



Brent  
Reilly

## Deadly Wands

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Growing up in a world at war, Billy's parents hid his unique powers as if his life depended on it. But when ambitious rulers murder his parents, the orphan finds using his deadly wands for revenge literally addictive. After he commits to fighting the Mongol Empire, which seeks to conquer the other half of the world, Genghis Khan himself makes killing Billy his highest priority.

## Deadly Wands Details

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Author : Brent Reilly

Format : Paperback 277 pages

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## From Reader Review Deadly Wands for online ebook

### Cath says

The story is set in the Dark Ages of a 300 year war and starts with Lady Elizabeth celebrating her birthday with some wands given to her by her father, but also being pushed into an arranged marriage with a Mongol barbarian. The Queen is pushing this marriage, to ensure peace between England and the Mongols ruled by Genghis Khan. The war is fought with wands and different people have various levels of ability with wands. Some can only use two wands, some can use four (called Quads) and so can fly to higher and only a small amount of those can use their foot wands to throw fire. Wands can also produce swords and blades.

Genghis Khan has ruled the majority of the world with his hordes of Mongols and owns more than half the world's wealth. He is also over 300 hundreds years' old, longevity of life taken from the power drained from opponent's wands and also having a very powerful wand from an ancient tree. The strongest wand users are called Millennials and are unbeatable by normal wand users. A big way to gain power and to 'juice up@ is to duel in massive arenas, somewhere people gather to bet on each contestant.

The main character of the story is Billy (or Boy Wonder/Baron/Red Baron later in the book), the son of William and Elizabeth, who developed wand skills at a very young age. His parents are hunted throughout his childhood and his father is a brilliant tactician in the fight back against the Mongols. William earns most of his money taking part in duels and his son joins in at a very young age as well. A lot of the book is filled with stories of duels or more and more battles against the Mongol hordes. Some are quite graphic in nature with and the injuries incurred as well. Some wand users are healers and the more powerful the wands, the more the wand users can heal themselves.

The blurb at the start of the book gives some astonishing facts about how many people are actually descendants of Genghis Khan!!! A common tactic he used as he pillaged villages and towns was to impregnate as many woman as possible as well as those of his own kind, producing thousands of children. In the book, quads are highly sought after for breeding purposes and countries need more and more high altitude quad flyers to be able to defend their lands and defeat enemies.

I found this to be an excellent book and I would love to read what is next. Yes, some of it goes a wee bit slowly and this is not a book you can really read in a day, unless you are completely free to focus on it and do nothing else. It does leave you with a bit of end that leads to the next book to find out what happens next. The methods and tactics used to try and defeat Genghis Khan and his armies are very detailed and I found these gave great insights into how warfare such as this takes place and can lead to victory or defeat.

I can't understand some of the very low marks on some of the reviews – more I think that this wasn't their type of book. I found the characters of Elizabeth, William and Billy well developed and you get to understand all the interlinking between families and their descendants. I received an ARC copy of this book from Hidden Gems and I have freely given my own opinion of the book above.

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### Grady says

'Genghis Khan controlled half the world and waged war for the rest.'

Florida author Brent Reilly bounces onto the sci-fi fantasy scene with five books to his credit already. Brent is a multi-talented movie star handsome young man whose father was a magazine editor so he comes by his talent honestly. But Brent lived in Colombia for a time, is bi-lingual Spanish, has a Masters degree in counseling, is a husband and father and has owned an indoor bounce house, auto repair center, and computer training school. His creative goal: to entertain with his wildly imaginative novels whose characters are like real people, with backgrounds and motives, who must act consistently with their personalities. From his provided bio as well as from the manner in which he writes, the reader can sense that this is a talent worth following!

DEADLY WANDS appears to be the first published book by the gifted Brent Reilly: it was written in 2014 and subsequently his mastery of sci-fi fantasy story telling has matured and become even more involving. The book has adult content and is probably not a choice to recommend to youngsters – although with the internet and social media language and imagery as we tolerate today, it is likely they've heard it all before!

In medias res Brent opens his story of action with action (wands and their powers are well explained as the story moves along): 'Worst. Birthday. Ever. A wand bristling with power in each hand, Lady Elizabeth finished putting her body armor, battle helmet, and game face on. A birthday present from her father, her new wands blew away anything she had ever used and must have cost a bloody fortune. Certainly she never would have attempted her plans for the day without them. Savoring the raw energy flowing up her arms, she forced herself to put aside all doubt, regret, and mercy. She could not afford mercy. Not today. The beautiful blond placed her old wands in slots in her boots and used them to propel her a meter into the air. She flew around the room, careful not to impale herself on the assortment of weapons hung on the walls. Never had she felt so powerful. Hovering in the center of the room, she arched her back. Yelling, she flung her arms wide as angry flames erupted five meters out of each wand, which made them twice as strong as her old ones. She felt strangely comforted by the terribleness of her primal scream. Her innocence taken away by the kiss of the most hideous man she knew, Liz could now barely relate to the naive girl she was the day before. She had heard there are worst fates than death, but didn't know marriage could be one of them. If she could just smash the guy in the dueling arena, then maybe she could escape her arranged marriage. If not, she preferred a quick death to a long marriage. Either way, she vowed never to marry. Never! With a flick of her wand the thick oak doors flung open. She flew down the hall, letting her fury feed a newfound aggressiveness. Wearing expensive armor, Uncle George waited for her in the arena. "Happy birthday. Now the queen can finally marry you to the Mongol ambassador."

An at times puzzling tale (and that is a compliment to fantasy stories!), the author offers the following synopsis: 'n orphan boy with great powers grows up in the Dark Ages during a brutal 300-year world war fought with wands that shoot fireballs and enable flight. Genghis Khan and his Mongol hordes have conquered half the world and battle for the rest. The war has already cost Billy his parents, but now he must lead elite air forces to stop the casual slaughter of entire cities. Billy duels the greatest warriors in history to save loved ones, but how high a price will he pay for saving people from global tyranny?'

A trait that is a recurring one is the use of a child as the hero and it works very well for him/for us! Very fine debut novel by a writer who is settling in as an accomplished member of the literary tribe. Grady Harp, May 18

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**Katy says**

This was an awesome fantasy fiction tale! Keep in mind that just because it has wands that it does NOT resemble Harry Potter. Keep an open mind and allow the book to be its own creation, not a Potter tale. I really enjoyed the touches of history the author uses to explain what wands come from where and their functions. The plot is REALLY good- betrothed marriages, imprisoned kingdoms, restless princesses and more keep it engaging and entertaining. There are some explicit scenes not suitable for the younger crowd. Also, the only thing that really bothered me was the grammatical errors and some parts seemed to really slow the pace of the story. It was a good read and I was impressed with the plot and the characters. A good fantasy read that is worlds apart from Harry Potter.

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### **Valery says**

Deadly Wands by Brent Reilly is a great epic style adventure much like Harry Potter, albeit a little more serious. Wands are the most useful weapons in this fantasy style adventure, enabling characters to fly around and even shoot fire with their wands. Billy is the main protagonist in this exciting adventure, and along with his parents, is involved in a lot of battles and wars. There is an abundance of history in this book, fighting Genghis Khan, and a whole bunch of other interesting historical characters like the Mongols. It's always nice to see a young character, in this case, Billy being described and presented as heroic, that is inspiring to see and admire. However, this book may be a bit much for children, adults will more enjoy the graphic details and historical aspects of the book. Overall, an interesting, if sometimes confusing read. Highly recommend for a wonderful adventure.

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### **Renee Spicuzza says**

Brent Reilly's, "Deadly Wands," is a very interesting take on traditional history by adding in a magical aspect to it. While I love fantasy novels, it was a bit harder for me to get into this book, compared to the other books I've read by Reilly. It just didn't have the same build up and enthralling plot as his prior books. I feel like the way Billy developed and built his skills didn't match his personality at all and made it difficult to actually feel like what he was accomplishing was possible. I really could not relate to the main character at all and I think that is what made it so much harder for me to like the book, but I do love the concepts that Reilly developed, I just wish it was done with a different character or interactions, otherwise it was a very interesting plot to be able to read.

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### **Julius Blitz says**

This is it; this is an ambitious story about pretty much everything.

The creativity here is plenty, I see a lot of ideas executed even between pages, there is a huge amount of references and different genres all merged into this amazing novel, it's hard to put this piece into a category, but I think that is not a problem, there is a lot to caught the attention of pretty much anyone interested.

That aside, I do recommend it to read this with an open mind and stay cool with it, take it as an alternate take of the world, with a lot of twists that you don't ask how that happen and just let it be, I did it and I enjoyed it. The characters are just tools for move the plot around, there is not enough depth in any of them, not even the protagonist, and that is the only improvement I can recommend for the author, it's a crazy journey, give it a try.

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## Mar says

Deadly Wands is a sci-fi thriller written by Brent Reilly. Even though there are wands and a magic universe, it's my belief that's the end of the similarities with Harry Potter. It's a lot more dark and violent novel than the Harry Potter series, making it less suitable for children or more impressionable readers.

The plot is interesting as it covers a time period filled with wars, expansion of territories, mortal enemies, and power struggles. The story takes us to the Mongolian Empire and the Genghis Khan army and how they are trying to conquer new territories. Wands are the most lethal weapon and only the best are capable of using them. The way the story is written really captures a violent essence and the descriptions are rich and vivid. Billy is a great main character, with a great backstory that makes the readers really know his interests and motivations. There are some very good interactions and it was an entertaining book, packed with action.

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## Becky says

I won this book as part of Goodreads First Reads.

The book starts with the world in the middle of a war. Genghis Khan has discovered magic and has used it to take over half of the world. Resistance in western Europe & the Americas is pretty much the only thing keeping him from becoming ruler of Earth. I thought that the war and how the governments worked with/against one another was interesting. The more powerful magicians (quads) were needed by both sides in order to win the battles, as well as which side could get the best wands. It was also interesting to see that both sides were actually just as determined to wipe out the other side, so neither side had a pretty, white image.

(view spoiler)

Overall, I could not get attached to any of the characters. I liked William the best (view spoiler). There were too many chapters about detailed battles. I think better character development should have been done and the battle descriptions should have been much more brief. There were also many typos which were annoying at times.

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## N says

Definitely an interesting read at first. However once you get into Billy's story the book loses some of the magic it first started out with. After reading about 40% of the book I kind of felt like the story was dragged on more than necessary and the ending was very abrupt.

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## **Brittany says**

I can't even finish this. Found this looking for a similar book to Harry Potter. Yeah, this is NOT it. Way too many "storylines" being thrown in together. The premise is good but I just can't handle the writing style.

Didn't finish this one. Made it almost halfway through and just can't pick it up again. Maybe someday, I will attempt this one again. But if not, I only lost .99 on it.

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## **Jimmy Jefferson says**

### **A historical fantasy of a magical battle for supremacy**

The story is about the Mongolian empire and Ghangus Khan using wands that yield fire balls and flying abilities. As the journey begins England attempts to force Elizabeth to marry into the Empire but she has other plans. The battle rages on as Billy, husband to Elizabeth, continues a blood fued with the Empire. If you like action and big battles with lots of death this is a good story for you. There is a secondary story of love and the attempts to have a good life with Elizabeth and Billy which shows the affectionate side of these characters. The story and characters are developed and is an easy read that makes for a good distraction from the everyday stress of life. Check it out and follow the journey to its end.

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## **Christopher says**

The book was amazing. You can always tell when an author does the research necessary to take their book to the next level.

I loved how Mr. Reilly added details from different points in history to create such a stunning array of characters and environments. If my laptop hadn't kept overheating, I would've read it straight through.

I loved the action sequences the most. Mr. Reilly has a great mind for strategy. I think that's what it more real to me than anything. The forces opposing Billy always fought as entire units, while Billy used some very advanced guerrilla tactics.

I loved the book and I can't wait for Mr. Reilly's next one.

However, I found that the descriptions during wand combat were kind of repetitive and lacking in detail. For example, while Mr. Reilly spends time describing the other three modes of wands use (fire, blade, and flight), he never describes how the gun mode fires. To counter this, I would suggest illustrations in the hard copy versions.

Book Received Via: Smashwords

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## **Pegboard says**

Deadly Wands begins with Khan trying to concur half of the world he doesn't already. England faced being overrun or finds a way to bind with the Mongolian Empire through marriage. Elizabeth is the one chosen to bind the two worlds in marriage, but this sickens her so she runs away to make her own way in the world. After marrying William, she finds he is a Baron with a blood feud against the Khan. He is bound to destroy the sacred trees the wands are made from and avenge his family. Through this love union come Billy, the one destined to conquer the Khan and bring peace. His parents train him knowing his life will be short, but productive.

I do not know if this is comparable to Harry Potter since I have not read the books. Brent Reilly writes each battle with fervor, each building upon each other. There were parts that are associated with war that are not pretty, but realistic. I really enjoyed the first half and wondered what is left to conquer? I found I liked the first half of the book better than the second half, but in all I clung to each battle.

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## **Archie says**

Fantasy Fiction!

Action filled, fantasy story with the theme of a boy with magical powers fighting to save the humanity from the evil powers. The plot is ok, character description is fine but at times feels too much to be true. But I guess if you read as faction fun it would be all right.

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## **Payal Sinha says**

Deadly wands is a story based around bands and weaved around history. Wands are the most important weapons in the ancient time and only the best could use it with both their hands and their feet at the same time. Good wands were made out of old trees and their constant use guaranteed higher powers and longevity. Hence Mongols live for hundreds of years and in constant battles to feed their weapons and become richer and more powerful by the day. Only few kingdoms are free and England is one of them. However the Mongols have their eyes on it and the only way to stop them is through royal marriage and a promise that the child of that marriage will be the next heir to the kingdom. Amongst all this the promised princess is unhappy. So, she plans an escape along with the kingdom's greatest warrior. Their unity brings a son who surpasses all in wit, strategy, bravery, power and skills.

Deadly Wands is a thoroughly engaging and enchanting story which will keep you turning page after page. However there are some adult stuff and the book is not meant for children.

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