



Circus Save Me

K.A Knight , Erin O'Kane

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It's been over thirty years since the bombs dropped that almost decimated the planet.

The fallout changed not only the animals and the landscape, but the people too. Freaks they called them; outcasts of society and hunted for their powers. The Circus has the only people to openly flaunt them, offering a haven for the lost and the damned.

Rhea works for a powerful man in the male-dominated world and she is treated no better than a slave.

Until one day she saves a stranger and it changes her life forever.

Will Rhea find her place within the freaks, or will this be her final show?

Circus Save Me Details

Date :

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Author : K.A Knight , Erin O'Kane

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From Reader Review Circus Save Me for online ebook

Kokom1 says

I received this as an ARC for an honest review. Well, I couldn't put the damn book down! This was a really great read. Wasn't sure what to expect after the opening which sets the post WW3 context. I was a bit worried there would be a political undertone but it quickly flipped on its head and sank deeply into introducing the characters in a pretty explosive way. Great chemistry between the characters. I'm totally in love with all the guys (even the douche!). Such a great, action packed read. I'd call this medium burn RH. I thoroughly enjoyed the ride and can't wait to jump back on for book 2.

Tara Syrnyk says

I really wasn't sure what to expect when I started this book! With the beginning introducing us to ww3 .I was thrown a bit off but very curious! It quickly changed to our current characters (a few decades after ww3) and took off from there. It was a really neat read, with a post apocalyptical feel to it(bombs will do that lol) that made the "world" building unique but easily imagined and visualized . Women are treated very poorly in this series world and while it was frustrating to read about them being property and breeders with no rights and no choices , it also built up an understanding to Rheas (MFC) personality. Rhea is a women with nothing to her name. She is a slave to a cruel man. She also has a secret she tries her best to keep but eventually, it come out and we are introduced to the circus. I love the idea of the Circus and I am really enjoying how different each character, human and not (Fluffy , Rumble and Bubbles had me laughing) and their relationship with the MC is. We also see Rhea grow and discover herself which is pretty fun. This is a unique RH, the men are all equally interesting and I enjoyed reading it. My only complaint would possibly be that it was a quick paced book. Some people love that and it didn't so much as take away from the book, it was just a lot to absorb at once, sometimes it felt like I was being overwhelmed with info. That being said, I am absolutely looking forward to reading the next installment!

I was given this arc for an honest review.

Myriam says

This is the amount of fabulousness that occurs when two fantastic authors decide to write a book together. There is no other way to describe this story, this world, and these characters. The focus is on family, and not the one that you get but the one that gets you and accepts you and looks out for you.

Rhea is the main character, a slave in a women depleted dystopian world. The world is harsh and women are few, and instead of being treated as precious gifts, they are treated as slaves, property, or breeders. But regardless how tough and unpleasant Rhea's life might be, it is still better than that of most remaining women. And although she might not recognise her circumstances as anything but unfair and ugly, she never relinquishes her compassion and inner strength.

Then there is the second part of the story which is different, it is still in the same world, but it feels like Rhea entered a bubble of a different world, a world that used to be, world filled with love and equality. There is an

incredible amount of love and loyalty between the characters. They are truly a family looking out for each other. And there is romance, of course, beautiful romance full of love and occasional steaming hot display of affection.

I should mention that this is the first story I read from these two authors, that does not have a heartbreaking cliffhanger, but only a partial one. However, they made up for it with nail-biting crazy action. I loved this story immensely and I am so glad that the authors already announced more.

Jennifer G says

It's been 30 years since the bombs dropped. The modern world ended and those who survived lived in a much different world. Humans were decimated and for some reason, women were hit harder than men. Far outnumbered women should have been cherished but instead became property, lesser slaves, mistreated. The lands, animals, and even some people were mutated. Those people became outcasts, labeled freaks. Rhea lives as a man's property, she is also hiding a secret, her powers. Until one day the circus comes to town. She ends up stepping in to save not one, but two of the performers and exposes herself in more ways than one. Her life is forfeit unless she can escape with the show and find a place amidst her own. If she's lucky, she may even find a family, love.

Circus Save Me is a post-apocalyptic dystopian RH. It's also one of the most original books I have come across in a long while. A creative new spin on the original freak-show concept, KA Knight has assembled some of the most eccentric, authentic characters ever brought together for a harem. They are also some of the most likable men in any of the books as well. Their vulnerability and love for one another as family shines through on every page (even the one who has a bit of a grumpy streak). The image of these enormous, incredibly strong men who are shunned, damaged, have trouble speaking up, relate to animals more than people, and only feel comfortable within the safety of the tents is touching. That Rhea manages to connect with each one so quickly and makes them feel worthy is a gift. It makes their connection so emotional.

While I loved the world-building and character-building I wasn't crazy about everything. Blaine crossed the line with his verbal abuse, the other female performer was too predictable, and Rhea ended up in near-rape situations too often. However, the other men made Blaine tolerable, the female issue is resolved, and hopefully, Rhea starts using her common sense and powers to avoid constant danger. The 'freak' animals were all huge positives. I unexpectedly love, love, loved them all.

Overall, this was such an entertaining read and I look forward to more adventures under the big top with Rhea and her men!

Jessica Robbins says

*I received a free copy of this book which I voluntarily chose to write an honest review for.

Welcome to an amazingly written post-apocalyptic world that changes life as we know it completely. Rhea is a woman that is pretty much a slave but her life changes one day when she uses the powers she keeps hidden to save a man she does not even know. This almost gets her killed before it is all said and done but instead she is taken in by the Circus after much pleading. This places her in a place with people like her in a way and we follow as they all learn to be around each other while also learning their powers. Attacks are quite

common and I cannot wait to see what happens next after the way this one ends. If you like post-apocalyptic worlds with magic then you might like this one. I really liked it so I give it 4/5 stars.

Janie says

After World War III, the world has gone to chaos. When the bombings subside, the war-torn country suffered reduced population which leads to more male than female. The women live a harsher life. They are viewed as a commodity; a property to own and to do with as one pleases. Harder still if you are among the mutated ones, the so-called "freaks". Rhea grew up as a slave and tried most of her life to hide that she is a freak. But after rescuing one, her life changed when she was offered to be a member of the circus.

Circus Save Me has been an enjoyable read. Reading a circus-themed RH set in a dystopian world is a first for me and its fresh, unique combination has captured my interest. It has a lot of room for potential when it comes to world building and character development should the authors continue with the series. The story feels like the tip of the iceberg. It could go through a lot of ways. I definitely would like to know what happens next as I have some observations that needed explanations (Where are they getting the basic commodities like food, water and clothing? If the land is exposed to nuclear, how are they growing the food? How about the technology? The story strikes me that the world has gone to basics).

I received an ARC and I'm voluntarily leaving an honest review.

CoullCat says

I put off writing this review for two weeks because, in all honesty, I was a little disappointed. I've read other books by Knight (never O'Kane's though) and may have gone into Circus Save Me with too high an expectation brought on by those other reading experiences. That's not to say that Circus Save Me is bad, I did finish it after all, it's just that there was one glaringly obvious disappointment and that was Rhea.

Rhea is used to having no say in her life, she lives in a world where women number 1 to every 100 men, and where women are hunted, used, and owned. In her world, to be different is to be outcast, and to be different and a woman is unimaginable. After saving a stranger her life changes and she finds herself a free woman working in the circus. And for me, that's when I started to get annoyed. As we're being introduced to the performers of the circus, Rhea is having special snowflake moment after special snowflake moment. That animal doesn't like people, that's okay, Rhea is an animal whisperer. That person gets into blinding out of control rages, no worries, Rhea can calm them with only her voice and presence. Accidentally catches alight (I mean, come on, they're making it too easy), everything's fine, Rhea is a fire whisperer - well not really but spoilers. And then there's the fact that Rhea has experienced firsthand the dangers of the world she lives in, she knows women are hunted, she's warned not to go out on her own, and yet she does, repeatedly. And EVERY SINGLE TIME something bad happens. By the end, I wanted to reach into the book and shake some sense into her.

Right, now that I've got that off my chest, onto the positives.

O'Kane and Knight have created an interesting world. It's a very bleak world for women, but it's full of diverse characters and plenty of obstacles for them to overcome. The different types of abilities adds spice to

the story and a little bit of sparkle. And the plot was fast paced enough that it kept me turning the pages until the end.

This is a medium burn reverse harem, with a I-Can't-Believe-She'd-Still-Be-A-Virgin protagonist who gets tossed from trigger worthy scenes to steamy scenes, and no cliffhanger. I will be unlikely to read any other books in the series due to the upstagemanship of the protagonist and the plot holes, but I implore you to make up your own mind.

Tamara Prestigiacomo says

Not developed enough

The book had an interesting concept, a circus with super-freaks, but that's about it.

The story was incredibly rushed. The characters don't make sense. I mean, they 'fall in love' only after DAYS of meeting the heroine and it's not like that even got to know each other well.

I also found it hard to believe that in this chauvinistic universe where most men are cruel, she's so quick to trust and run off with 4 men.

The story had potential but was ruined because of the lack of depth with characters.

I ,honestly, didn't even finish the book.

Alyrica says

Not Perfect But Fun And Exciting

I love paranormal books set in the circus. I have read several but I think this might be the first dystopian combined with the circus. There was a lot to love about this book. Primarily, the characters both freak and furry. I love books with animals as solid secondary characters and this book has them. They were awesome! Another aspect I liked was the uniqueness. Don't get me wrong, there are tons of dystopian novels where there are a lot less women than men due to reasons. I guess because of the circus setting it felt different. Anyway, I loved it. Also, the mutations were fun and interesting.

***** Mild Spoilers *****

What I didn't like is women were treated terribly. This I understand but with the exception of some factions, breeding didn't seem to be much of a concern. There is one female to every hundred males...that would be an issue. Also there is mention of women selling themselves or being brutalized but various statement made it seem like lust wasn't a driving factor. For example, one of the factions trying to breed women killed the ones that weren't able to conceive. Sure, they were crazy but you would think that with so few women and so many men that they would be too valuable to kill indiscriminately. Additionally, the h who seems to be very attractive is able to remain pure through her slavery. Instead she is used as a work horse, given almost nothing and abused. I get there is hate for ridiculous differences. I would understand women in this situation

being used for breeding or being sold as s#x slaves but the amount of contempt from a majority of the males didn't make sense since I would think some would still have the drive to find a mate and have a family. I guess, for me, it would have worked better with a little bit more world building especially for the main character's time before joining the circus.

I would definitely recommend this book!

RH & Romance Review says

I'm not really sure where to start with this one. I've previously read K.A. Knight's *The Wasteland* and was really impressed by it, and I've not read anything by Erin O'Kane yet, though her other book out now looks very good.

I'm a bit torn about this book. There are certain things that I don't normally notice/review on that I really struggled with in this book. One of the things that bothered me was some of the punctuation choices made in the book. And I hate saying that because I hate when people moan about typos and grammar, and I loathe the people who report books for minor typos. The reason I bring it up isn't because it was wrongly used; it's more that I felt certain punctuation usages affected the pace/tone at times. I felt in some instances it almost created a feeling of panic or rambling when there wasn't one. For me, it was noticeable enough that it just threw me out of the story a bit. If I'm not sucked into the story or if I'm aware of something that's bothering me about it, I just can't give it a five. In that same vein, if I walk away thinking it was alright, but I would be fine without ever stepping in that story world again, then it's a three, and that's also not the case here. The story is entertaining and enticing enough that I would love to know more about Rhea and her relationship with the guys, how their powers develop, and where the story goes next. Rhea is a bit of an odd character to classify. She's not the abused girl trope who is rescued by her guys, but at the same time, I feel there's a naïveté to her that makes her quite innocent in some ways (as innocent as anyone can be in a dystopia). Perhaps it's the protective trait in her? At the same time, I don't think she fits the bad @\$ brand of female that is hardened and has that toughened quality about her. She's a curiosity that I don't think we got to know enough of in this book, and that goes for her guys as well. I think the story was also very fresh. It's certainly a new idea, and not something that has come up in this new wave of circus novels that seem to be coming out soon. Whatever hangups I may have had, I mainly chalk them up to being fledgling authors. The talent they have is there, definitely, and it's not in any way put me off of the story, if it's to be a series.

BooksForHope says

Really a 3.5 but I was always taught to round up instead of down so that makes it 4.

Three decades after WWIII has wiped out a significant number of Earth's inhabitants we are left in a post apocalyptic world where a percentage of humans and animals have been altered. Most animals have become unrecognizable and extremely violent. Others have gained an almost human intelligence. Some humans have obtained special and powerful abilities. They are considered to be less than human and hunted. This leaves them with little choice of how to survive, some choose to join the circus. After all, there is safety in numbers, or so they think.

Women have become scarce and instead of treating them with the respect they are due, they have become

nothing more than slaves and breeders. Here we meet Rhea. She's been a slave all of her life. She knows that she is different, but she hides her differences to protect herself. After all, altered humans are hunted and killed.

A trip to the town market changes everything. A chance encounter with two newcomers gets her into trouble with her master, endangering her life. She never expected that the two men she helped would end up saving her in the end.

Welcome to the circus. Where the men are hot and the animals are adorable.

I liked most of the men in this book. Jesse the fun and energetic acrobat. Alcide the Ringmaster that has command dripping from every spoken word. Rex the sweet and lovable animal tamer. Nixon the very strong and very silent giant. Lastly Blain the jerk hiding a painful past. While we do get a glimpse into their pasts and what makes them who they are, it's not nearly enough for me. This was a harsh and painful world to live in, I'd have liked to see how that shaped who they became just a little bit more. I also would have like to see more of a buildup to the relationship between a few of the men and Rhea. Rex and Jesse seem to get a lot more "get to know you" time than the rest.

Sometimes it felt like there was just a bit too much action in this book. Normally that wouldn't be an issue for me but in this instance it was almost non-stop and took away from the build up of relationships. In a reverse harem it takes longer for the reader to form an attachment to the characters because we have multiple men to get to know instead of just the single FMC and MMC.

The concept was great. A dystopian world where humans imbued with powers have nowhere else to turn except to the circus. I wish we could have seen a bit more world building. How the devastation from the bombing of WWII affected more than just altered humans and animals.

My only true complaint with the book was Rhea. She verged on Mary Sue territory. Very powerful and loved by everyone but the villains. It took until the end of the book before she finally grew a backbone and even then it was almost a complete change from victim to fighter.

In the end I really did enjoy Circus Save Me. I'm looking forward to seeing where Rhea and her men go next.

I received this book for free from the author under no obligation or influence to review.

Penny Leister says

I quite enjoyed reading this it was kind of like X-Men meets Cirque Du Soleil in a dystopian setting with dark elements.

Rhea lives in a world post World War Three, after the bombs dropped the world changed dramatically. Women became slaves (the property to be used), Men ruled, then there are the others (the feared) the Freaks that were mutated (have gifts) and affected from the bombs. Rhea is one of these "Freaks" but it is her secret that she keeps hidden for she is a slave, a chance encounter in town has her saving another "Freak" Jesse from a group of men that wish him harm and on her way back to the house she steps into to save an animal named Fluffy and meets Rex his handler but in doing so gets herself set up in town square to be publicly humiliated and punished.

Jesse and Rex save Rhea from the brutal punishment and take her back with them to their home The Circus, where she meets Nixon, Blain and Alcide. To stay and be part of the Circus Rhea need to be able to adapt and learn to control her powers, while everything seems to be going well there is someone betraying everyone and they are putting Rhea's and those she cares about life in danger. With danger lurking around the corner the only ones Rhea can trust are Rex, Jesse, Nixon, Blain and Alcide.

There was lots of action, moments of violence, some steam and lots of darker element to this story to keep you hooked and wanting more. I really enjoyed this and can't wait to see what happens next with Rhea and her Men.

Vicki says

This reverse harem series starter takes place in the future where following war and nuclear-type bombing some people and animals have mutated in ways that leave them with interesting powers, though baddies refer to them as freaks. Women are scarce, and treated as slaves, and our heroine, Rhea, who has hidden her powers her whole life, escapes her slave life and joins a circus as one of only two women (on page). I like the post-apocalyptic setting, the scarcity of women and love the X-Men like powers all of the "freaks" have. I like how several animals are featured as characters in their own right and I like all of the heroes okay as well, especially the a-hole one. Everyone is instantly enamored of Rhea, heroes, animals and even from a certain perspective, the villains, who are immediately jealous (the other woman in the circus) or obsessed with attacking her. This can be a positive and a negative, depending on your point of view, and I found it to be both at different times. I'm into the circus idea, but found myself wanting this setting to be developed more - who cooked and provided food, did they ever bathe and how, where were all of Rhea's clothes coming from? From a technical standpoint there were definitely issues with sentence structure and proper comma usage, as well as phrases being used too often (smiles and looks were nearly always thrown or offered at/to the recipient) and I found all of this distracting as I read. These things may not bother other readers however, and since the story and characters are interesting I would recommend reading a sample and making a choice on if it hooks you in or not.

2.5 Stars on GR rating system

3.5 Stars on Amazon rating system

Keyrsten says

Rhea has lived her entire life in a post WW3 world where women are nothing but property to be used and people with powers need to be caged. Rhea has struggled her entire life to hide her powers to keep her life from getting worse than it already is. Every day she fights her urges to stand up against the men who hold her captive, until one day when she refuses to stand by while they torment someone else. She knew that in helping that stranger and animal that she could be putting herself in danger, but she couldn't bear to stand by one more day. Rhea has immersed herself in this new world within the Circus of Freaks, a place she can finally let her true self shine. She has spent her life being told she was less than, and is baffled to find a group of men who treat her as though she is the most precious thing in the world. Rhea learns to accept herself and the powers she has kept hidden for so long. She refuses to be the meek little girl who doesn't stand her own. Rhea will do whatever it takes to not only fight for herself, but fight for the only people who have ever made her feel at home.

Oh my lanta the men in this circus. Alcide the Ringmaster does everything he can to make sure his circus family is safe, even if it means pushing them further than they thought they could ever go. He's the man always in charge and often struggles to find a balance between leader and friend amongst his family. Rex the kind hearted animal tamer, who struggles to connect with people around him favoring the animals he adores. Jessie the fun loving contortionist who struggles with feeling like he can be more for his family. Nixon the silent giant who struggles with maintaining control when all he wants todo is protect his family. Blain the lovable knife throwing asshole who struggles to keep his temper in check and not push away the people he cares about. Rhea can't help but fall in love with these men and feel at home in the family they've created.

I have to give a special shout out to the animals. Especially Fluffy, Sid, Bubbles, and Rumpelstiltskin. Oh my lanta they are a hoot and a half. I just want to snuggle up with all of them. They each have their own unique personalities and feel as much a part of the family as the humans do. Every scene in the animal tent was a breath of fresh air and gave a nice break from all of the heavy parts of the story.

The concept of the book was unique and kept me invested every step of the way. The character arcs for all of our characters made sense and were interesting to watch. Rhea has gone through so much and it has only made her stronger, the love these men have for her have only made her stronger. Rhea presents a new dynamic to their family, so she's not the only one adjusting. The relationships she's built with the men both emotionally and physically are all consuming and you can't help but be drawn to them like a moth to a flame. That last chapter was a doozy and it put my heart through the damn ringer. I'm going to be impatiently pacing my room waiting to see how it's going to change our circus family going forward.

Sassapphas says

DNF at 43%

You know, I actually like this author's settings. This one is really interesting (with the circus. The OTT patriarchy is disgusting and unwanted in a fantasy novel), and so is *The Wasteland*. What I can't stand, though, is the characters. They all fall in love too easily, and the h is always a super speshul snowflake in the most blatant and cringy way. Story time: when I was a child and one of my siblings got in trouble, I remember looking at my mom and asking, "I'm good, right Mom?" in a faux concerned, but obviously gleeful way. That's about the level of conspicuousness this author illustrates when demonstrating how utterly wonderful her h is. It's gross. And it's not even that I don't like super speshul snowflakes. Some of my favorite characters are the best at [almost] everything and loved by [almost] everyone. The way this author writes her snowflakes is just too yuck for me, though.

Disclaimer: All my DNFs get 1 star. I know it's a major point of contention and is seen as a reviewer faux pas for a lot of people, but I don't care. My review, my rules. Peer pressure can suck itself.
