



Smitten Image

Pam B. Morris

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In high-speed, high-tech New Chicago, 2039, magic has gone viral. Lily Barnett, a brilliant but drifty artist wanders into a strange magic shop where she impulsively guzzles a love potion. Erratic and unpredictable powers awake inside her. Her houseplants turn ravenous and strings of flamingo lights spout poetry. When she paints a portrait of her perfect man, he steps free of the canvas and stalks her. Desperate, she turns to her best friend, Daniel, for help.

But Daniel has problems of his own. He's a telepath who must shield thoughts, emotions, and desires or go mad. He wants Lily, desperately, but knows his passion will drive her away and that his friendship is of more value to her than his love.

As Lily negotiates the catastrophic blends of her fear, imagination, and chaotic magic, Daniel must fight against his own impenetrable reserve and the psychic gifts he's always despised.

Magic and love might save them, but can they survive each other?

Smitten Image Details

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Méline says

Beautiful and Enchanting

Lily Barnett is a brilliantly talented, but scatterbrained painter who loses her keys at least once a week. She yearns for true love and the kind of sex that makes your toes curl.

Daniel Harris is a building manager with more than a few secrets hidden behind those glasses of his. He's a clairvoyant Reader and in love with his best friend and neighbor, Lily.

And when Lily enters a magic shop and guzzles a love potion without a second thought, their destinies are forever changed.

The year is 2039 and the universe is teaming with mystical forces. Morris' protagonists are as magical as the art they create and their unbridled love threatens to ruin them both. The author's world-building is absolutely captivating and her descriptions of a future "New Chicago" are rivaled only by her exquisite depictions of color and art.

Magical, paranormal, filled with beautiful imagery and enchanting parallels between art and love, Smitten Image delivers romance in spades. If you are intrigued by magic and spells, fascinated by the world of fine art, and looking for a great summer romance, you'll love Smitten Image.

Casey Dawes says

Pam B. Morris' debut book, Smitten Image, starts off as a light-hearted romp through magic and love. The visual pictures of the heroine, Lily, ("...stockings saggy at the knees, cuffs smeared with paint, and carrying a stained canvas bag..."), as well as her inner thoughts allow the reader to connect almost instantaneously. This is in spite of the fact that the world is decades in the future where the switching of magnetic poles creates a Chicago like we've never known.

But Lily's romp isn't quite as light-hearted as time goes on. She has a serious problem. How can she be with the man she loves without killing him? And not in ordinary ways—oh, no, that would be too tame for Ms. Morris. Lily's elemental magic goes "rogue," threatening to overwhelm the sympathetic, clairvoyant magic of Daniel. If she can't get it under control, "...every thought, every feeling that humans projected would overwhelm his senses and drive him insane. Literally."

The beauty of this book is following the enjoyment and love trials of Lily and Daniel. At the same time, a little part of your brain acknowledges the universal problem: How do we fall in love without killing each other – or ourselves – in the process?

I enjoyed the plot, characterizations and most of all the visual kaleidoscope of images I got while reading this book!

Sharon Clare says

As charming as Harry Potter, this wonderfully, magical novel put a smile on my face from beginning to end. I fell in love with Pam B. Morris's poetic voice, turns of phrases and magical cast of characters.

Lily is a delightful heroine, quirky, passionate and absolutely loveable as she and Daniel struggle to be together under impossible circumstances. Hopelessly in love, Daniel is a admirable hero who never tries to change the befuddled heroine, but instead embraces the ardent artist she needs to be.

Again, I must mention the delightful writing and share one of my favourite lines from many: 'Gods and favors, but the girl was a mind-tweak.' Don't you just love that!

It takes a creative soul to write one, and that's exactly what Pam B. Morris does with Lily, her magical awakening and this love story. Full of enchanted lessons, whimsical descriptions and passionate romance, Smitten Image shows that love truly is magic.

Ruth Hill says

First of all, this book is out of my comfort zone, and I think it is important to challenge myself to do this once in a while. So take any comments or criticisms with that in mind.

I found myself somewhat intrigued from the beginning of this futuristic romance. I honestly had no idea what to expect, but when magic first showed itself in the story, I was somewhat nonplussed. I liked the characters--Daniel and Lily--so I chose to treat this book as a fantasy and a fairy tale. In doing that, I was able to enjoy some more of this book. Portions of what I read even reminded me of the old TV show "Bewitched."

I have to admit that as the book went on, I found myself somewhat turned off by two things. First of all, the magic became increasingly confusing and strange (probably because I know nothing about magic in books). Secondly, I was disturbed to read about the great emphasis that the physical part of the characters' relationship seemed to be what drove the characters to one another. I felt that the friendship they spoke about was almost nonexistent.

So what did I like about the book? The art emphasis, the futuristic look at this country, and some elements of the story. I could have done without the sex scene and the profanity, but many readers will have no problem with this. The premise behind the book is absolutely fascinating, but I think it could have been a little bit edgier and a little less emphasis on magic.

If you are a fan of magic and romances, I can almost guarantee you will love this book!

Danica Winters says

I loved this book. Pam Morris has such an incredible gift with language. This book had me cheering for the hero one minute and laughing about the flamingos the next! So creative, so unique--an absolute Must Read!

Robin says

Love, Magic and Angst...what more could you ask for in a love story? Pam B. Morris' romance, *Smitten Image*, has all that, plus humor and characters we can all identify with. You will laugh and moan and try to push the characters together as they do their darnedest to stay apart. Thanks for the pre-read...I feel so special.

Diane Jewkes says

Pam Morris has created a wonderful love story set in a unique vision of the future. Lily and Daniel are quirky, fun characters and you love them both from the start. While the world they inhabit has been torn apart there is still hope and there is magic. It's a wonderful story that I would recommend to anyone who loves romance.

Lisa White says

From page one of *SMITTEN IMAGE*, readers know author Pam Morris is an artist. Her descriptive words create settings and images that don't jump off the page – instead they pull the reader into the page. You are immediately drawn into Lily's and Daniel's magical world where portrait subjects become alive and houseplants create fear. But as is true for all good books, the center of this magical world is the love between Lily and Daniel. Their initial inability to make their love work actually frustrated me because I did not foresee how they could eventually have their happily ever after. Fortunately, Morris relieved my frustration, and instead I was left longing for the next book from her magical world. Well done.

Pam B Morris says

Well, since I wrote this I must say I love it. But what else could I say... still, it is fun, very humorous with a ditzy blonde resembling someone I know very personally. For a romance, I think it offers a lot. I got into the futuristic world thing, magic everywhere, mayhem at the drop of a hat. A magic shop that never stays in one place and a lonely artist who, and I'm quoting Lily here, "is as silly as flying pigs." She drinks a love potion and then paints her perfect man who comes to life off the canvas and stalks her. And that's only the beginning... Would love to hear what you all think of it. Seriously!!

Barbara Mcpherson says

Morris portrays magical characters as intriguing as the art they create. The love and lust that swirls around them transforms from dangerous to sensual. By the end of the novel, the reader understands the wisdom in the words of one of Morris's most lovable characters, Madame Bagasha: Love is as powerful a magic as any..."

Deborah Cordes says

What a wonderful book, filled with magic and love! I adored Lily and her world. Pam B. Morris writes in a beautiful voice about the future several decades from now. Her world-building is first-rate, and I was there in New Chicago, gobbling up all of the details of a city born from the ashes of catastrophe. Lily is a talented painter of landscapes and portraits, but she is a conflicted young woman, filled with self-doubt about the true nature of her extraordinary abilities. Daniel, her best friend, has loved Lily for years, but he's kept his feelings to himself, because of a magical secret. Together, they discover each other in new ways, to forge a bond that cannot be broken by man - or witch. If you are enchanted by magic shops, intrigued by the world of art, and ready for a great summer romance, you will enjoy *Smitten Image*.

(The reviewer, Deborah O'Neill Cordes, received an ARC from the author with no monetary compensation and in return for an honest review).

celticmoongirl says

Magic--Excitement--Exquisite Writing! Pam B. Morris knows how to write. Her words pull you in and make you feel as if you're living in the world she's created. It's a joy to read and I couldn't wait to see what happened.—then was so sad when I'd read the last word. I wanted to live with her characters a little longer! Morris paints a character like an artist moves a brush...alive, vivid and with great emotion. This story is so fresh! So clever! So well written! I give it five stars wholeheartedly! I suggest settling in with a nice glass of wine, a cup of tea and a blanket this winter...and read this book. Its beauty will linger with you long after you've read the final word.

Erin Richards says

Smitten Image was a magical kaleidoscope of a read. Pam B. Morris immerses the reader into a slightly future world that surrounds Lily and Daniel with wild magic, volatile lust, and an enduring love. The author's knowledge of art and color shine through her story impeccably. The art comes alive on the page and draws you into the beautiful worlds she creates through her funny and quirky heroine, Lily. You can't help but fall in love with Lily as she stumbles in learning how to wield and temper the new magic within her and Daniel who harbors his own maddening powers and secrets, all which threaten to keep them apart.

Smitten Image is such a creative and unique take on witchcraft, psychic powers, and magic. I highly recommend it to those looking for something a little bit different and a whole lot of awesome!

Rowena May O'Sullivan says

This book is a fun read. The writer loves color. Some of the events in the book had me laughing out loud. I

did feel perhaps it was a little long, but it was well written. If you like a little mayhem, a colorful heroine and a whole lot of magic then you'll really enjoy Smitten Image.

Moriah Densley says

A page-turner! I could not put Smitten Image down, a fast-paced ride through a futuristic world filled with magic, art, and mischief. Not to mention a very sweet yet intense "friendship first" romance. I liked Daniel instantly, an endearing, sexy Clark Kent type beta male who came right off the page. I loved the inside look at a painter's life; the detail about composition and color was fascinating. Morris' attention to detail made her world feel very real, the Chicago architecture and the witchcraft especially. There were motives and plot twists I wish could have been developed more, but referring to my first statement - this is an action-packed, engaging book - the story didn't suffer. I won't spoil the surprise, but the marriage proposal was a delightful twist. Overall an entertaining sensory experience that stayed with me long after I finished the book. A must-read for fans of paranormal magic.
