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Faery Tales & Nightmares



Synopsis

Faery Tales & Nightmares is an anthology of short stories by Melissa Marr, many set in the world of her *Wicked Lovely* series. Marr revisits favorite fan characters such as faeries Niall and Irial, and introduces fascinating new beings, including a vampire, a pair of selchie brothers, and a goblin. The strange creatures can appear anywhere, coming from the sea, from the woods, from inside storms; they may come seeking to bring destruction or to find a passionate encounter. Lush, seductive, and chilling, the stories in *Melissa Marr's Faery Tales & Nightmares* blend fairy tales and folklore, horror and fantasy, and allow us to revel in the unseen magic that infuses the world as we know it.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Simple but lyrical language, resourceful female protagonists, and a mixed bag of supernatural delights should hold an allure for fans and newcomers alike. (Publishers Weekly)

Tales from the world of *Wicked Lovely* and beyond Dangerous promises and beguiling threats swirl together in a dozen stories of enchantments, dark and light, by the New York Times bestselling author Melissa Marr. Lush, seductive, and chilling, the tales revel in the unseen magic that infuses the world as we know it.

THE FAERYS VIEWMelissa Marr is one of my favorite authors, of course me loving all things Fae

has nothing to do with it but The Wicked Lovely Series will forever be one of my favorite series so I had to give Faery Tales and Nightmares a try even though short story compilations aren't really my thing. In Ms. Marr's case, she made reading short stories so pleasurable that I'm hoping against hope that she'll do it again! Faery Tales and Nightmares is compiled of twelve short stories, most of them revolving around characters in Ms. Marr's most wickedly awesome Wicked Lovely series but not all of them. There are some fabulous stories that delivered deliciously dark and decadent reading-in true Melissa Marr style. Ms. Marr's creative imagination knows no bounds and I'm forever in awe of her ability to draw me into a story to the point where I'm right there with the characters-in living color! Very few authors are as accomplished as Ms. Marr: her characters are well fleshed out, beautifully portrayed and step off the page realistic. Every story is vivid with exquisite detail and carried me along on a tide of pure happiness from start to finish. Every ending was absolutely perfect for each story which left me with an extremely satisfied feeling! My favorite non-Wicked Lovely Stories: Transition: a vampiric pleasure that I truly loved! A young girl gets the last laugh in this creepy yet clever tale. Love Struck: This was fantastic! A tale about two Selchie [Selkie] brothers and an unwitting girl on a beach. It had a great story based on Selchie lore and a beautiful love story but... what love story ever goes off without a BIG hitch? Especially when someone's underlying feelings are anything but honorable? My Favorite Wicked Lovely stories are [Spoiler if you haven't read Darkest Mercy] : Unexpected Family: This takes place AFTER Darkest Mercy when Seth receives a letter from his parents who are on vacation. They rarely contact Seth and they are in trouble, Seth takes Niall with him and what happens when they reach Seth's parents is not exactly what they were expecting. Cotton Candy Skies: Rabbit, sweet Rabbit! Always taking care of Tish and Ani finds himself without anyone to take care of. He ends up in Faery and although he has everything he could possibly want at his disposal, he's lonely and grieving the loss of Tish. Then he meets Olivia, remember her? She's the artist that paints with the sky and completely anti-social, talking to nobody- that is until she meets Rabbit. Will Rabbit finally have a life and love of his own? I truly loved Faery Tales and Nightmares and I can't say there was one story in there that I didn't like, I loved them all but to review them all would take me pages so I plucked out some favorites! THE FAERY SAYS FAERY TALES AND NIGHTMARES BY MELISSA MARR SET MY WINGS A'FLUTTER!

Melissa Marr's Faery Tales and Nightmares was quite the read! Filled with short stories I decided to break the review into short segments about each tale. WHERE NIGHTMARES WALK This one was a little odd, it was only 2 pages long. Yet the little bit of story we had was interesting. A character is

running for their life. And there's a sense of danger, but not much else is known. Rating 3/5 stars

TRANSITIONA nice little vampire story! These vampires have a different set of rules and one vampire will go to any lengths to be able to break them. It was a little confusing at times, it felt like there was some unknown, unsaid event that is only briefly mentioned that pertains to the story. But still it was pretty darn good! The ending was killer! Rating 4/5 stars

LOVE STRUCK I really liked this one! It was about selkies--selchies--and it had a nice look into the mythology. Or at least Melissa's twist on it! It was great! A nice little story about love blossoming and all that! Rating 5/5 stars

OLD HABITS This was in the Wicked Lovely world, taking place after Ink Exchange. I have to admit that this is one that confused me quite a bit. I just couldn't really follow what was happening. What was the story part and all. It mostly dealt with Irial and his needing to let go of his kingly ways since Niall is now in charge. Rating 2.5/5 stars

STOPPING TIME This also takes place after Ink Exchange, and I've read it in another anthology--can't remember which one. But it deals with Leslie and Niall and Irial. They have the strangest relationship, yet it seems to work. It's really beautifully written I think. Leslie seems to have developed an enemy who threatens to expose her Fae friends if she doesn't pay up. Rating 4/5 stars

THE ART OF WAITING Another odd, short little tale. I can't be entirely sure what was meant to be told in this story. A man and his daughter live in this village. And they and the people of the village, are very close knit. They never seem to leave the village, then one day a stranger comes to town... Rating 3/5 stars

FLESH FOR COMFORT Another very short tale. This was also bizarre. Basically we see how far a girl will go to be pretty. Rating 3/5 stars

COTTON CANDY SKIES Set in the Wicked Lovely world as well, possibly after Radiant Shadows. This one is about Rabbit and it was quite intriguing. Rabbit is trying to adjust to his new life, but it's hard. He can't seem to find happiness. Then he meets Olivia who asks him an odd question, "what's your name?" And he can't seem to get the answer right. It has a nice little ending too! Rating 4/5 stars

UNEXPECTED FAMILY This takes place after Darkest Mercy. Seth comes to Niall and asks him for a favor. Seth has been summoned by his human parents. They need his help. Not knowing what he's about to get into, Seth asks for Niall to accompany him. They are not totally prepared for what they are about to encounter...and gain. Rating 3.5/5 stars

MERELY MORTAL This also takes place after Darkest Mercy, and I, again, read this before in another anthology. Donia and Keenan go on vacation. To get away from it all. Keenan longs to take the test so he can be Fae again and be with Donia forever, yet she's hesitant, because she knows what the test can do to a person having taken it herself. The trip is meant for them to just be together and relax. Although they encounter a problem, humans and exposure. Rating 4/5 stars

Overall rating 4/5 stars

I haven't read the Wicked Lovely series in a few years so I was a little lost reading the novellas. Some things were familiar, names and such, but the circumstances were a little iffy in my mind. I do need to read the last book, Darkest Mercy, but I may have to re-read the series. I really liked Love Struck. The whole selchie (selkie) story was cool. Flesh for Comfort was pretty creepy. The Sleeping Girl and the Summer King was interesting to read since it inspired the Wicked Lovely series. Other stories just didn't make an impression.

This book reads like out takes from her other books, and in fact, I get the impression that's exactly what it is. I'd be willing to bet it was put together by pulling out of a file things Marr's written but never done anything with, and publishing them in this format just as away to make quick money. The piece of writing with the crippled boy fleeing the monsters was awesome though. Wish it had been the opening of a book of its own. Anything related to Wicked Lovely was bad. Nobody should ever use the word, "Relationship," in fiction. It makes me want to punch myself or them. I can't be alone in that.

I absolutely LOVE the Wicked Lovely series, but this book was not what I expected. It said various short stories, so that's what I thought it would be. More than half the book is just chapters of Wicked Lovely that didn't make the official cut. Again, I love Wicked Lovely, but I was hoping for more variety. There are a few short stories in there that don't follow the Wicked Lovely world, but they feel very anticlimactic. The story with Human Keenan and Queen Donia was good, but I couldn't care less about what happened to Leslie after she left. And Rabbit stuck in Fairy just made me sad. Wicked Lovely fans will have different opinions of this, but mine is where's the variety?

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