unusual abilities. They were sweeties and reminded me of the poem about what boys are made of (you know, snails and puppy dog tails). You could see why Rose loves them, even though being a single mom to her brothers is far from easy.

Declan was a great match for Rose. He was just as determined and capable. He might be a rich princelike guy, but he was down to earth enough that this didn't bother me. And I do like tough, warrior heroes, I won't lie. He took to the kids very quickly, and he treated them like they were his own. He even makes pancakes for them. I liked how he was as much a thinker as a doer, a problem-solver not afraid to get his hands dirty. He was a guy who made a commitment and stood by his word, no matter what. Declan was definitely a knight in shining armor, and I could see why Rose fell in love with him.

William was also adorable. I felt for him, and I will probably end up reading Bayou Moon soon to get more of him. I liked his wildness but also his goodness and how sweet he was with the kids (I am a sucker for that).

On the Edge has its dark, gruesome elements, but I'm okay with that. I like some dark in my fantasy. I loved the juxtaposition of the everyday with the fantastic and surreal. The Andrews have a great way of writing descriptively and setting the scene without overdoing things and info-dumping. I like that the narrative is spare in some places, and the character sketches give you enough to get an idea of the folks in the story, but you can still learn more as you read. There are times you have to figure things out as you go, which is what I prefer, to be honest.

Although I am sure this book wouldn't work for everyone, I had a ball reading it. I liked everything about it. The romance was great, but the fantasy elements were equally important. I'd recommend this to a reader who likes fantasy but wants to try romance, and a reader on the other side of that equation.

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**Jessica ❀ ➡ Silverbow ➡ ❀ Rabid Reads-no-more says**

**2/7/18 - ON SALE for \$2.99:**

<http://amzn.to/2fjeyMR>

**1/19/16:** Bring on THE EDGE with my fellow addicts at **IAA** . B/c Ilona!

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## Melindam says

Warning: This will be pretty much a fangirling review.

"On the Edge" is a traditional Ilona Andrews highball. It is fresh, with sweet and bitter flavours in the right proportions, guaranteed to make you feel hot despite all the ice. :)

Hanging out on the Edge - a world between an ordinary and a magic world-was an undeniable romp. All the usual ingredients are presented, but served so well that you simply don't mind predictability, clichés or the incomplete world-building. You just quaff it all and when you get to the bottom of your glass, you just want a refill right away.

I loved Rose & Georgie & Jack (happy to see the "connection" to the Innkeeper Chronicles), but Declan was the highlight for me - he made it to my Literary Bae-shortlist. Yes, a stereotype & a commonplace figure, but I caaaaan't help myself! He is just so adorably and irresistibly aristocratic(erotic-ratic) and aloof and yet you know that there is fire behind the ice (a definite Mr Darcy-vibe, if you ask me). And when push comes to shove, I do prefer blondes. :)a

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## Tadiana ☆Night Owl? says

If you like Ilona Andrews' brand of romance-driven urban fantasy, grab this one!

4.5 stars. Rose and her two little brothers, George and Jack, ages 10 and 8, live in the Edge, a sort of halfway place between our world (which they call the Broken, since magic doesn't work there) and a parallel world called the Weird, where magical powers reign. In the Edge, magic works, but not as well as in the Weird. Most people can't pass through from one world to the other, or even sense that the other world exists, but there are exceptions, like Rose and her brothers. And Declan, the mysterious guy from the Weird who appears on Rose's doorstep, with magical powers even she can't match, and barges into their lives. Rose doesn't trust Declan an inch ... but she can't deny he's the hottest guy she's ever seen. And just maybe she'll be glad he's there, as deadly magical hounds begin appearing in the Edge and killing people.

I read this urban fantasy for the second time last night, when I really should have been reading other books, but it totally sucked me in and I couldn't help it! Not just the power of Declan (who is awesome), but there's William the shapeshifter, and George (a necromancer), and Jack (another shapeshifter), and Mamere, their French-speaking grandmother...

And how did I miss even giving it a star rating the first time I read it? But I liked it even better the second time.

Full review to come (really! I am going to get to it, sooner or later).

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## **Felicia says**

I love this author, and for me this was a 4 star UF and a 5 star romance. WAY MORE ROMANCEY than the Kate Daniels, which is cool, just know that going in (but with the crazy-model-photoshop man on the cover, how could you NOT know that? And BTW, guys in real life look terrible with that haircut.)

Get past the slightly confusing first chapter and this book is really great, when you get the "deal" with the world it gets better and better, like a stone rolling downhill. I stayed up way too late to finish it.

What I particularly liked about this is that there are two kid characters I don't want to strangle for being precocious and precious, and she doesn't use them easily as a plot device, which I was dreading. Yeah the main dude is WAY TOO PERFECT, but whatever, that's why I said it was more romance than fantasy in structure. Looking forward to more!

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## **Jo ★The Book Sloth★ says**

**Re-read with the awesome gang in IAA group.**

**Wanna know the good thing in having a very, very bad memory? Every time you re-read a book is like reading it for the first time. I loved this book and I remembered so little of it that it was like I was reading it for the first time.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Oh my god! I have to say a huge THANK YOU I.A.

This book was awesome. I wanted more of it. Usually I'm anxious to see how a story ends but this time I just wanted it to keep going. I actually had happy tears in the end!!!

Where should I begin? This book pushed all my buttons. The story, the characters, the world-building, everything was spectacular!

Let's start by the protagonists.

**Rose...**

Rose is such a relatable heroine. She is easy to like and gives the "girl-next-door" vibe. Does she have remarkable characteristics? Well yes, but she isn't one of a kind. She has a strong flash(the strongest in the Edge) but this doesn't help when she needs to put food to the table for herself and for her two young brothers. She is a strong heroine but unlike most of UF and PNR heroines she is responsible because she has more than herself to think about. I liked her from prologue to epilogue.

## **Declan...**

Declan is mysterious, sexy, full of surprises. Until the last page he keeps Rose on her toes. I really would have loved to have his POV but sadly it wasn't there, although the book was written from multiple POVs. I liked the fact that he wasn't spoiled rotten despite his family's status and his position. He was loyal and fierce and HOT.

The whole deal between them was kind of fairytalish. He was the noble knight, she was the Cinderella(though she was no damsel-in-distress by any account), there were challenges to prove his determination to have her and... \*sigh\*. Words abandon me. The romance side of this book was just great and fulfilling without being sticky sweet.

## **The side characters...**

Well, I loved them ALL. The boys, Jack and George, were so cute and adorable(and I want to adopt them), the grandmother was exactly how she should be(protective and loving), William...-\*sigh again\*- I loved William, I can't wait for his book. Even the "bad" people were well-written. Seriously there wasn't anyone that I thought shouldn't be there.

## **The story and world building...**

The story was fast and full of action. What I love about I.A. books is that the romance is actually the side story and everything doesn't evolve around whether the heroes are going at it like bunnies or not.

The world I.A. has built is actually quite fresh. Was it the first time we have seen a world built in different dimensions? Nope, but Andrews has added her magic and the world is original enough that you just want to know more. Also thankfully the "rules" of how it works were actually more easily understood than it was in Kate Daniels.

So all in all if the book had any faults I just can't remember them and this is enough for me so I'm giving it a 5 wholeheartedly and already moving it to my favs self. \*happy dance\*

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## **Choko says**

**\*\*\* 4.40 \*\*\***

## **A buddy read with my friends at the Ilona Andrews Addicts**

I have come to realize that I take IA's writing for granted. It happens like that. You read enough works from a favorite author and you develop an expectation, a knowledge that once you delve into the pages of their books, nothing could possibly go wrong.



It had been a while since I read a work by the Gordons and I had forgotten about the pure, natural immersion in the world of magic they allow their readers. You are 20% in and not once were you bogged down with info dumps or overwhelmed by surplus descriptions! Not once were you lectured on the world, or lost in a labyrinth of confusion of how this magical world works. You read a page and you just find yourself a part of the story, the world is part of your life, and the characters, family... Voala! Nothing to it, right? Well if this is so easy, why don't all authors do it??? Why do we spend time reading tons of volumes looking for that same ease and make excuses for works which show a fraction of the magic we take as a given in IA's writing??? Because they craft their art so seemingly effortlessly, that we forget to stand still for a bit and acknowledge their mastery of storytelling!!!

There are many reviews which give a better view of the contents of this book and I don't want to get into it here. After all, there are many more books of theirs that I can be more specific with. At this moment I just want to stop, take deep breaths, and bask in the talent that are Ilona Andrews! And thank them, for giving us books to which we can return when we are in need of feeling like we are safely back home! For some that might be something they can find easily, but for me, this elusive feeling is the Holy Grail, and I cherish it beyond measure...

Thanks again for the cozy buddy read with the IAA group and I wish all could find their way to the magical works of this author! Happy reading!

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## Navessa says

**\*TRIGGER WARNING: THERE IS A LOT OF DISCUSSION ABOUT RAPE CULTURE IN THE COMMENT SECTION OF THIS REVIEW\***

DNF @ 70%

I just can't be arsed. Life is too short to continue to read a book I don't like.

Bullet list of complaints:

- Rape culture
- A misogynistic pseudo-alpha douche of a male lead
- A spineless doormat of a female lead
- A complete lack of believable chemistry between them
- Rape culture
- Shoddy world building
- The aggressive reinforcement of traditional gender roles
- The devaluing of a woman's worth without a man in her life
- STILL MORE RAPE CULTURE\*

Maybe I'll come back to this. If I find a way to bind and gag the feminist who wouldn't stop making snide comments every few paragraphs I read.

OH WAIT, NO, THAT WAS ME.

\*as it means different things to different people, see comments section for what I mean when I say "rape culture"

This review can also be found at [The Book Eaters](#).

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**Nicole says**

Ilona Andrews officially made it to my favorite authors list. WHY DID IT TAKE ME SO LONG TO READ HER (THEIR) BOOOKSSS!! ~~maybe the hideous covers.~~

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**XX Sarah XX (former Nefarious Breeder of Murderous Crustaceans) says**

[January 2016]

? **Buddy reread** with the **Awesome IA Army Of Utter Awesomeness** (aka the eye-candy IA Addicts) starting Jan 19, 2016.

» **And the moral of this reread is:** why do I even bother reading books NOT written by Ilona Andrews? WHY? Because I'm an idiot, that's why.

» **And the other moral of this reread is:** if I hadn't already sold my soul to the Andrews, I would do it again. Hey, maybe I could sell them a few body parts, I'm pretty sure they'd like that.

» **And the other, other moral of this reread is:** Ilona Andrews for President.

**What?** Were you expecting me to write another review for this book? Hahaha, you're so naive. I love you (view spoiler). There's a review for you to read right here ↓↓ **So get to it.** Well if I were you I'd read the book directly, not this non-review. But hey, it's your life, so go ahead and waste it any way you like. **You're welcome.**

◆ **Original review: January 2015** ◆

**You know you've been hit** by the **IA Awesomeness Express** at full speed when:

- ① **You sit down to read for 5 minutes** and next thing you know 2 hours have gone by.
- ② **You, the dark-haired aggravating male addict**, find yourself swooning and sighing over a blond hunk \*gasps\*
- ③ **You, the cold hearted cynic**, find yourself melting whenever two little kids are mentioned \*gasps again\*
- ④ **The Amazon Highlight Police** tells you you've exceeded the accepted clipping limit for the book you're reading.
- ⑤ **You read the last line of the story but need one last IA fix** so you start reading the excerpt for Magic Bleeds at the end of the book. Then end up rereading Magic Bleeds until 3 a.m.

**Don't fight it.** There's nothing you can do about it. **Just indulge while planning your next reread.**

**Now please stand back** while I unleash the fangirl in me.

*Thank you. Feeling much better now.*

» **Magic and mongrels and nobles, oh my!**

**YES, the Andrews have done it again!** Who else would manage to suck you into a story with crossbows, stray dogs, cats and resurrection? Only the Andrews I tell you!

“Look at Grandpa Cletus! **He’s been eating dog brains again, and now he’s drunk.** It will take me half an hour to hose him off.”

**Yep, that's right**, Grandpa's eating dog brains (view spoiler). But that's not all. We also have **three dimensions** (the Weird has magic, the Broken doesn't and the Edge is in-between), a necromancer, **an irresistible lynx changeling**, FOGL, **gun-loaded trips to Wal-Mart** (you can never be too careful), slavers, a 107-year-old Grandma who doesn't look a day older than 55, **a cape-wearing, sword-wielding aristocrat** straight out of a Regency novel, take-me-home-with-you-or-leave-me-the-hell-alone-challenges, **a make-out bunker**, a fishy shapeshifter, **fainting epidemics**, quite a few queen bitches, several scumbags, a **very evil, slightly inhuman villain...**

» **Mix it all up, shake well** and you get the **perfect IA cocktail** of magic, reality, fairytale, humour and action.

**Yeah yeah yeah, I hear you.** The world-building here isn't as complex and mind-blowing as in Kate Daniels. It's much lighter. **So what?! This is fun! LOTS OF FUN!** Oh-my-God-I can't-put this-book-down-kind-of-fun. So get over it and just stop complaining will you?

**So what makes this book so freakingly amazing?** Do you really have to ask? Hello?! This is Ilona Andrews we're talking about! Awesome characters? Hilarious banter? Sounds familiar? No? **Okay you're hopeless, I give up.**

» **Characters? Here we go.**

First we have **Rose, our butt-kicking damsel in distress.** So the girl didn't get a great start in life.

Draytons were always unlucky. Too smart and too twisted for their own good. **Grandpa was a pirate** and a rover. **Dad was a gold digger.** **Grandma was stubborn like a goat** and always thought she knew better than anyone else. **Mom was a tramp.**

**Told you things weren't peachy for Rose.** To make things worse her mother-the-tramp died when she was a teenager, her father abandoned her and **left her to raise** her much younger brothers by herself. She has too much magic for her own good (which makes her great broodmare material), a crappy and illegal cleaning lady job, **several banes of her existence**, and barely enough money for food and gas. But hey, it's not all bad. She might be a damsel in some distress but **she sure doesn't need to be rescued.** She's pretty good with crossbows, great with guns and has the strongest magical flash in the Edge. She's tough, she's stubborn, she's loyal, she's snarky. **I'm telling you the girl is cool. Very cool.**

True, Declan was **heartbreakingly beautiful and hypnotic to watch.** But she would have even more fun **when she watched that muscled back and that perfect ass recede** as he walked down the path away from her house, never to return.

**Well hello there, Declan.** Oh I'm dreadfully sorry, my Lord. How dare I address you in such a vulgar way? Introducing **Earl Declan Riel Martel Camarine, aka Lord Submarine.** Blueblood aristocrat, hunk in residence and aggravating knight in shining armour. Except that his intentions aren't so pure. **He might even have a hidden agenda.** Or two. Can't trust anyone from the Weird anyway. Very true. Sly he can be. Exasperating too. **And a total snob.** A haughty one at that. He's brash too. And did I mention he was arrogant? **I think I'm in love.**

He grimaced. **"You're rude, vulgar, and you speak in an atrocious fashion.** You'll take so much work **before you can be presentable.** And you actually feel that you're a suitable spouse for me?"

**"It's not flattery,"** he said coldly. "Flattery requires exaggeration. I'm merely stating a fact. **You're a beautiful woman wearing an ugly sack of unnatural color."**

**Oooh yeah, the guy knows how to sweep a girl off her feet!** And you know what? He has a fertile imagination when it comes to "private activities." **Irresistible I tell you!** He's also good with swords, loyal, brave and great with kids. **Hey, I said he could be an asshole, I never said he wasn't a prince charming of sorts.** There is a BIG problem though. He has blond hair. \*sighs\* I think the Andrews and I need to have a serious conversation about their hunks. **We can't go on like this.** The worst thing is, **the Andrews don't play fair.** Not only do they come up with an aggravatingly yummy blond alpha male, they deem it necessary to hit you with lines like this:

**"You're the measure of my wrath."**

Seriously?! **Just hit me on the head once and for all and get it over with.** It would sure save me lots of swooning, sighing, fainting, panting etc. **Thank you.**

In **typical Andrews fashion** we have **an amazing supporting cast:** Elsie and her bears, Latoya, Peter Padrake, William, the Edge mongrels, **rolling-pin wielding** Grandma Eléonore (just as awesome as the other IA Grandmas). **You want to know who really stole the show? Georgie and Jack,** Rose's little brothers. Interacting together, or with Rose, or with Declan, or with William... **Please, please can I adopt them?** I want to take them home with me! I promise I'll buy them sneakers and comics and stuff!! ← **Yes people,** this is nefarious little me actually melting over two kids. Pretty impressive huh? **Only the Andrews I tell you!!**

» **I'd love to wrap all this awesomeness** in a blanket of **addictive banter** but I'm afraid this review **might implode.** So. Want more banter? **Read this book. Ha.**

② Bayou Moon ★★★★★

③ Fate's Edge ★★★★★

④ Steel's Edge ★★★★★

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**? Sh3lly - Grumpy Name-Changing Wanderer ? says**

*Dear God, please protect me from the wrath of the Ilona Andrews fans who might read this review.* I'm sure I just read it wrong. Hey, **I'm a huge fan!** But this book **did not** work for me. I **wanted** to love it. I just could not connect with Rose or Declan. Their romance was INSUFFERABLE. Horrible. I disliked them both. I get

the motivation for why Rose acted like she did toward him, but that didn't make it any easier to read.

It takes "slow burn" romance to another level entirely. Like glacial melt romance. I got to 64% and Rose STILL couldn't stand Declan and he was STILL a smug asshole.

I **did** really like Georgie and Jack. I liked the magic, but you know, I really didn't like the Edge. It seemed like a shittier place to live than Bon Temps from the Sookie Stackhouse series (and THAT was a shithole). Everyone seemed mean and gossipy and hateful. The Broken... well, *who* would want to live there?! The Weird sounded interesting, but even those people seemed stuck up and pompous.

I don't know. I did not care for this. I love Ilona Andrews and will try the next one out in this series to see if it vibes with me better. I hope it does. :(

### **Original post:**

Wow, I'm FINALLY reading this. Buddy read with Ilona Andrews Addicts group starting January 19, 2016.

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### **Kat Kennedy says**

Do you guys remember that scene out of Beauty and the Beast when the Beast asks Cogsworth and Lumiere what present he could get for Belle?

Then Cogsworth says:

"Oh, the usual: Chocolates, gifts, promises you don't intend to keep..."

Then Cogsworth and Lumiere make out and the Beast starts feeling really awkward?

Somehow I just KNEW you could find kinky cogsworth shit on the internet if you just looked hard enough!

Well, sometimes reading UF/PNR is a little bit like that. Most authors think they can hand you chocolates, flowers, promises they don't intend to keep (Richelle Mead I am looking at you!)

Every now and again though, an author does something special. Something above and beyond that makes our bookish, young but strong and passionate hearts skip a beat before we say: "To hell with it! Beastiality can't be that bad!"

Or at least, I think that was the point Disney was trying to get at...

Well, this is Ilona Andrews giving us a whole library instead of a box of chocolates and a sleazy grin.

This is the story of Rose who works a minimum wage cleaning job and cares for her two young brothers with her grandmother. She lives on the Edge. There is our world which is completely normal. There is another ghost world occupying the same space in a different reality. This world is called the Weird and it is your typical "magical" world. Then there is the Edge which occupies a middle ground between the two. It is populated with crazy rednecks and people who are probably not embarrassed enough about how interrelated

they are.

This Edge factor gives the novel that nice, isolated feel that you have when reading any good fairy tale. It's this world but it has its own rules and its own ways.

On The Edge is almost not a UF/PNR (Somebody tell me the difference these days?) it's more like what I always imagined that the genre should be which is a modern day fairy tale.

It has the "prince" performing challenges to win the lady's affection, it has a modern setting but the place where our heroine lives is half magical and half plain-old batshit insane. Fights, challenges, crazy antics.

Rose is a fantastic character. She's not your badass mainstay of the genre. She has a magical ability that she has spent years cultivating but that is the only thing that separates her from others. Her main concern is putting food on the table for her brothers.

There's a lot to say about this book but I'm concerned about the drool getting on my keyboard so let's sum it up with a math puzzle.

Take the assumption that based on the Kate Daniel's series, Ilona Andrews's series trend toward getting more awesome with each book as they go. Kind of the antithesis of Richelle Mead.

By my calculations, the fourth book in this series will be so good that it will simultaneously cure all cancer and perform the best oral sex of your life.

She has an ARC...

Now if that isn't a ringing endorsement to go pick up this book, I don't know what is.

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## **Angela says**

2016 January Re-read: Buddy read with IAA.

When I first read this book, it was my very first foray into Ilona Andrews' work. I loved it, dearly, but I did have issues with it - some that I was reminded of on this re-read. Does Declan have a reason for his actions? Sure. But they still suck. Does he make it right in the end? Yup. But some of the things said prior to then, I'm left wondering if they were part of the 'act' or just his real thoughts. I still dunno. I like Declan. I love Rose. And George and Jack are AMAZING. And I can't wait to read more about William.

23 January 2015: \$2.99 on Kindle

Re-read January 2015.

I'm reminded once again, as if I needed it, why I love Ilona Andrews.

So I should actually read my previous reviews before I cross-post. I need to add some stuff here.

I did end up loving Declan, and I liked him immediately, but he pissed me off a LOT in the middle. (It makes sense in the end, but still...) All I can say is stick with him, and even if you don't love him by the end, I think you'll still be wanting to continue on - after all, future books contain different main characters.

Rose's reaction to Declan was a little irritating, too. Instead of kicking his ass from here to kingdom come, she was a little too accepting. She does come around and do some ass-kicking, but I do wish it'd been sooner rather than later.

But William. Nom nom. Must have more William (luckily his book is next).

Ahh. And I just noticed that I first read this before the Kate Daniels series....that might explain quite a bit about my initial reaction actually.

Original review cross-posted from here. Buddy read with my friends at IAA.

The world here that Ilona Andrews created is a fascinating place. Not quite our world, not quite a fantasy world, it's vivid, captivating place filled with captivating characters. I was absolutely immersed in the Edge, and loved every moment that I spent there.

Rose was a fascinating character. She's had the rose-colored glasses, pardon the pun, ripped off her face and expects the worst in everyone but family, whom she's fiercely loyal to. She's very stubborn and almost can't back down from a challenge. I admit I loved this about her. She was not about to let anyone run her life or take over for her. Rose wasn't about to give her trust to anyone that didn't deserve it, and she damn sure wasn't going to let just anyone have her heart.

Declan, I absolutely loved from the first moment that Rose tried to run him over. He was arrogant and brash, and yet at the same time he's honorable, loyal and admirable. His interactions with Rose and her family made my heart tremble. I was rooting for him to find the way past Rose's defenses from the start.

Beyond the utterly wonderful world, and vividness of Rose and Declan, there's a supporting cast of fully three-dimensional cast of secondary characters. Jack and Georgie, in particular, just hit my heart hard. I loved seeing through their point-of-views, feeling the heart-breaking burden of their gifts, the absolutely pure love they had for each other and Rose, and the disarming yearning they had for peace and happiness.

The evil that threatens Rose and all those that live in the edge is cruel and vicious, with complicated connections. I did feel that the resolution of it was a bit rushed, but I was so involved in the character's journeys that it was only after I finished that I really thought about that.

As a first time reader of Ms. Andrews, I was absolutely enchanted with the world-building, the characters, and the emotions in *On the Edge*. And I can't wait to go back and visit the world again with *Bayou Moon* which is already out.

I would definitely recommend this to anyone that enjoys Patricia Briggs and Jeaniene Frost. Ms. Andrews has a way of pulling you into the world, to the point where I was up late into the night just having to read 'one more' chapter.

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## **Robin (Bridge Four) says**

*Yes, I am reading this again....Yes, I just read this like 6 months ago....No, I am not sorry half star bump up to a solid 4 stars.*

### **How do you make a book you enjoyed the first time you read it even better?**

Easy, find a group of friends to read it with all over again. Thanks to my fellow IA lovers *I'd include all your names in this review but there were about 20 of us* at Ilona Andrews Addicts (IAA) for making this one of my funnest rereads of a book (The other being Burn For Me)I have had to date.

**Rose:** My super strong heroine I liked you even more. She is the one person that truly deserved a Prince Charming but she isn't going to make it easy on him.

*"I want you to swear that you won't attempt to molest me."*

*He looked her over very slowly. "If I chose to molest you, it wouldn't be an attempt. And you would be most enthusiastic about it."*

*Rose felt heat rise to her cheeks. "On second thought, I'm not sure that my house is big enough to contain you and your ego. Few places are."*

**Declan:** I liked you so much more this second time through. You are very much Prince Charming with a side of snarky attitude. You had me forever at

*You're the measure of my wrath*

**Georgie and Jack:** Are adorable as young brothers always looking out for each other and in desperate need of a male role model. I freaking want to take them home with me.

Well worth the reread and I look forward to the Buddy read of the next book in this series.

Original Review March 2013

### **3.5 Stars**

Ilona Andrews seems to weave reality and magic together in a way few other authors do. In the world of the Edge you are in-between two dimensions, one that has no magic and one that is completely magic. Rose has lived in this world her whole life and is an anomaly to it. It has made her life difficult and she has learned to trust no one except for her family.

*"Living in your dreams meant bitter disappointment when you woke up."*

Rose is raising her two younger brothers and that is a feat in itself as one is a changling and the other a necromancer. Despite being downtrodden and poor Rose is a remarkably likable character. She is honest, prideful and will not take advantage of those around her no matter how they have treated her in the past.



When Declan shows up, a Blueblood from the Magic dimension, Rose is sure he will be like all the others that have tried to steal her away. She doesn't trust him but knows that her magic can't beat his. They come to an arrangement of sorts and Declan is clever and finds a way to stay with Rose while he tries to win her affection.

*"Our standard rate. A doubloon a day."*

*It was generous. More than generous--some families would put him up for a week for a single coin.*

*"Half a doubloon a day," she said.*

*"No, you see, the idea behind bargaining is that you ask for a larger amount."*

Declan has other reasons for being in the edge than just wooing Rose. He needs to find and destroy a doomsday machine his uncle is using in hopes of stealing magic.

This was packed with the humor and action you expect from an Ilona Andrews novel. While it isn't as strong as some of the Kate Daniels series I definitely see the potential of the book in later series. It took awhile for the love interest to grow on me but in the end he was everything a hero should be. The world of the edge and the magic in it is interesting and different from their other series and I can't wait to see what will happen in William's story.

This was a beautiful blend of action and romance.

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