



Wandfasted

Laurie Forest

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Magic, romance and adventure collide in WANDFASTED, the irresistible ebook prequel to THE BLACK WITCH

"When they painted "Heretics" on our barn and set fire to it, I thought that was the worst it could get.

Until they sent the dragons.

But they didn't count on us having dragons of our own. And they certainly didn't count on Her. Our Great Mage. The Bringer of Fire. The Storm of Death. The Crow Sorceress. Our Deliverance.

The Black Witch."

- From WANDFASTED

Wandfasted Details

Date : Published July 1st 2017 by Harlequin Teen

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Author : Laurie Forest

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From Reader Review Wandfasted for online ebook

LOL No says

LOL at the ppl 1 starring this already..y'all petty as fuck. Go read a my little pony book aight? ??? lotsa snowflakes and rainbows and shit there..

? *? ♥?????

Attack Salmon says

Wandfasted does not fill it the blanks. It only left me with more questions and answers.

Laurie Forest continue to shows us the dark side of Erithia history. This time we see the horrible treatment of Gardnerians under Keltic rule and how Gardnerians vows to fight back under their legendary Black Witch. An important lesson to learn, if we continue to bring up old feuds and constantly using the past oppression as a tool to justify our revenge instead of learning how to live peacefully with each other, we are doomed to be stuck in this endless cycle of oppression

How much this mirrors our society yeah. Both Gardnerians and Kelts are no better. They keeps killing one another.

When I first started this book, I find it so boring that I actually put it on hold. Our protagonist Tessla is a Gardnerian that actually have magic unlike Elloren so I am stuck reading about Tessla's magic how her power flow through her bla bla. But once I get past that, it gets interesting and I actually flew through the rest of it

Ok now I will go ahead and talk about the spoiler stuff

(view spoiler)

Claire says

GIMME GIMME GIMME

alyssa says

4 Vale-licious Stars

"Tessla," he says with passionate firmness, his gaze suddenly serious. "I have fallen in love with you. Stay fasted to me. Even if we find a way to break this fasting. Let's not."

Spoilers beyond. Please read @ your own risk.

Things I Liked:

?? even though I kinda had a disliking towards vale at the very beginning of the story, I grew to love him and now think he's so adorable ?

?? tessla is so sweet and she and vale make such a bootiful fasted couple

?? fain is such a babe

?? wren and grandfather are such cute puppies. though grandfather made an ass move at the end, eh I've forgiven him :D and I'm super glad wren is all good and healthy again

?? beck and ray are gareth's parents ! we finally know the story of his parents and how he came to be :) also super glad margryt took gareth in. she's so sweet, it's adorable

Things I Disliked:

? the fact that when a couple (boy and girl) are fasted, the girl can't cheat behind her husband's back or the fasted lines will cause her pain but if the husband cheats behind his wife's back, the fasted lines on him won't do anything. seriously, this is complete bullshit to me. that's so not fair how the guy is basically free to have affairs aside from his fastmate but the woman is helpless to do anything. I'm not saying I now hate beck for doing what he did to margryt, I still think he's a lovely person, but still, it was such an unfaithful move on his part or any men's part, for that matter.

? nils (I'm not too sure if that's how you spell his name?) is a jackass and I hope he goes to hell

? something bane (forgot his first name, loooool) now we know where the bane children featured in TBW get their horrendous ways from. something bane is such a cruel son of a bitch and I'm so happy that vale intercepted and had tessla fasted to him instead of letting something bane get his hands on her. smart move, vale.

? this novella felt super rushed. for example, when rosebeth and myles first laid eyes on each other, it was legit love at first sight. and right away, they knew they wanted to get fasted to each other. and let me tell you, fasting to someone else is for life. there is no way around it, no way out. so once it's done, it's done. and rosebeth and myles were so sure in wanted to fast with each other with they literally just met. like, how is it possible that they both decided they want to spend the rest of their lives together literally on the day they meet? that's just kinda odd. there were other examples in the novella but this is the only one I can remember :D

Vale raises my hand to his lips and kisses the back of it, affection running hot in his gaze.

I've accidentally, unexpectedly, been given the perfect fasting. I can feel Vale's love for me flowing right through the fastlines.

Unanswered Questions:

? before going into wandfasted, I had hoped that this novella would be able to answer some of my

unanswered questions that TBW left me. but now that I'm done with this, I can say that it didn't answer a single one of my questions. rather, wandfasted has left me with even more questions than before I started this story. now, I'm not saying that it's bad or anything that I have more questions. in fact, I actually like it. for me, a story that leaves me hanging with loads of questions is always a good story and leaves me wanting more. on the downside, I have to wait a year for the next goddamn book, which sucks.

? so, I'm 99.9% sure that vale and tessla are elloren's parents, right? if you've read wandfasted, can you let me know if I'm correct or not? thank you so very much :D anyways, if I am, in fact, correct that they are elloren's parents, how did they die? because in TBW, it tells us that they're dead, but with no explanation whatsoever. and this story didn't even answer any of my questions as to how they died, rather, how they met and their love for each other.

? ugh, I want another novella to come out with answers to my goddamn questions ! and june 2018 needs to come faster with the iron flower !

Overall

wandfasted mainly focuses on one of carnissa gardner's three children, vale, whom is fasted to tessla, whose I'm 99.9% sure are elloren's parents :D so this was a pretty good story. it did make me laugh in some parts, when it came to vale's *erotic books* *waggles eyebrows* anyways, loved this short novella and now I'm craving more of this world and I still have so many unanswered questions ! but aside from that, can someone tell me where I can find a vale from??

Vale laughs, pulls me firmly against him and brings his lips to mine, our fires lashing around each other like the lines that mark us. Sealed and tightly bound.

Forever.

Rating: ★ ★ ★ ★ / 5 stars

Lead Male Character: ★ ★ ★ ★ / 5 stars (Vale and Fain)

Lead Female Character: ★ ★ ★ ★ / 5 stars (Tessla)

Plotline: ★ ★ ★ and a half / 5 stars

Genre: Young adult, fantasy, adventure, romance

Will I recommend this book to others?: HECK YES

Will I reread this book?: ABSOLUTELY

Overall story summed up in one word: ADORABLE

Carrie (The Butterfly Reader) says

This book is a lot like The Black Witch, the author pushing the same messages and still people think this story is hurting people when in fact, it's not. It's preaching love and inclusion and things SJWs claim they want so seeing them one star a book they've never read... it makes me roll my eyes. At least I get a good laugh from their actions.

This story shows when the Kelts were the ones in charge and how they ruled harshly. It just goes to show that the author has captured human emotions/actions much better than we thought. Sadly, there will always be those people that think others are below them and want to rule over them and damn if she doesn't nail in

in this one and her first book.

Now, that being said, this is more of love story and for that, being the romantic that I am, I liked this one even more than *The Black Witch*, which is saying something as I enjoyed *The Black Witch* so freaking much! I loved seeing the love. I felt this was a pretty good read for around Valentine's Day. Now even though this says 'novella' it's more like a full length novel. Which is really nice because it's more than worth your money. My only complaint, I want it as a hardcover/paperback! I want this beauty to sit on my shelves while I admire it from the comfort of my bed.

Samm | Sassenach the Book Wizard says

Holy crap! How is Forest a newbie author?! I DEVoured this book in a little under 5 hours and will definitely now be re-reading *The Black Witch*. Forest is an instant buy for me now.

This book starts out with a bang...like dragons fighting a witch trying to stop a genocide type bang! It eventually dies down but I didn't ever feel or notice a lull in the pace. There is always something happening and I understood that everything being brought up was either a comment on an issue we have in our society and/or was a mirroring of events and the world/time in *The Black Witch*.

While the characters and plots are not unique (there's some good fluff romance), Forest does an amazing job of showing how we tend to repeat history by using hate to guide our actions. They also bring up so many modern issues: homophobia, access to healthcare, sexism, gender roles and racism.

READ IT!

UPDATE FROM REREAD:

Omg I am such a moron ROFL

I didn't connect this Gareth or Vivianne or Tesla's brother to them in *The Black Witch* the first time I read it! So many dots connected!

TL says

Writng: 4 stars

Characters: 4 stars

Plot: 3 stars

3.5 stars overall.

I didn't love this as much as *Black Witch*. Not because it was a bad book, but I wasn't a fan of it being focused on the romance.

I did know it was gonna be about Elloren's parents going in yes, but I never felt fully connected to it all. This is just a me thing, I'm not big on romances 90% of the time.

Why did I read it then? I was curious, and eager to see the world as it was when Tesla and Vale were a part of everything going on.

As before, I wanted to smack some people senseless and others I wanted to whisk them away and protect them (Wren, Fain). Another was a surprise but made sense when I thought on it more.

In one case of a character I thought "The apple doesn't fall from the tree."

It was interesting to get a glimpse of Carnissa *backs away slowly*

With what you know happens in Black Witch it makes you wonder a few things (view spoiler)

This answers a few questions but leave many more.. perhaps some will be answered in book two?

Would still recommend, a nice installment to the series.

Side note: Pictured Sebastian Stan as Fain

Jessica says

This was such a sweet peek into the first generation of what im gonna assume were a merry band of misfit freedom fighters. I have so many theories now having seen book one and being able to line up their parents and the kids we see some 20 years later. While I can't say it added anything directly to the story of book one I have a strong feeling that we will have kickbacks to this in later installments.

Also 250+ pages not so much a novella as a full book dude lol but I'm not complaining one bit.

Leland Briedis says

A thrilling and passionate adventure!

Bentley ★ Bookbastion.net says

See this review and more like it on www.bookbastion.net

The Black Witch: ★★★★★

Laurie Forest returns in this prequel novella to her stunning debut YA Fantasy novel, *The Black Witch*. **Fans of the complex world-building and layered politics and relationships between the various cultures in this world are sure to love this simply for what it adds to the reader's understanding of the world and certain characters in it.** That being said, I do wish that I had gone into this with a better idea of what this story was actually about, because I think not knowing exactly what I was getting into sort of impacted my enjoyment of it until I figured out exactly what I was reading, and what sort of story this novella was trying to tell.

When I go into a novel or the supplemental material in a series, I try and remain as unspoiled as I can for personal enjoyment's sake. With this particular novella, I only chose to read the summary listed here on Goodreads, which is quite short. I beg of you, if you're like me and do this too, **adjust your expectations accordingly because this isn't a story directly about the fabled Black Witch herself**, (Elloren's deceased Grandmother that she is constantly compared to in the first book) like the summary would lead you to believe.

Instead, the story focuses on another young woman thrust into events unfolding well outside of her control and the connection she develops with another member of the Gardner family. It is through these two characters and their dynamic with each other that the historical events mentioned in the first book are given context. **There was less focus on the Black Witch herself than I expected there would be, and because of this I kept wondering when the plot was going to circle back around to her. Non-spoiler warning: it doesn't, really.** She remains an ancillary character as Forest explores romance in her world and how relationships between couples function within a culture that thrusts young people together, often against their will.

By re-orienting myself to the fact that this is fantasy romance, rather than the standard and wide-reaching fantasy fare you see in the first book, I was able to sort of relax and enjoy it a bit more. The romance between the two main characters is quite compelling. For once, there's a relationship between a man and woman in YA that isn't based on authors expecting us to find abusive male leads sexy, and it's so appreciated here. And to be frank, I was quite surprised by how well written some of the more steamy moments are. There's nothing vulgar, but the story also doesn't shy away from the topic of sex either, which I think is important because a lot of YA tends to just pretend it doesn't exist at all, which isn't exactly healthy either.

Set years before the events in her debut novel, Forest turns back the hands of time to tell the story of the generations that lived when the world was stepped in civil war. Make no mistake about it, as romantic as the later parts of this book are, the earlier parts are definitely filled with more of that dark fantasy I had come to expect from *The Black Witch*. **Some tough topics are confronted here as well, but considering the ire the first book drew, I would be remiss if I didn't state for the record that I found nothing of offense in this book either.**

The use of dark thematic content in fantasy is a tale as old as time, and if you have a problem with reading about things that may trigger you, you'd be better suited to a contemporary anyway.

If you're looking for steamy romance set in a vibrant fantasy world, you've come to the right place my

friends! I'm giving it 3.5 stars solely because my enjoyment levels were all over the place, and because romance is typically my least favorite genre to read. That being said, I still enjoyed the journey with these characters and fully expect others who love romance and fantasy to love this book! Make no mistake about it, Laurie Forest is building a great fantasy world here and I look forward to seeing where it goes next.

★★★★ = 3.5/5 stars

Laurie says

I had an absolute blast writing this introduction to my world (prequel to The Black Witch). I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I enjoyed envisioning it and writing it ;)

Kimberly says

A thrilling and harrowing tale, Wandfasted kept me up at night following the story of Tessla, a strong heroine with a little magic and a lot of heart. Through the insurmountable odds of prejudice and war, she fights back against enemy troops, hoping to save her sick brother, elderly grandfather and innocent friends. As enemy soldiers raze her village, they harass and threaten Tessla, but she finds immense power inside herself, power she wasn't trained to use, power that almost kills her. Can her own people save her? Will they? She's a lower class river girl--the most powerful of her own kind look down upon her as well. Is her strong heart enough to win against friends and foes alike?

Crazy4Books says

This author just has a way of making me fly through her books. Engaging writing like that make for the best kinds of books. This was more of a romance than I was expecting and a bit cheesy, but I totally fell for it. I loved the main character and how she stood up for herself. It was interesting to see the oppression from the Black Witch flipped on its head. We get to see a bit of the past and how things became the way they are. I'm excited to continue on with the rest of the series.

Amanda Foody says

In addition to its further, intricate and fascinating explanation of the history preceding THE BLACK WITCH, this was utterly delicious.

Dian Parker says

Loved this book! Forest is a splendid storyteller, bringing Tessa's world into focus with rich detail and energy. Specially love the chapters with her fast mate - how they navigate the world of falling in love. Real

emotions, true to teens, and yet heightened to bring this fantasy world into reality. So many twists and turns. Unpredictable. I look forward to her 4 books!
