



Reckoning

Cate Tiernan

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Alisa is still coming to terms with being a blood witch. Longing for a sense of belonging, or understanding, Alisa seeks out her mother-s family. While there she finds comfort in some of the mysteries of her past, but she also uncovers danger, hostility, and fear-and she must make a choice that could change her future.

Reckoning Details

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From Reader Review Reckoning for online ebook

Sarah says

Yasss this series man

I disliked Alisa at first in this series but having this book through her perspective was awesome, way better than the book through Hunter's perspective. I love how all the stories are interwoven and I am excited to see how this series ends, but dreading on finishing it and not having more to read

Shirley Cuypers says

I take my words back, I love Alisa!

Erin says

I love this whole series I can't put them down!!!!!! ??

Jennifer Girard says

ok so here's the book that made me stop the series years ago. I was anxious and excited to read this book. Anxious since it was a bad one and excited cause it's the last one I had to reread! The two last books I never read them before! Finally new stuff to read! I can't wait to finally finish the series!

Thea Aurora says

When I began to read this book it was not that interesting because it was not Morgan narrating the story but as I got deeper in the story it turned out that Alisa does really have a strong voice... although I have to say I preferred the part when Alisa was in Gloucester rather than in Widow's Vale.

Anyways, all in all I think this book was written pretty well and had many interesting aspects to it.

I am looking forward to reading the next book.

Nova says

Deze vind ik beter dan de vorige boeken. Dit boek is net iets volwassener.

Tosha says

I didn't think I was gonna like reading this one since it is only in Alisa's POV. but I loved it. It was definitely good to getting to see her story unfold.

Michelle says

this book was a side storyline from the main characters, and personally I don't enjoy those as much. Morgan and Hunter were barely in the book at all. Alisa was the focus of this installment and we got to learn about her family. It was a good story but with only two books left in the series I had hoped to have more about Morgan and Hunter.

Whitney says

Plot

If any of the books before *Reckoning* could be considered filler books, they must now bow down to the actual filler book. In all honesty, *Reckoning* is a book that is almost completely useless to the series. In actuality, the series is over. They've defeated Ciaran and know of a way to combat the dark waves. Hunter found his parents. Everything's done. What's left is going to be a bunch of, what seems like, personal drama.

This book focuses on Alicia, for some odd reason. She wasn't really even a side character until a few books ago. Alisa heads out to visit her mother's side of the family and they, of course, have some strange problem of their own. I will admit that I thought the "poltergeist" storyline was interesting. It takes forever and a year to actually get to it, but it takes a few things from earlier books and wraps them up nicely.

Writing

Reckoning is from exclusively from Alisa's POV this time. She's less of a dull narrator than Morgan, but there's still times where the text borders on completely boring and absolutely boring. I will admit that you can tell the differences in Morgan's and Alisa's voices; thank goodness for small blessing. I will also say that there was actually a plot twist that I did not see coming and I was quite happy with it. Besides that one thing, everything else was just as cliché as with Morgan. I could tell what was going to happen, when the one boy in the entire book showed up Alisa would be attracted to him, etc.

Characters

I can't say that I really liked Alisa. She's got reasons to be an angry teenager, sure enough, but the way she took her anger out on people made me dislike her. As the book progresses I don't really feel one way or the other about her. She's just there. I don't dislike her as much as I did in the beginning of the book, but I can't say I like her either.

The rest of the characters, especially the adults that knew of Alisa's situation, were very strange. She literally

ran away from home, to another state to stay with a bunch of strangers, and everybody is okay with that! Her own father just gives up and lets her go because apparently she “isn’t going to back down” or something that no loving father would say.

Things I Liked

I liked how Tiernan brought earlier elements from the story and incorporated them into this book. I honestly hadn’t seen a thing coming and was pleasantly surprised.

Things I Didn’t Like

There was more insta-love in this installation. I’m fine with reading about people who are immediately *attracted* to each other, but not instant love. It just doesn’t happen, magick or not. Love takes time and isn’t really a feeling that is just suddenly there. Crushes, infatuation, lust; all those things can happen in an instant, but apparently not in the *Sweep* series. Nope, only love, even though these people don’t even know the first things about each other.

Another thing I don’t like is all of these age gapes between these young girls and older guys. First it was with Mary K. and Bakker, and now with fifteen-year-old, freshman Alisa and nearly eighteen-year-old, college freshman Charlie. Yes, in both cases, they’re all still teenagers, but there’s such a big developmental difference between freshman/sophomores and juniors/seniors. It’s really, really creepy.

Diversity

Alisa is half-Latina. As Latina is not a race but an ethnicity, I assume her race is actually Mestiza. So far, Alisa is the only confirmed non-white character with relevance to the plot in the span of thirteen books of a fifteen-part series. Very poor diversity indeed.

Overall

If you didn’t care for Alisa before, you can just skip this book. It absolutely is a filler book. Nothing new is learned in *Reckoning* and I’m sure that Morgan will give a full recap in the next book, *Full Circle*. The plot was mildly interesting, but the characters didn’t hold any of my interest. It was a quicker read to me than the other books, and it was slightly better.

Here is a link to my notes.

Jennifer says

Best book of the series so far, probably on par with *Origins*. Alisa is a far more engaging and sympathetic narrator than Morgan, and it’s unfortunate the rest of the series casts her as a secondary character at best.

Isabella Jensen says

[the asshole part of this being obviously that she decides relationships don't mean shit to her and she's just gonna go make out with her cousin's boyfriend; a cousin she just met

Kat Mandu says

Kat Mandu says...

This is another one in the Sweep series narrated by Alisa as she ventures to her deceased mother's homeland to discover the truth about her mother's family, death, and powers.

I sincerely do not want to give this book three stars *just* because I can't stand the character who narrates it, but she is too much. I don't know a single fourteen-year old with the rationality (or lack thereof) that Alisa has. Runaway? Sure, I guess that's normal for kids who are going through rough times. But explaining to your dad why you ran away like Alisa does? I'm sorry, but my parents would have said, "I'm coming to get you no matter what and telling me you're a silly little girl who can't fess up to her problems is not an excuse." Seriously, I know nine-year-olds who are more mature than this girl.

I was hoping Evelyn would freak out after discovering that Alisa and Charlie were down in her private library. Because they freaking BROKE IN WITHOUT PERMISSION! I don't know about you, but if I were the strange woman whose house, study, and life (so to speak) were broken into, I think I'd be a little ticked off.

Golly, I do not remember being so angsty when I was fourteen. Everything is so dramatic with Alisa. She cries eighty billion times. We get it, you're overwhelmed. But damn, do you have to moan and groan about EVERYTHING? I thought Alisa and Hilary were getting along in the last book, but that totally changes in this one. And then there's the Charlie thing and before that, "oh, I'm lonely, single Alisa." I feel like the romance is forced in this one, just so Alisa has one less thing to bitch about. I just can't relate to her like I did with Morgan.

The story itself isn't bad – I love the Book of Shadow entries especially. I would have liked to have seen some more magic, but there is a lot to take in as the story unfolds. The descriptions are nice and vivid; everything is very easy to visualize.

Poor Morgan and Hunter in the beginning, having to deal with Alisa in a way that makes them seem like parents. I like how Morgan can accept and understand Alisa's longing to discover more about her past and that she relates to Alisa's innocent mind when it comes to the discovery of her powers.

I did like the mermaid idea and how it led to Alisa's discovery of her mother's athame and other witch tools. The idea that everything in life has its own destiny and path is expressed continuously in this series and it's fascinating to watch it unfold.

Still, I can only manage to give this a three rating.

Vanessa says

Surprisingly, I enjoyed this volume of the *Wicca/Sweep* series a lot more than I thought I would. Alisa narrates this volume, and is a fairly new character introduced only a few books ago), yet I welcomed the change of perspective.

Although this is not the most action-packed book of the series, I really enjoyed taking a step back and going along more of a personal discovery route, much like the earlier books in the series (that were some of my favourites). The focus on Alisa's history and background, and her newly-discovered family, were wonderful for me - I got to enjoy her awakening to witchcraft much in the style of Morgan's awakening in previous books. The self-discovery aspect is something I really enjoy.

Surprisingly, I even got quite emotional at the end of this book, and had a few tears in my eyes. Maybe I was just tired, I'm not sure, but either way it got me more than I expected it would. For that, I really enjoyed this, and I'm dying to get onto book 14.

Abbie says

Actual rating - 2.5

Another boring read. I'm glad there's only two books left in the series.

JonSnow says

Read in 2004

Read in 2015

Read in 2017

2017 Review: LOVE LOVE LOVED THIS BOOK TO DEATH!

Another 5 star book. I'm glad to see that 2015 me also agreed with that rating. This book was a full blown Alisa Soto book, and I absolutely loved it. I read it front to back in two sessions this evening with only a half hour break in between, that's how good it was!

This book is the origin story of Alisa in effect. It's like when Morgan went off in pursuit of her own explorations into her past and found her mothers tools. It's a great read, and really makes you like Alisa all the more. This book is so rich in emotion. So rich in character exploration, romance, discovery. It's a pure joy to read!

SPOILERS

As usual, here comes a massive summary, followed by my thoughts.

The book begins with a prologue of Oona, Alisa's great grand mother X5, going nuts and hexing Mairin, her daughter, which starts the whole telekinetic thing in the family. First born females we find out later.

We have talks of ghosts in the journal. Then the book begins with Alisa deciding to pursue her uncle Sam

Curtis. She emails him. Receiving a reply from Charlie, she tells Mary K.

We have mermaid dreams, and we have Sam email her back with his contact info.

During a circle Alisa causes the pipes and everything to spew water. Alisa tells Morgan she is telekinetic. Alisa sense Morgan and Hunter cast their senses at her for the first time. Later at home Alisa gets angry with Hillary for packing her things up. She yells hurtful things, and runs away at night. She ends up seeing Morgan's car. Alisa's got \$6 cash, and 300 in the bank. Morgan gives her 12 more, puts a watch sigil on her, and drops Alisa off at the bus stop. Alisa arrives in Boston 3am. Eventually she makes it to New York Sunday morning.

She calls her dad, tells him she's going to see her mothers family. Her dad didn't even know that Sarah had a brother, Sam. In Gloucester Massachusetts, the cab driver refuses to charge Alisa.

When Alisa meets her Uncle Sam, he's 40's, gay, she can tell from the books, and he says so. Then we have a journal of Mairin's BOS going missing etc.

Sam had cast a spell which made the storm that killed sailors. This is what caused Sarah Curtis, among other things, like her telekinesis, to strip her own powers and run away. Sarah also almost killed Sam during an argument in which a table and charges slammed into him telekinetically by accident and sent him down the stairs. He could have died!

Sarah died in 1991 when Alisa was just 4 years old. Alisa meets Evelyn, Ruth, Brigid. A branch almost hits Sam, but Alisa warns him. There are fears this is Oona's ghost.

Evelyn is her grandmother but doesn't seem happy to meet her. Brigid could have been killed! Charlie saved her (I forgot the details).

At a Diner, with Brigid, to escape Sam and Evelyn who were talking because Evelyn wasn't happy about Alisa being there, Brigid introduces Charlie. Brigid assumes Alisa has no power. Awkward comments abound. Brigid leaves, and Alisa stays with Charlie. She spills and tells him of her powers, and hunters house flood. Charlie tells her about how he made himself naked at 13 with a spell by accident. She tells him of the Tath Meanma Brach with Hunter et al.

Evelyn has been ignoring Alisa. Ruth gets injured and an arm broken. Evelyn blames Alisa. Alisa calls Morgan, then Charlie calls Alisa. They plan a day together the next day and find the library at Evelyn's house. In it she discovers Mairin's book of shadows, and they even kiss. Brigid shows up and Charlie has to explain things, but he does so after Alisa leaves.

Alisa gets attacked by Oona's ghost. She deflects some dishes remarkably!! Tells Sam she has powers. He is surprised. They scry, she sees a box of purple.

In Salem, she tells Sam she ran away, and all about the dark wave... everything. She calls Hillary, then Hunter, the former at Sam's silent insistence.

Hunter suggests first born females are telekinetic. It explains everything. It means Evelyn is also. This explains the ghost. There isn't one. We then meet Charlie's father. Alisa saves Charlie himself from fire by instinctively powerfully telekinetically hurling a cauldron of water.

Alisa had stolen Mairin's book of shadows, and spilled water on it, revealing hidden writing. She bikes to Evelyn's, leaves the book there, and Evelyn has her visit. They do a Tath Meanma, and Evelyn learns the truth. She now has a respect for Alisa, realizing everything.

Sorcha in the chapter journals is Sarah. There's no ghost. Oona cast a hex on the family the commit suicide. The purple cloth she scryed was her mothers tools calling to her. Evelyn gives them to her. Alisa draws her first circle. Alisa and Brigid talk, and Brigid says she doesn't like what happened but thanks her for saving Charlie.

Charlie it turns out, broke up with Brigid. He's fallen for Alisa! Charlie and Alisa go to Hammond Castle and Norman's Woe, the power sink, and do a memory spell. It's beautiful. A happy memory of her mother, when Alisa was 3.

Alisa calls hunter. Calls Charlie. The story wraps up happily with Alisa having Hunter come get her (he insists). And while on the phone with Charlie, he tells her he's fallen for her, and it's wonderful. Alisa who has been so lonely, so very single, and wishing to find a boy to share her life with, has finally found one it seems.

THOUGHTS IN BRIEF

I really like this book. The writing has been taken to new, higher levels. There's almost no repetitive stuff now, which is great. The journals are actually typed into these Ebooks now, rather than image files. It makes for much quicker reading. I probably shaved off half hour just because of that.

In reading this book, all I want to do now is learn more about Alisa. I've almost all but forgotten about Morgan now. The series is more about Alisa. What will happen. I really can't even remember at this point. 15 books is a lot of books and plots to remember after all, even if this is my third time through the series. It's almost like experiencing thing for the first time, though they're more predictable because I've read them.

The book is so much stronger in character development than previous ones, book 12 excluded as it was amazing also. Alisa feels so real. Her thoughts and feelings and experiences, they all come alive in print. The romance is even written far better than in the other books. This book has clearly benefited from a maturing practiced authorial hand.

The scene with Hillary was incredibly dramatic. The argument. The running away. Perfectly written. Raw. Emotive. True. Kids do this. Kids run away. Kids freak out and say hurtful things and run away. This book is so full of expressive expansive moments like this, I just loved it. My eyes watered in response to what Alisa was going through. I felt so bad for her.

Another watering moment was when Evelyn did tath meanma. When they linked minds and Evelyn finally accepted Alisa, it was happy watery eye moment all the way.

The library scene where she kisses Charlie is so perfect. So real. It's just like how these things happen. So sudden. So passionate. So unexpected, yet so welcome. Then the embarrassment and the realization of what they've done, and how it'll affect Brigid. But I don't feel too bad for Brigid. She seems a bit of a dolt. Nice. But dolt and a tad snobby about her magick.

I would love to write more about it, but I'd just be rambling about how great it is at this point. Read it!!

2015 review

This is definitely one of the better later books. While I was very disappointed that Morgan, who the entire series seemed about, was not in this... I quite enjoyed the character development of Alisa Soto. In a way it harkens back to the beginning of the series with Alisa, like Morgan, discovering she is a Blood witch. It is sad we don't see any more Morgan development. I know, or suspect why the author did this, as I have read the series before, but it still comes as a big shock to switch character focuses after so many books being about just Morgan, then to have the later ones about Alisa. But, for this series, this was a 5 star, for what it is. It was interesting seeing her origin story, her growth into her powers and her reconnecting with family she hadn't known of. It was also interesting to see her teenage blowup! I remember being a teenager. These books really ring true of life in ones mid to late teens, and the emotional turmoil one goes through.
