



Wicked Enchantment

Anya Bast

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Being spellbound has its charms...

When you're half-incubus, your reputation precedes you.

All eyes are on Gabriel Mac Braire the day he makes his first appearance in the Seelie Court, including those of Aislinn Finvarra. Despite deep bitterness over her last failed relationship, Aislinn cannot help but be curious about the half incubus who is known to possess dark magick, both lethal and sexual in nature. Rumors abound of the women who have become enslaved to his irresistible charms.

So when the Summer Queen of the fae orders Aislinn herself to act as his guide in the court, she is understandably on guard. She's fallen under the spell of far less persuasive men before. In addition, Gabriel might be more than he seems, and his true mission is far from innocent.

This time, Aislinn must protect not only her heart, but her very life.

Wicked Enchantment Details

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From Reader Review Wicked Enchantment for online ebook

Carolyn Storer says

This is the first book I've read by Anya Bast and it is the first book in her new Dark Magick series. I really enjoyed Wicked Enchantment. Bast's writing flows very well and I was pulled into the story within just a few pages. I liked Aislinn straight away too and Gabriel is just scrummy!

I have very limited experience when it comes to paranormal romance. It's not often a genre I dip into as I get too embarrassed with all the sexual shenanigans *blush* I like a bit of sexual tension and even the lead up to sex, but usually just cringe when it gets down to the nitty gritty. With Wicked Enchantment, however, it was different. The love scenes were written well and instead of making me shy away and skim those pages, I hung around and it is a pretty sizzling read. It's not overly explicit, although it's still about a nine out of ten on the hotness scale, but it had just about the right amount of heat I could handle.

I loved the romance between Aislinn and Gabriel - it's fiery and sensual but sweet as well and we see them go from total lust to totally in love. Although, Aislinn does seem to like being dominated, there is an essence of control in the way she deals with Gabriel. It is fun to read and as I don't really like my heroines to be submissive, I'm hoping Aislinn finds more of that assertiveness in the coming books.

We also see Aislinn and Gabriel grow as characters. Aislinn from a bored, spoilt member of the Summer Queen's entourage to a strong and determined woman who has to deal with a power she never knew she had, and Gabriel from a selfish womaniser who's never given his heart to anyone but his mother, into a love sick puppy who has fallen head over heels in love and will give anything to protect her, even his life. Both characters develop well and I like the direction Bast is taking them.

Now, this book isn't just about the romance, it has a plot too and a really good one. One that kept me engrossed until the very last page. It has action, and no not that kind of action. I'm talking about action that includes weapons and spells, creepy Sluagh (the army of unforgiven dead) and goblins. It's also about friendship and the lengths people will go to preserve it. The supporting characters are just as well defined and I look forward to finding out more about them in subsequent books.

Verdict:

I thoroughly enjoyed Wicked Enchantment and if you like paranormal romance then you will love this. A fabulous combination of action packed adventure and sexy red-hot romance. I can't wait for the next installment in this series, Cruel Enchantment, which is due September 2010.

Summer says

I was pleasantly surprised by this book. While I like the idea of PNR, I've had very little luck in finding series I like in the genre. However lately it seems like I've had a streak of good luck. While I wouldn't say I'm totally crazy about it and there were a lot of silly PNR cliche's going on, I actually enjoyed reading Wicked Enchantment. It was fun to read and actually left me wanting to read more. :)

Kayla says

Full Review (spoiler-free) here:

<https://gracelingaccountantblog.wordpress.com/2017/07/10/review-the-fae-war-trilogy-book-1-the-fae-war/>

Anita says

A waste of time. Not the very worst paranormal romance I've read, but I really didn't get into it. Too much emotional hand-wringing. I ended up skimming half the book, including the sex scenes. I just didn't like or care about the lead characters much. I won't read the rest of this series.

This is a modern fairy tale where fairies are "out" to humans and have been put in a magically barricaded city as a safety precaution after they had a very public war between the Seelie and Unseelie almost 400 years ago. The magic user druids that created and maintain the barricade are the Phaendir - they are the bad guys of this series. I think this will probably be a trilogy, because in this book, the fae find 2 of 4 magic artifacts they need to destroy the barricade, and there are 2 more obviously powerful characters who need to find their mates. In this one, the Gabriel and Aislinn get together and end up becoming a magically powerful couple. There are plenty of death-defying fights and escapes along the way.

Shera (Book Whispers) says

Genre: Paranormal Romance

Thoughts:

After reading one of Bast's other books, Witch Blood (Elemental Witches, book 2) I had my doubts about trying this one. Witch Blood wasn't for me. Great idea, but smothered in too much sex. After reading some good reviews about the second book, Cruel Enchantment, I couldn't stop my curiosity reading the first one was my only option.

Let's just say I was pleasantly surprised. It's been hard finding good Faye PNR. Laurel K. Hamilton's Meredith Gentry series—while I still liked it—is too sexed up to be enjoyable. Jennifer Armintrout's Lightworld/Darkworld series is just all kinds of messed-up—again still enjoyable. This had everything I was looking in a Faye themed paranormal romance that I just couldn't find anywhere else.

Bast's world takes place where the Faye have been imprisoned for well over 300 years. The Phaendir, a race of humans that mixed blood with the Faye, imprisoned them and intend to keep them that way. The Faye are well treated and are given all of the benefits of the modern world, but they reside within a prison none the less. The humans are divided into factions that want the Faye free, are in support of the Phaendir keeping them imprisoned, or just don't care one way or the other. The Faye are working on a way to free themselves with or without the support of humans.

The love story in this book takes place between Aishlinn of the Seelie court (basically the "good" faye court) and Gabriel of the Unseelie court. Aishlinn was publicly used and dumped by her last boyfriend because of

her high status in the Seelie court. So when Gabriel comes to the Seelie court to join them, she's ready to leave him to the other females of the court. She doesn't need to tangle herself up with a incubus womanizer. Gabriel of course is there specifically targeting her. He doesn't want anything to do with the boring Seelie court. He needs to use his wiles to get Aishlinn to come over to the Unseelie side. Clearly a very standard romantic setup. Bast's excellent writing and attention to detail of her characters really makes a standard love story come to life. I felt invested in both of the lovers, and I felt like I knew both of them. In PNR that's saying something, especially for the male leads. Usually PNR male leads are just a hot body with a name and that's all we get. I loved the fact that I felt like I new Gabriel. So when eventual betrayal takes the happy lovers on a ride, I feel even more invested wanting them to succeed. That's not saying that Aishlinn didn't put up a good resistance too Gabriel. She was a very strong lead, sure she couldn't kick butt until the end of the book, but she knew what was good for her. So it's safe to say that Aishlinn and Gabriel fell in love first, before they fell in bed.

Even though I loved the couple I still felt like something was lacking between them. Some vital ingredient to their chemistry. Bast kept me happy with good lines like these:

“You're so fucking beautiful.”

She gave a short laugh and gazed down into the empty glass. “I'm sure you've said that to all the women you've tried to seduce.”

He tilted her chin up so she was forced to look at him. “I am trying to seduce you, Aishlinn, but I don't mean you're beautiful in the ordinary sense. You are beautiful inside and out, upside and down, straight into your soul.”

The plot for this book just blew me away. The court politics between the Seelie and UnSeelie are deviant. It's even more chilling what occurs within the courts, instead of court against court. This is probably one of the best PNR Faye worlds I have read. Where others seem to be squeezing in as many myths as possible Wicked Enchantment moves at it's own pace and doesn't try to overwhelm the reader with all the different kinds of Faye. Don't get me wrong we get quite a few here, but you can remember which race is which.

Phaendir are another fun part. The reader gets to infiltrate the enemy lines in the head of one messed up Phaendir, Gideon, who wants all Faye wiped away. Which is a really interesting topic considering that a huge majority of Phaendir blood is mixed with Faye. Plus the Phaendir are divided into factions. Currently they are being lead by a man who doesn't think that the Faye need to be eradicated, just contained. The plot thickens when Gideon finds out that pieces to the Fayes escape are falling into the Faye hands. A spell that can only be obtained using a book and a key broken up into three pieces. So far the Faye have the book and one piece of the key.

The cast of characters in this book is fantastic. If your not interested in the Faye escaping and the political intrigue, then this intense cast of characters will keep you crawling back for more. The little tidbits of information we get on the characters in the Wild Hunt, which happens to be led by Gabriel, lingers in my mind. I want more of these side characters! They all interact so well pulling off dramatic hold-your-breath scenes, to laugh out load humor.

Bottom Line:

This turned into a fantastic read. Sure I felt like a key point in the chemistry in the love story was missing, but Bast makes up for it in realistic characters. The political agendas keep you guessing and Phaendir's clutch through the prison walls of the Faye really adds a dangerous edge. So don't worry about this being the same

old PNR tale. Bast makes this stand out in the genre and I'll be back for more. More Faye intrigue, more Phaendir agendas, and more of these fantastic characters.

Sexual Content:

Graphic sex scenes.

4/5- Great! Really enjoyed it.

Natasha says

Wicked Enchantment is the first novel in the Dark Magick series by Anya Bast. Wicked Enchantment is the first Bast book I've read and I really enjoyed it.

It starts out with the Seelie Summer Queen, Caoilainn Muirgheal orders Aislinn Finvarra to be a guide to an Unseelie visitor and half-incubus Gabriel Mac Braire. He has one week to decide if he wants to make permit residence in the Seelie court. Being Unseelie is somewhat looked down upon for the Seelie, but to also be and incubus.. that's just plain trouble.

Aislinn doesn't want or need anymore trouble. And the spotlight is the last thing from her mind after the embarrassing ordeal with her jerk of an ex and the way he broke up with her. When all heads are turned towards Gabriel, Aislinn hardly sees the point. Sure, he's gorgeous, but what good could come of a man like him.

Aislinn wonders why would a Unseelie man, who is obviously close to the top with the Unseelie court, wanting to move? Something can't be right, and although he obviously wants to seduce her, could she go through another painful breakup if all fails?

Her love life on hold. Aislinn has bigger things to worry about. Things that should be kept hidden and kept secret forever, or her life may be in danger.

Aislinn is a fascinating character. Attractive, smart and bored. She has everything she could want in the Seelie court, but being safe isn't what she wants to live with. She feels incomplete and unfinished. Different..

Gabriel is a very fun and seducing character. But being seductive isn't all he is. He's caring and strong and most importantly, he's the leader of the wild hunt.

I really liked this new series. Bast is very imaginative and knows how to make great chemistry between her characters. Gabriel and Aislinn are packed with heat. It's also great that there's an amazing glossary at the end of the book, that gives you a load of useful information for the series. This book is packed with suspense and heat and has a terrific late twist. If you love paranormal romance and fantasy you'll love this book. I can't wait for the second installment in the series, Cruel Enchantment, which is due out September 2010.

Kellie Maddox-Ward says

Most people I know don't really like reading about fairy's, goblin's trolls etc, but not me! I have loved the Fae

world since I was a child (*My grandma and I even made a fairy garden at her house that is still there for all the other grandchildren to play with/look after*)

Ok so on to the book.

I liked it and give it 4 1/2 stars not 5 because I didn't love it.

Pro's ->

- Gabriel <3 - He may be unseelie but that just adds to his awesomeness. Your typical bad boy, dominating, take charge, satisfy her every time kind of guy. His Incubus powers definitely worked on me!
- Aislinn – She was whiny and annoying at the start but soon became the strong kick ass person you fell for.
- Gabriel's "host" - All his "mates" were cool, follow him but also respect him and stick their necks out when needed.
- Great "sexytime" scene's, they were well written and enough to get you moving in your seat but not dominating the whole story. (*Don't get me wrong I love the Merry Gentry Series but sometimes you had to skip whole pages of sex scenes to get back to the story*)

Con's ->

- The names! UGH the names! I mean really did they have to be so hard? Some of them were just middle names so you could ignore them but some you just had to guess or make up. Examples :Gabriel Cionaodh Marcus Mac Braie, became Gabriel Marcus Mac Brie, or simply Gabriel

(view spoiler)

I can't wait to read the next to see what else happens...

Melindeeloo says

Bast's new Fae Dark Magick series - dark, dangerous leading man Gabriel is Enchantingly Wicked

Wicked Enchantment finds Unseelie (dark Fae) incubus Gabriel petitioning for entry into the Seelie (light Fae) world. Aislinn is prominent member of the light fae court esteemed for the purity of her family's Seelie blood line. Having sworn off men after a suffering a humiliating breakup, Aislinn is less than thrilled when she is the one designated to show Gabriel around. Gabriel's magic has kept his bed easily filled so he is intrigued that Aislinn seems to be resistant to his charms. Aislinn's apparent aversion to him will make the true purpose behind Gabe's visit more difficult - Gabe will have to actually invest more of himself than is required for seduction in order to achieve his goal of luring Aislinn to the dark court - for Aislinn has somehow drawn the interest of the Unseelie king.

Wicked Enchantment returns to the world of light and dark Fae which Bast introduced in her short, "Sweet Enchantment" in the anthology Hot for the Holidays. If you've missed Ronin and Bella's story you might want to check it out before reading Wicked Enchantment since they get a bit of screen time here, but you can actually get by without having read the short (I just think it's more fun when you know the characters).

I really liked Wicked Enchantment. I absolutely loved Bast's introductory descriptions of incubus Gabriel. Gabe is so dark and sexy with an aura of danger that hits those around him at a visceral level - what a great leading man. I also really enjoy the rest of Bast's story telling here. Bast does a great job of fleshing out both

the leads and of developing the relationship between Gabe and Aislinn. Bast makes the pair really work for their happily ever after, as Gabriel has to overcome his detachment in order to fall for Aislinn, and even harder he has to overcome Aislinn's preconceptions that his being an incubus means he lacks the capacity to love and is therefore not a long term option. And Aislinn has to risk her already bruised heart in order to actually heal said heart.

Adding to the romance, Bast has brought to life some interesting elements of her magic Fae world, including some fleshing out some familiar myths and woven threads that will carry throughout the rest of the series. The saga continues with *Cruel Enchantment* due out September of 2010.

Elise ✕ a.k.a Ryder's Pet ✕ says

Wicked Enchantment by Anya Bast

When Aislinn Finvarra first sees Gabriel Mac Braire she can't help but to be curious about the half incubus who is known to possess dark magick, both lethal and sexual in nature. Rumors are all around of the women who have become enslaved to his irresistible charms. Which Aislinn sees as a big no, considering she's done with men at the moment because of her last failed relationship. Gabriel is said to want to switch court, so the Summer Queen of the Seelie Court of fae orders Aislinn herself to act as his guide in the court, while the Queen is considering to either accept or deny Gabriels request. Aislinn has fallen under the spell of far less persuasive men before, so she's understandably on guard, but Gabriel seems really interested in her. Gabriel might be more than he seems, and his true mission is far from innocent. This time, Aislinn must protect not only her heart, but her very life.

Aislinn Finvarra is a Seelie Court fae who has hidden her powers her whole life. She seems to have more than what a Seelie fae are supposed to have, meaning she has dark magick in her blood. Her father, who was her bestfriend, was murdered when she was a little girl, so Aislinn was raised by her mother who wanted nothing more than having her daughter to be one of the highest rank in the fae Seelie Court. So that means a lot of parties and a hell of a lot of boring things.. Aislinn feels alone, and bored and feels like an outsider. Aislinn's pretty, smart, and she's an independent woman. She doesn't trust easily, so when Gabriel starts to ask questions she's getting a little bit suspicious about his motives to move to Seelie Court.

Gabriel Mac Braire is gorgeous, powerful and extremely dangerous. He claims to be bored of the same old game, and that is a big enough reason to change court. Gabriel is used to getting what he wants, so when Aislinn is playing hard to get, he sees it as a challenge. Considering that Aislinn is immune to his powers, he has to use what he never uses, his emotions. Though, Gabriel has his emotions shut down, he never feels anything but anger and sexual pleasure but when he gets Aislinn to slowly open up to him, he never expected to feel for her. They are connected in more ways than they thought, and they understand each other like they never have with anyone else.

I liked this book. The characters were awesome, and I love the emotions between Aislinn and Gabriel. The book has its twists and surprises which makes the book a good read. I enjoyed the book, though it wasn't the best I've read.

Rate: 3 stars.

Isa Lavinia says

This is one of those books which, instead of stars, I wish I could rate it a 14 on the pH scale - it was that basic.

Wyrdness says

I found this very boring and tedious and I gave up at 30% after absolutely nothing happens. It's just endless repetitions of Gabriel attempting to be charming and seductive at Aislinn and she's all "I hate men and will *not* find this half-incubus sexy" until out of nowhere she does and then her willpower begins to rapidly crumble like a sandcastle against the incoming tide. Every now and then we were given hints of a bigger plot or shown that there's more to Aislinn's family history than meets the eye, but they were few and far between and generally overwhelmed by the constant not-quite-a-romance inanity of the rest of the story.

I couldn't really like the characters because they were just so flat. Gabriel was absolutely focused on seducing Aislinn for his mission and didn't seem to have any other thoughts beyond that unless they were "my target is hot. I think I'll lay her for fun as well as business!" and Aislinn was... Well, I don't know what she was beyond being a potential plot catalyst. I have no idea why I was supposed to care for her and as she made absolutely no attempts to help herself, nor step outside her "stifling" privilege to do the things she thought were right, I ended up having no sympathy for her at all. I wanted to punch Carina, Aislinn's so called friend, in the face for her constant attempts to set Aislinn up with Gabriel despite her friends obvious disinterest. If my "friend" kept doing that to me we'd very quickly become ex-friends.

Also the world building seemed to actively make less sense the more that was revealed. Like how exactly does Piefferburg have an economy when it's the magical equivalent of a government run Reservation that no one can escape and absolutely no-one except some druids (prison wardens) and a single camera crew can enter? They have to import all their raw materials and I can't see the druids allowing them to export anything just on the off chance it may be enchanted. That's completely ignoring the nonsense that enabled these druid people to round up "all" the fae in the *entire world* during the 1600s and ship them to Piefferburg in the first place. Also if the fae are entirely segregated from human society and have little to no contact with the outside world how and why are they all wearing modern branded clothing? How does Gabriel know what a refrigerator is and where are they getting cars from? Also how does Fae society deal with its rampant over-crowding situation since they have no room to expand in to, casual unprotected sex is the norm (no form of contraceptive or cycle tracking work for the fae, apparently) and yet nobody is dying because they live hundreds to thousands of years.

Anyway, I'm just beginning to nitpick now so I think I'll stop here and go find something else to read instead.

Felicia says

I dunno, lots of people have recommended this author to me and I thought I'd give it a try with her new series. This is definitely a romance-oriented novel with some interesting fairy-lore world building. I kinda enjoyed it, but I had to get over a few hurdles early on namely...

WHY if they're in a fairy world with Unseelie and Seelie court dress and towers made of Quartz and crap (NOT interacting with the "real world" we know!!!) does the author describe the hot hero striding through the hall on the first page as wearing "DOC MARTENS?!"

AND LATER SHE DOES IT AGAIN, the heroine is standing before the queen and is wearing "ROCK AND REPUBLIC JEANS!"

I mean, unless she's getting money for product placement, it was SO INCREDIBLY DISTRACTING. I get that maybe she's trying to make it casual, but then they could wear just plain COMBAT BOOTS or JEANS. RAGE RAGE /rage.

Otherwise this was pretty good ROMANCE paranormal comfort food. I'll try the next one, but if on the first page the heroine is wearing "a GAP sleeveless t-shirt" I might throw the Kindle across the room.

Dhfan4life says

Had a lot of potential to become something very intriguing. But it just never quite happened really. Not to mention that the story in general read really heavy and slow. Even given all the action sequences. There was also some really strange moments where the author had major information dumps at times or made her characters "all knowing". Which again made no sense given that NONE of their abilities ran towards omniscience or however that ability is spelled. Fingers crossed the second one goes better.

Laurie Garrison says

This is the first time I've read a book for the beginning of a series that I found easy to understand and flowed together so well, I had fun reading this book it was fresh and exciting, full of adventure and magick, nothing like I expected.

If you want to read this review and don't want very many spoilers read to where it says, "SOPILERS".

If you love these things you will love this book

A magick World unlike no other, I have read.

Incubus,

Fae's,

Goblins,

Boggarts,

Magic animals,

Sexy men ridding on the magic horses, the leader is called Lord of the Wild Hunt.

A lady that can call fae's form the dead and command armies of the undead, she is called the necromancer.

Then this book is for you... Now if you don't want to read any spoilers please stop here and go get the book..

SOPILERS-----

In this world there is square with a Rose Tower on one end this is where the Summer Queen and her Seelie Court is located. This is where a highly selective fae ruling class lives you know all boning balls and social affairs, these fae's must have light and pretty magick, this is where Aislinn comes in she lives on this side with quite a few secrets that she fears if they ever got out she would be exiled.

On the other side of the square with Black Towers there lives the Shadow King and his Unseelie Court this is where Gabriel comes in. Gabriel is half incubus in other words sex on a stick, this is how he is described. The rumors went he is like catnip to women - and when his special brand of magick was wielded at full force between the sheets - he possessed the power to enslave a woman. The affected female would become addicted to him. She'd stop eating and sleeping wanting nothing more than his touch, until she finally died from longing and self-neglect.. Well, it dose say rumors right?? Gabriel is from the dark side of the square so he has dark magick.. The Shadow King sends Gabriel to get Aislinn and bring her to the dark side and it's a journey you can't miss..

Overall this book had a good balance not to much sex , but what is there is great, does have good sexual tension between them that keeps you going. I like how some of the secrets I could unlock myself but some came by big surprise.. I love how Gabriel waits on Aislinn he never pushes, I love how Aislinn is tuff but yet thinks of others this is important when it come to calling the dead to do your bidding.. There is a glossary at the end of the book to make it easy to understand.. I now have to stop or I will give out to much.

♥Xeni♥ says

I picked up this book due to seeing it on my friends' update feed. Based on the description, it should have been amusing, entertaining, thrilling and riveting! It was none of those things for me.

First off, the whole writing style bothered me. Specifically, the characters were so boring and flat that had they been pumped up with any more artificial life, they would have been cliched to a degree of embarrassment. As things stand now, I could just barely stand to read their responses and interactions (with some paragraph skipping when things got too predictable).

Secondly, yeah, this book was predictable. To the extreme. I hate books like this so much, since it clearly shows that the author didn't bother to insert any new ideas or plot lines at all. And this book was definitely not just borrowed from other books, but rather imitated and slightly altered from other books.

The one good thing I did enjoy were the erotica (sex) scenes. I wasn't expecting them, since I thought that this was a more teenager-level book (easily enough to think, based on the writing level) but they were actually well written. It's a big problem when an author writes a sex scene badly (even more so than any other scene) and these actually flowed and were well written. So, for that, this book managed a 1 star at least.

Otherwise, I hated this book. It was boring and annoying and much too predictable. I'm sure other women will enjoy it (especially those stuck in love-less marriages, and lusting after a half-incubus to whisk them off their proverbial feet) but I'm not reading any more from this author.
