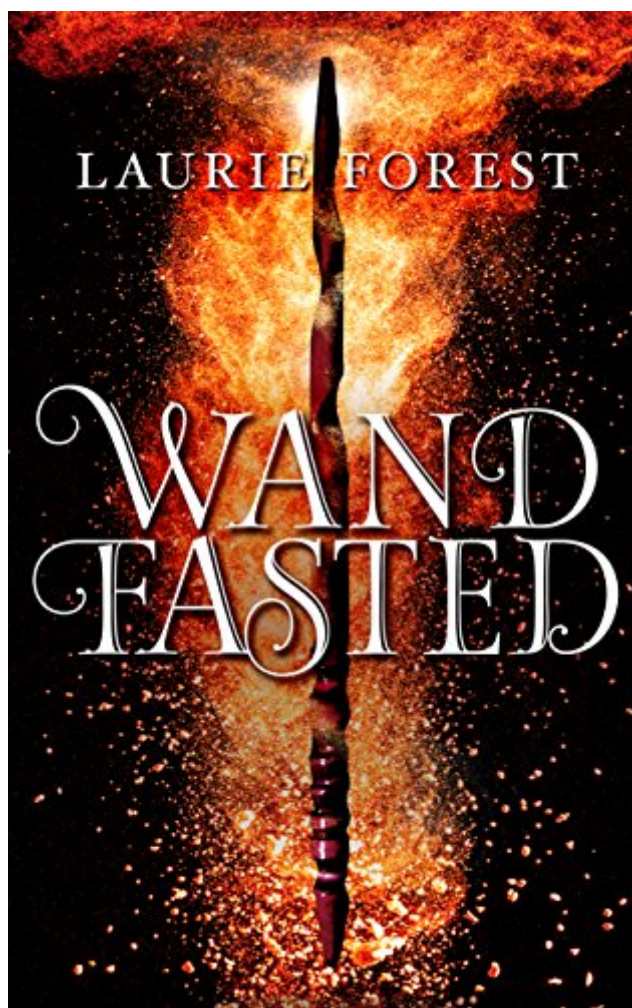


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Wandfasted (The Black Witch Chronicles)



Synopsis

Magic, romance and adventure collide in *Wandfasted*, the irresistible ebook prequel to *The Black Witch* by Laurie Forest. 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*. PRAISE FOR *THE BLACK WITCH*

“I absolutely loved *The Black Witch* | Maximum suspense, unusual magic – a whole new, thrilling approach to fantasy! – Tamora Pierce, #1 New York Times bestselling author

“*The Black Witch* is a refreshing, powerful young adult fantasy. This strong debut offers an uncompromising glimpse of world-altering politics amplified by a magical setting in which prejudice and discrimination cut both ways. – Robin Hobb, New York Times bestselling author

“I absolutely devoured *The Black Witch* – a power-packed read that elegantly tackles a very tough, relevant subject in a fantasy setting, perfect for new and old readers of the genre! – Lindsay Cummings, #1 New York Times bestselling author

Book Information

File Size: 6690 KB

Print Length: 235 pages

Publisher: Harlequin Teen (July 1, 2017)

Publication Date: July 1, 2017

Sold by: Harlequin Digital Sales Corp.

Language: English

ASIN: B01N00Y9X9

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #18,309 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #6

Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Prejudice #25 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Literature & Fiction > School & Education #25 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family

Customer Reviews

Loved Forest's first book *The Black Witch* (released May 2017) so downloaded *Wandfasted* as soon as it came available. This was my first full novel read on Kindle. Highly recommend. My favorite books of the year -- and this is a new genre for me. The characters' spirit is fascinating. Adore everything about the setting, plot, theme, ideas, conflict. Great author to watch and read.

ve been saying that within 2 years, Laurie Forest will be one of the biggest, most respected names in fantasy. Her new novella, *Wandfasted*, will go a long way toward making that reality. It's a longer novella, almost full novel length, which is good bang-for-your-buck in terms of entertainment/cost value. And actually, it's almost two separate books in terms of what happens in the story. I'll break it down as such: First 20%: Fantasy action story Last 80%: Fantasy romance story If you view it as that going in you'll have the proper expectations for the book. And both components to this are masterfully done. That first 20% flew by so fast that I felt like I was in a whirlwind as just as the main character Tessla certainly is throughout these events. It's so emotionally gripping and exciting throughout this portion that it really shows her breadth and depth as a writer, even if her bread and butter comes from the latter portion of the book. I love the way magic is used and how it's dangerous for someone untrained who might burn themselves out, and actually the whole concept of *Wandfasted*. Really it brings me back to memories of Robert Jordan's *Wheel of Time* with his Aes Sedai, and that is ALWAYS a welcome feeling. What's great about this first 20% though even more is what it does for *The Black Witch*. One of my issues with that book is we kept getting shown how bad the Gardnerians were acting to everyone else, and it almost seemed unjustified that they acted like that. I was hoping it wasn't a direct allegory for LITERAL NAZI throughout that book, but at times it felt like it. *Wandfasted* fixes that issue I had with the book as it shows a tragic past of how they came to get so paranoid and angry. This backstory was a tremendous help to *The Black Witch* and I recommend reading *Wandfasted* first because of that. Once we get past the initial war shock, the really emotional war elements where the character loses everything, Tessla is thrown into another whirlwind of sorts, this time a romantic storyline. I won't press the details as the author has gone to great lengths to set up the beginning to leave you guessing who's going to be her paramour, but suffice to say it's

satisfying. Forest's descriptions of the romance, the building tension, the frustration that the characters feel when they're not able to fill it is extremely vivid. We learn a little more about their magic in the process. The pace does slow down quite a bit from the first 20% where Tessla was in the middle of a war and unsure of what's going on, but it fits the story well. These characters become even more real and detailed as it goes on. There are some descriptions and points where it gets a little dirty for a PG-13 rating, so do keep that in mind while reading. That said, this is quite possibly the most intense, best romance I've ever read. The way the situation happens, the awkwardness and anger that translates into intense love is extremely gratifying to read. Also for my readers, I will note that there's a lot of talk about rumored homosexuality between characters, and one certainly is, though that activity is not shown in the book. There is a message of society condemning this is bad, though it is focused toward a good message of "don't ostracize people for being different than you" more than praising any certain behavior. Unlike *The Black Witch*, I don't feel like the message interfered with the fiction at all or slowed the book down. I would say a couple points felt like the character thought a little too modern for her understanding of this low-tech world but I did not get thrown out of the story at all. A lot toward the end of the book mirrors what happened with *The Black Witch*, which I believe was intentional. It's a nice set up to the world in that regard and some good foreshadowing of the larger novel. I wanted to see Tessla's progression as a mage a little bit more but hopefully that just means we'll get a sequel. I was gripped from start to finish, and so far, this has my vote for best novella of 2017.

This was not what I expected to get out of *Wandfasted*, but I am SO happy I read it. I won't waste time telling you what this novella is about, because you have a perfectly well written synopsis above. Things I liked: Finding out where Vale and Tess came from The very dark beginning How well it was written The peek into the war Character development It was a page turner, and I never wanted to put the book down. What I didn't like: My biggest critic of the book, is that it just didn't feel like we really needed the novella. By that I mean, it didn't really add anything new to the story. It added a few characters, and maybe some setup for the book to come in the next book! However, it felt like it was just a lot of info dumping. The ending left me feeling very happy, BUT I was expecting a little more conflict to be sprinkled throughout the book. Romance- I just really don't read a lot of Romance to begin with. So I was surprised that it became the main focus of this book's plot. Vale and Tess are a fine couple! I just did not expect this novella to focus so heavily on their relationship, and not the

war.

A wonderful addition to the Black Witch Chronicles! I loved this prequel. I can't wait to read the next book in this series.

This book was amazing! Once I started reading it I could not put it down. It is most definitely not your average run of the mill book. It touches topics in some areas that other writers are to afraid to venture into but I found it to be refreshing! After reading so many books that center around magic and witches I at first expected it to have a familiar feel to it but it absolutely did not.

I absolutely loved this book!! I read it through in about 1 night I was hooked from page 1!! Highly suggest reading the Black Witch before this book!

Interesting for a bit of background on some of the prejudices in The Black Witch, and a nice story on its own.

Wonderfully sets up her readers for her next book... The Black Witch. Unfortunately, I have now read both and am in agony not knowing when the next book will be available!

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