



## Wilted

*Dianna Hardy*

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*Alternate cover edition for ASIN B007TBK8DW. Brand new cover will replace the eBook cover from 3rd Dec, 2013.*

**A short story prequel to *The Witching Pen* series.**

(This story takes place ten years before the events of *The Witching Pen*.)

Fifteen-year-old Elena hides her magical abilities from everyone, except her best friend, Karl. Inseparable since they were very young, they've always shared everything together, including the darkest parts of their lives.

Elena's beginning to realise that her feelings for Karl are growing into something more. But her mother's about to drop a bombshell on her – one that will change the course of her life, and heart, forever.

## PUBLISHERS NOTES:

This UK-based story is suitable for YA readers, but it should be noted that *The Witching Pen* series series is aimed at adult readers.

For fans of the series, this story includes two parts of Elena's past that were made reference to in *The Witching Pen*: 1) The moment that Karl turns up on Elena's doorstep having been beaten and 'jumped on' by his father and 2) "The Sex Talk" between Elena and her mother.

## **Wilted Details**

Date : Published December 3rd 2013 by Satin Smoke Press (first published February 9th 2012)

ISBN :

Author : Dianna Hardy

Format : Kindle Edition

Genre : Fantasy, Paranormal, Short Stories, Witches, Magic

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## From Reader Review Wilted for online ebook

### Ninfa Hayes says

As a big fan of the Witching Pen Novellas, I really enjoyed this little snippet from Elena and Karl's past. It has a lovely insight into their earlier relationship, and also it is a pivotal moment in Elena's life, which is nice to get to experience.

If you haven't read at least the first book in the series, "The Witching Pen", I would recommend waiting before you read "Wilted", otherwise you won't really appreciate this lovely short story.

Favourite moment has to be the end, the scene with Elena's mum, Katherine.

I found it really pulled at my heartstrings, and though I won't go into more detail, let's just say it has a depth and an emotion which normally would be difficult to achieve in such a short paragraph.

Again, if you haven't read the books, "Wilted" might not make for a riveting read on its own, so pick up "The Witching Pen" and then read "Wilted".

It is a bonus short story that might not give away incredible plot points, but that will definitely add to the reading experience of the books :)

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### Wanda Hartzenberg says

It is rare for me to attach to characters soon. Too much information and I am turned off the story, not enough and I feel as if I am a voyeur. This short prequel got me interested and invested in a few pages. Quite a remarkable feat, if you ask me. This novella proved a nice appetizer with promise of great things to come. I can't wait to read the first in this novella. I give this short prequel a flying 5 \* review.

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### Anne (Angel Anne Reviews) Nelson says

I received the opportunity to read Wilted (A witching Pen novella prequel) as a FREE read on Amazon, and so glad that Author Dianna Hardy graced us with this chance. Thank you so much!!!

I haven't read the first book in this series yet, (it's on my TBR list) but I feel I have a good insight of it from reading this novella. I absolutely love this short story....

Blurb: 15 year old Elena hides her magical powers from everyone, except her best friend Karl. Inseparable since they were very young, they've always shared everything together, including the darkest parts of their lives.

Elena's beginning to realize that her feelings for Karl are growing into something more. But her mother's about to drop a bombshell on her-- one that will change the course of her life, and heart forever.

Wilted is set 10 yrs prior to "The Witching Pen"... wow where do I begin and what can I say!! This short novella certainly had me riveted and glued to the pages as soon as I started to read it... For a short read it was most definitely jammed packed of a FULL story with so much, and a glimpse into the earlier relationships, and the monumental part of Elena's life. Awesome

Elena's mother doesn't particularly care for Karl, but when I learned what the bombshell secret she tells Elena at the end of this novella concerning her future.. It had me saying "now wait a minute, is she just saying this because of her dislike of Karl?" ummmm

Karl and Elena's relationship is in jeopardy, and Elena is dumbstruck, devastated and then completely embarrassed when her mother speaks of the secret. Part of this secret being that if Elena ever becomes intimate with a man, she will lose something very precious and dear to her.... \*are you scratching her head too\*?

But this is not the only cliffhanger for me/us, it's also got me hurrying to quickly get my hands on The Witching Pen!!!!

What a sweet delightful and fun MUST READ.

Recommend: YA and up

Rating: 4.5/5 angel stars

Angel Anne Reads

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### **Sandra "Jeanz" says**

Wilted is actually set ten year prior to The Witching Pen. we see the early rumblings and stirrings of adolescent feelings between Karl and Elena. We also learn that Elena's mother has a dislike for Karl, though when you learn the secret she tells Elena about her future you wonder if its Karl she dislikes or just his relationship and its future possibilities with Elena that she finds irritating. Elena is devastated, mortified, and embarrassed all rolled into one when her mother reveals the secret. Part of the secret being she would lose something precious that she holds dear should she ever have sex with a man. This bonus story could be read before to "set the scene" as a prequel or as I read it after The Witching Pen.

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### **Julie says**

Ebook: Wilted (A witching Pen Novella)

Author :Dianna Hardy

Fiction, Paranormal,

This review may contain spoilers

Summary: A short story prequel to The Witching Pen Novellas.

(This story takes place ten years before the events of The Witching Pen Novellas.)

Fifteen-year-old Elena hides her magical abilities from everyone, except her best friend, Karl. Inseparable since they were very young, they've always shared everything together, including the darkest parts of their lives.

Elena's beginning to realise that her feelings for Karl are growing into something more. But her mother's

about to drop a bombshell on her – one that will change the course of her life, and heart, forever.

#### PUBLISHERS NOTES:

This UK-based story is suitable for YA readers, but it should be noted that The Witching Pen Novellas series is aimed at adult readers.

For fans of the series, this story includes two parts of Elena's past that were made reference to in The Witching Pen: 1) The moment that Karl turns up on Elena's doorstep having been beaten and 'jumped on' by his father and 2) "The Sex Talk" between Elena and her mother.

#### The Review

This is a short story or novella, but it was extremely well written, my favourite bit was the part about the photo of Karl as an angel, awesome picture in my mind, I thought the relationship these two have was just so sweet, it was a shame that they couldn't fall in love like they are destined to do, you could easily read this as a stand alone, there is nothing to stop you from doing that, although you would understand more of what was going on in this novella, if you read the rest of the series, I have only read one other one and this was so easy to follow, highly recommend, 4.5/5

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#### **Merisha28 says**

I loved this short prequel to the Witching Pen Novels. I went ahead and read this first and am now starting on The Witching Pen. I got quickly attached to Karl and Elena. You get the background of what you need to jump into the series. The end of the prequel is an excellent cliffhanger that leaves you thirsty for more!! Love it! Can't wait to read more!

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#### **Claire Taylor says**

A short story prequel to The Witching Pen Novellas.

A quick read introducing you to Elena and Karl, and gives the reader an insight into an important moment of their past.

Having read this prequel after finishing all three of the novellas, my heart went out to Katherine, Elena's mum. Due to Dianna Hardy's amazing writing style, the reader can feel the pain of both Elena and Katherine, and felt like an extra piece of the puzzle.

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#### **Nancy (The Avid Reader) says**

Wilted gives us an introduction into the early lives of Elena and Karl. Elena's mother tells her a secret that will not only affect her life but Karl's as well. Wilted takes place ten years before The Witching Pen Novellas. Karl and Elena have always been best friends since before either one can remember. But Elena is beginning to discover that what she feels for Karl may be more than just friendship. She is falling in love with Karl, much to her mothers dismay.

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### **Valerie McQueen says**

My review of Wilted by Dianna Hardy

Rating 5\*\*\*\*\*

Amazon Verified Purchase

As a huge fan of The Witching Pen novellas, I had high expectations of this short. I was far from disappointed I must say. Wilted is the beginning of Elena and Karl's story while they were still kids. Here we see Karl battling his father's wicked abuse and Elena distancing her self from her mom. While these two drift further and further away from their families their personal relationship grows stronger and both feel an inner pull to each other.

When Elena's mom runs down the responsibilities of a thirteenth generation witch, it leaves Elena devastated. Anger consumes her toward dear old mom. A division starts between the two that may never be healed..... Loved it!!!! It is one of the most poignant short reads I have ever layed my hands on!!!!

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### **Jennifer Davis says**

This is a short prequel to The Witching Pen Novellas and takes place ten years before the events in book one. I read it after reading book one and two and felt that is gave me more information about Elena and her mothers relationship. It also gave me an idea of how Elena and Karl were growing up. A must read for fans of The Witching Pen Novellas. Young adults could read this one, but it does contain adult language and the other books in the series are Adult Paranormal Romances.

Originally posted on The Mystical World of Book Reviews.

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### **Mcclairvoyant says**

I loved reading a bit more of the characters, it was awesome!

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### **Mare says**

Quick read. Got me hooked.

Elena is 15 & getting a crush on her 17 year old best friend Karl. They've been friends forever. He was there the day her powers manifested as she brought to life a butterfly on the playground. She's always been there for him because his homelife is rough, drunk dad beating on him & his mom. He's always had a crush on her. Today is the day Elena's mom drops a horrible catch on Elena regarding her powers.

Since this is a prequel...I'm now hooked into at least book 1... hopefully it's just as good & i'm hoping, seeing as book 1 is 10 yrs later, that Elena & Karl are still friends & life has worked out.

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**Neri. says**

Too weird even for me...

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**Autumn says**

This was a great 30 minute short read for me. Wilted pretty much gives you some inside information about Karl and Elena and what she is told by her mother. Which if you read the novella The Witching Pen you get told in that one what happens if Elena has sex.

You don't have to read this book first before The Witching Pen, but Wilted is a wonderful little story about the two main characters that are in the other book.

This book is a little insight on Karl and Elena's relationship, and back when they were teenagers. You can just read the story and see that they love each other.

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**Heidi says**

Having read the Witching Pen Novellas, I wanted to read this prequel to have a peak into the lives of the characters prior to the first Witching Pen story. It really helps to develop the characters as we see their lives prior to Karl and Elena's relationship. We find out how Elena's mother is able to deceive her and the price she paid within herself to lie to her daughter. It helps to explain and clarify a bit more of the history and relationship that Elena has with not only her mother but her blossoming feelings with Karl that are crushed within seconds of her mother's lie. A definite must read and Don't want to miss for Witching Pen Fans!

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