



# Energy

*M.J. Schutte*

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Brighton has to overcome great odds and even death itself if he is going to save himself and Lilian from the evil determined to destroy them.

## Energy Details

Date : Published May 1st 2011 by Xlibris Corporation

ISBN : 9781462863310

Author : M.J. Schutte

Format : Hardcover 414 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Romance, Young Adult, Paranormal Romance

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## From Reader Review Energy for online ebook

### Willow Cross says

Okay, you can surely see by now I don't do spoilers. I don't often do reviews either. I just finished this and WOW!!!! Let me start by saying I am a HUGE Terry Brooks fan. Even though I generally stick to writing urban fantasy, Epic Fantasy is very near and dear to my heart.

M.J.'s writing reminds me so much of Terry Brooks!!! I love the phrasing, the characters, and world he's created. I will definitely be purchasing the next one as soon as it is released.

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### Ressa Empbra says

I give Energy, by M.J. Schutte a 5-Star Rating!!

I won this amazing e-book by simply 'liking' M.J.'s Facebook Page, apparently I was one of the right numbers. You can't beat a free read, moreover, you can't beat one that was as intriguing, unique and original as Energy.

It's rather lengthy, but worth every moment spent reading this suspenseful story. M.J. Schutte's imagination not only blows me away, but also tells me he will only grow better with time.

If you're an avid reader, you know that today's average novel is rather long, or at least longer than your traditional trade paperback novel. You'll find M.J. Schutte's novel is somewhere between three and four full-length novels. Additionally, if you're a 'speed-reader' - as am I - you will be pleasantly surprised that Energy's suspense and ease of flow will only take two to four days to get through, as long as you're not interrupted often.

M.J. has cleverly created an amazing world where many people known as the Dark Ones, have a type of magical powers. I'll not go into details or post spoilers, as that is not my style. I'd rather save that for you, the reader, so every fascinating tidbit is a surprise for you as it was for me. But, I will do my best to explain what I can...

Brighton, an extraordinarily large and strong young man, and his beautiful, petite childhood friend, Lillian, fell in love without realizing it while growing up as playmates. When tragedy strikes and young Lillian disappears, and after losing other loved ones, Brighton sets out to find his 'Lily.' When he's told that she's dead, he settles with an older, motherly-like woman to make a new life for himself in a new, remote place.

Little does he know, his Lily lives, and their journey to reunite will bring you tears of joy. He discovers there are some at work who only want to see to his well-being and happiness, and aid he and Lily as they only wish to be together and live out their lives in peace and quiet. But, it never is that easy, is it?

After realizing his own powers, Brighton embarks on a mission to end the heavy-handed rule of the Dark Ones, who have controlled everyone and everything for thousands of years. Many people support him hoping they also can finally live in peace, but it's not that easy as there are many bad guys (and gals) who want him dead once they find out he could be more powerful than anyone to ever exist.

Not all the good guys (and gals) survive, and neither do all the bad ones, but the journey to dissolve the old and unwanted ways becomes ugly and tiring. Only Brighton can make that happen, though, and along the way he also finds that - just like the Dark Ones - power can consume and destroy even one with the best of intentions.

I highly recommend you follow this captivating journey where you will find love, hate, happiness, heartbreak, old lives ending, new lives beginning, and much, much more in Energy. As it is such a lengthy novel, I'm finding it difficult to give it due justice in a mere few words. The only way to really understand and fall in love with it, as I did, is to buy a copy of M.J. Schutte's Energy for yourself. You'll be happy you did!

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### **Jacquie Talento says**

This may have been a long story but it was well worth it. Schutte taught us in this story how love can conquer all.

Brighton is about 3 years older than Lily and they are constantly together. They have grown up with each other and find that they are falling in love. Then one day while out in a field, a dark cloud of smoke fills the air and goes after Brighton. Seth, the evil one, has gone to find Thomas, Brighton's somewhat uncle for revenge and stumbles up Brighton who has a white light of energy to him. Brighton can't be sensed by anyone. Lily is taken by Seth whom we later find out is her father and wants to teach her the ways. Mischief, a black panther with white eyes becomes the protector of Brighton and those close to him once Brighton saves him in childbirth. But will Brighton be able to control the people of his land with his energy or will he become just like Seth? Can the love Brighton and Lily feel prevail? This is a nice adventure story where love is found through some and evil takes over for others. Be careful as you might find yourself laughing and crying in some of the scenes.

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### **Melissa says**

As teenagers, Brighton and Lilian live quiet, peaceful and uncomplicated lives in a remote mountain village called Four Mountains. They soon discover that their friendship has developed into something deeper, but before they can explore their feelings for each other, a dark secret about Lilian's past rips their world apart. Brighton finds himself fighting for the girl he loves as well as his own life while simultaneously discovering an even bigger secret about himself.

The two young lovers simply want to live in peace but they are constantly hunted because of their special talents.

Brighton has to overcome great odds and even death itself if he is going to save himself and Lilian from the evil determined to destroy them.

Review 6 out of 5

Brighton and Lilian are two teenagers living in a small village called Four Mountains. They discover that their feelings for each other are much deeper than friendship. But before they can explore these feelings, a secret from Lilian's past rips them apart. Brighton finds himself fighting for the girl he loves and discovers

an even bigger secret about himself. Brighton and Lilian just want to live in peace, but others are hunting them because of their special talents.

Brighton has to overcome great odds, and even death, if he is to save Lilian and himself from the evil determined to destroy them.

I absolutely loved this book. I fell in love with the whole world MJ Schutte has created. Brighton and Lilian are two teenagers living in a remote village in the mountains. Their characters are kind and gentle, but after an event that sees Lilian being taken, their lives take a darker turn. When they meet again, they find their feelings have not changed, but they have. Brighton and Lilian have to face death on more than one occasion due to their special talents. This is a fantastic tale of adventure and romance. I would definitely recommend this book, and I'm looking forward to reading Birth of a Wizard next. -

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### **Jenny Bynum Black Words-White Pages says**

I absolutely LOVED this book!!! I did some crying and some laughing, this was a great roller coaster full of happiness, fun, mischief, and tears!

My all time favorite part of the book was when Lilian was getting ready to deliver the twins and Brighton is screaming because he doesn't know what to do about the situation!!

and Lilian says to Brighton

"You ended the Supremes' hold on the world, face off again numerous Dark Ones and even more untalented people without any fear but childbirth scares you senseless"

Then Brighton runs to get Brac and he comes running back and says:

"I'm back. Brac is here too. Are they born yet?"

That was too funny! I also loved the black panther, Mischief, he was just awesome and protecting and scaring the living daylight out of people and just ignore them, while the humans run for their lives! I could see Mischief just strutting himself through town and all the humans running from him and he is like I'm big and bad and I don't want anything to do with your humans!

The names of the twins made me cry too. Clarissa named after Brighton's mother and Thomas named after the old man that helped and protected Brighton! Ugh, such a tear jerker!

Over all this book deserves 5\*\*\*\*\*s because its just full of everything you can imagine! Thank you MJ Schutte for such an awesome book!!

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### **Katy says**

**Book Info:** Genre: Paranormal Fantasy

Reading Level: Young Adult

**My Thoughts:** An interesting idea with a strong moral to the story, but one that requires a bit more work. The main problem with this book is that it reads like a movie – there is very little description or narrative, and the plot is moved along primarily with the use of dialogue. It also suffers from telling rather than showing, which leaves what could have been a richly lush story falling a bit flat. The characters really don't have individual personalities – the good guys are good, the bad guys are bad, and everyone sounds and talks sort of the same. Despite this, I found the story quite compelling, and possibly by working with a critique group of established authors, Schutte could polish his style to create a stronger story.

There was one word that was consistently misused, and it caused me some amusement. A person “nocks” an arrow; they “knock” on a door. There were some other misuses: the word “bath” was used in instances where “bathe” should have been used, “reigns” where “reins” and “feint” where “faint”; other than that, the book is well-edited; I didn’t notice much else amiss, and I generally see such things whether I want to or not.

I would say for writing style, a 3 out of 5 stars, and for personal interest in the story a 4 out of 5 stars; average 3.5 stars, which rounds up to 4. Recommended for fans of fantasy stories. This is book 1 in the Energy Trilogy; watch for my review of book 2, *Birth of a Wizard* in the next day or two.

**Disclosure:** I received a free copy of this eBook from the LibraryThing Members Giveaway in exchange for an honest review.

**Synopsis:** Follow Brighton and Lillian through an action-packed, fast-paced adventure in the first book of the Energy Chronicles Trilogy as they discover their unique talents in the art of energy manipulation.

As teenagers, Brighton and Lillian live quiet, peaceful and uncomplicated lives in a remote mountain village called Four Mountains. Before they can explore their feelings for each other, a dark secret about Lillian’s past rips their world apart. Brighton finds himself fighting for the girl he loves as well as his own life while simultaneously discovering an even bigger secret about himself.

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### **Jennifer Davis says**

I LOVED this book right from the moment I read the first page. I immediately fell in love with the characters especially Brighton and Lillian. This book was easy to follow and I enjoyed every twist and turn of the ongoing adventure. I felt myself on a emotional landslide along with each of the characters. I laughed, cried, and even yelled a few choice words at times. I could not put this book down, I had to know what would happen next with each turn of the page. I would highly recommend this book to anyone that is looking a great read. I can see this book becoming a best-seller in no time. I can easily see it being made into a movie and being a huge hit.

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### **Beth Wright says**

I really loved reading this story :D Love is a beautiful thing, and fighting for it brings out some really wonderful stories, like this one. Heart's brought together at a young age are torn apart for years until they finally find each other. A psycho dad brings lots of hard times for these two. In the end everything is well worth the fight. I can not wait to see what you have instore for us readers next :)

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### **Christine bonner says**

"read the book i a day this i what i put about it. this is a must read, but first a few thing to do before you read the book,

1. make sure your e reader is fully charged

2 that all your house work is done, as once you start reading you won't put the book down

3 make sure that you don't have to be up for work at 7 the next morning

I started the book yesterday and could not put it down,

Thank you Wanda Hart and MJ Schutte,

I finished the book at 3 am this morning and I had to get to the end to see what happened to Brighton, Lilian and the rest of them, I now can't wait to get the next book to see what goes on

it's been a long time since I have been up at 3 in the morning reading, and I think I have only done it once about 12 years ago

so please go get the book you will all love it"

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### **Brittany says**

I really enjoyed following Brighton, Lilian, Thomas and Clarissa throughout their journeys in Four Mountains. The author describes the characters down to the last detail, giving you an outright visualization of each one. This greatly helps when reading this book because there are so many scenes he lays out that require that visualization in order to fully know what is going on without having to go back and try to remember details. This page turner is definitely on my Top Reads list for 2012! I can't wait to see what happens in Birth of a Wizard!! I would recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a great twist on the everyday supernatural/witch/wizard story :)

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PS...Isn't the cover GORGEOUS?!?

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### **Julie says**

Ebook: Energy

Author: M J Schutte

Fiction, Paranormal,

This review may contain spoilers

I was given this by the author for an honest review

Summary: As teenagers, Brighton and Lilian live quiet, peaceful and uncomplicated lives in a remote mountain village called Four Mountains. They soon discover that their friendship has developed into something deeper, but before they can explore their feelings for each other, a dark secret about Lilian's past rips their world apart. Brighton finds himself fighting for the girl he loves as well as his own life while simultaneously discovering an even bigger secret about himself.

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The Review

I loved this storyline, nothing like a lost love to get the story going, no it's not a soppy love story at all, it is so much more than that, there is drama, there is laughter, there are scenes of great sadness, put it this way, I cried, so if you like to run through all your emotions in one book, I would highly recommend this one to you,

I loved the hero in this one, Brighton had it all, I can't wait to hear more about Mischief and what he gets upto, I don't want to say too much due to spoilers but what I will say is this, The author really pulled me into the story, I really must get book 2, the plot line was something I have never read about before, the different talents that were incorporated into the story were awesome, very different to the usual paranormal stories, This is a great start to a series, looking forward to book 2 with relish, Thankyou M J Schutte, 5/5

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## **Books says**

I can honestly say that this book hooked me from the very first page.

“Energy” is filled with take-your-breath-away shocking moments, heart stopping suspense, surprising twists, humor, plenty of action, romance and adventure. All the ingredients necessary to keep you turning the pages as fast as you can. It is a well-written, easy to read book, with a unique and interesting plot, which takes you on a journey to a world where even the moralities of the good guys can be twisted by power and greed.

I fell in love with the sincerity and personalities of the characters – even some of the evil ones - very early in the book. It was easy to relate to the characters and I often cried and laughed along with them. Although the story is fast-paced, it never leaves the reader behind.

“Energy” is going to be a bestseller in no time and therefore I happily recommend this fantastic book to young and old alike!

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## **Ressa Empbra says**

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## **Wanda Hartzenberg says**

Energy by MJ Schutte.

Energy is a novel written within the fantasy genre.

### **Rating**

I give this a book a 6/5 star rating.

### **How and why?**

Simple. Not only would I recommend this book to any fantasy reader. I would proudly buy it as a present for my dearest friends. Thus the 6 star rating.

### **Book synopsis:**

Energy is the story of the boy next door. Brighton, the hero of the story together with his one true love, Lillian. He was brought up in a secluded farming community cut off from the outside world. It takes the loss of Lillian to get Brighton to leave his childhood home to try and find her.

In her stead, he learns that what he is capable of, by means of the manipulation of energy, is not normal. In fact in a world where a select few can take energy from others by will, Brighton is truly exceptional. He need not take energy by force from other human beings. The Supremes and their offspring, the dark ones lead him back to Lillian and his first battle with evil.

But only in death comes true understanding of how to use his ability.

Review:

I loved the story of Brighton with Lily and their friends and foes. Velvet and Mischief, mother and son Panthers play such a large role in the story that it is unmistakable that MJ Schutte not only has a passion for nature and wild life, he has an uncanny ability to share this passion with his readers.

Other supporting characters such as Thomas, Adri and Brac are portrayed in such a manner that the reader can easily put titles to them such as my uncle, my sister etc.

The characterization of Brighton and Lilly is brilliant. MJ Schutte has a rare and true talent in that he can realistically age his characters. Upon first meeting Brighton and Lillian they are 16 and 13 respectively. The dialogue between them and other characters are indeed what one would expect of a 16 year old boy and a 13 year old girl. By the end of the book we leave the characters at the age of 21 and 19. After all they have been through and all they have experienced the childhood naivety is gone.

In the start of Energy I kept thinking of Brighton as being smart in a dumb kind of way. By the final battle in Energy Brighton has matured and his battle is against himself and his own sense of morality.

Any reader of Energy will soon fall in love with the world and the characters within the book. I was left with the impression that MJ Schutte truly loves this world and its inhabitants and that for him it's not a creation or a product of his imagination but a story told of friends loved dearly.

MJ has a truly unique and fresh story line as well as writing style. He breaks with many a tradition in the fantasy genre. His defiance of tradition in this genre alone makes this a journey I would recommend.

Interview:

Sorry guys, I did not realize I was this nosy. I would have removed some of these questions but since I wanted to know the answers, I decided that you may want to know the answer to some of these questions as well.

I asked:

You break from several traditions pertaining to Fantasy. So here is my one and only question in this regard. - Your time line in Energy is really fast paced, much more than what I as a reader is used to in Fantasy. Brighton and Lilly is put in several different scenarios and their lives play of more in "real time" than in fantasy time. Personally I found this a delightful change. What made you decide to break from tradition in this way?

MJ's answer:

Although I love fantasy, I am also a realist. Things like time and distance have to make sense. This is actually a small part of the "reality" of Energy. In my heart, I believe in magic but my logical mind says that it has to come from somewhere. Nothing can come from nothing. If a wizard is going to do something magical, the power or energy to do that has to come from somewhere.

I asked:

Your love for nature and balance is clear through out Energy. What inspired this passion for nature?

MJ's answer:

It probably comes from my parents. They love nature even more than I do! I am currently involved in a

project with my sister called "Save Rhinos Today". It's a Face book page dedicated to fighting rhino poaching and raising money by means of a book auction for this noble cause.  
The address is [www.facebook.com/saverhinostoday](http://www.facebook.com/saverhinostoday)

I asked:

What for you personally, is the scariest part of being an author?

MJ's answer:

Putting my work out there and hoping the readers will like it.

I asked:

What is the single wildest thing (which you can share with us) that you have ever done?

MJ's answer:

I went on holiday with a very good friend, Louis, when I was 18. We did not book any accommodation or have a specific plan in mind. We simply got in his Mini and drove. Some nights we slept on the beach or under an airplane wing, some nights we simply slept in the little car! We went down the Sani Pass (the Border between Lesotho and South Africa) with almost no brakes. At the top there is a sign that states "Four by Four vehicles only".

It was truly an adventure to remember!

I asked:

If you then what you know now, would you have started writing earlier in life?

MJ's answer:

Honestly, I don't think so. I had to live through certain things, good and bad, to be the person I am today. I learnt the hard way to follow my dreams means a lot of hard work and sacrifice. If I had written Energy ten years ago, I may have given up before the book was finished.

I asked:

Your second book "Birth of a Wizard is already with your editors. How many books do you plan to write in this series?

MJ's answer:

From the start, I planned to write three books in the series. As soon as Birth of a Wizard is released, I am going to start writing the final book.

I asked:

Is there more Brighton's and Lilly's dancing around in your imagination? Can we expect another fantasy series by the soon best selling author MJ Schutte?

MJ's answer:

Writing is something I enjoy immensely. Although I have not thought about more books once the Energy series is done, I cannot see myself never writing again.

Yes, I will continue writing as long as readers continue to read my work.

I asked:

If you could teach your children one lesson only. What would that lesson be?

MJ's answer

Integrity. Always follow through on promises you have made.

I asked:

Describe for us your idea of the perfect day?

MJ's answer

Writing 5000 words, having ice cream with my children and falling asleep with my wife in my arms.

Useless information:

Anybody that knows me knows that I love what I call useless information. You know the type. That information that would cost you the \$1 million dollar question type of useless information: so here is a bit of useless information pertaining to two of my favorite characters in Energy - Velvet and Mischief. In real life they are cats living in the Schutte household. Velvet is apparently the queen of the neighborhood and no dog would dare to take her on in a one on one fight. Mischief is the house cat and scared of her own shadow!!!! Imagine that. Especially if you've read Energy!

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## **Roxanne Kade says**

I have to admit that I really struggled to get into this book. The story didn't flow very well and there were moments when I wish a little more effort had been put into the editing process. Although the hiccups I noticed were very slight, they were enough to distract me from reading, and at one point I was ready to put the book down, never to pick it up again. I also felt that sections of dialogue were forced and there was that tiny annoyance of characters always referring to each other by name, even when there was no one else around...

Now I know it seems like I'm only harping on negatives, but I always strive to give my honest opinion!

I'm not saying I hated this book, it just started off as a bit of a bore. I really only got into the story a couple of chapters in, when Thomas comes to see Carmen and Brighton, and they discuss the latter's talents. I felt this was the turning point of the story and things only got better. I enjoyed the interaction between Lily and Bri. They felt like a real couple and even reminded me of a few of my married friends! Although Brighton didn't stand out as the typical drop-dead gorgeous hero, he certainly lived up to the part with his devotion and love for Lily. He was willing to die for her, literally, and he always had her best interests at heart.

Lily is a great character. She seemed a little flat at first but when she appeared later, she really had grown into a beautiful, more complex young lady.

The talent that each character has is very interesting. It was a wonderful, fresh idea and the fact that the Dark Ones are "magically" inclined but still vulnerable is a nice change because most of the time these types of characters are invincible!

Overall, this book grew into a fantastic fantasy adventure.

May I also just add that I am so happy with the cover change. The new cover for Energy just speaks so much more to what the book is about, and it has a more mystical appeal!

