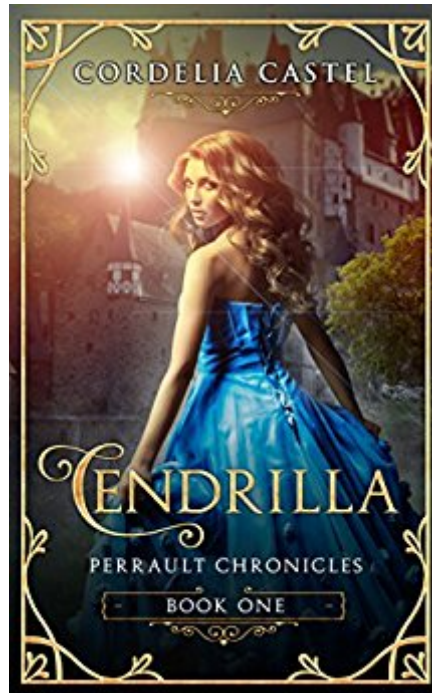




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Cendrilla: A Fairytale (Perrault Chronicles Book 1)



Synopsis

As the clock ticks closer to midnight, can Cendrilla escape her enemies and put an end to the chaos? Cendrilla Perrault isn't much of a catch. She's not elegant, graceful, charming or hospitable and she's stuck in a life of serving her stepsisters and emotionally abusive mother. Cendrilla can't wait to come of age and inherit her beloved mansion - and finally make her own choices. However, Mother has a different plan. After striking up a betrothal with serial wife-killer, Lord Bluebeard, Cendrilla makes a run for her life. She navigates the United Kingdom of Seven with her new companion, Jack, and encounters the enchantment and danger of magic. With Lord Bluebeard's henchmen on their heels, they must brave the elements and a myriad of hostile inhabitants to find sanctuary within the capital's high walls. Cendrilla is a re-imagination of the classic Cinderella story. It blends fairytales, mythology, and centuries-old folklore into an adventure that turns every damsel-in-distress legend on its head.

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Customer Reviews

Cendrilla has spent most of her life being teased about her appearance by both her family and their guests. But once an unexpected lord comes seeking her hand in marriage, Cendrilla's life starts in a new direction, one gaining her more attention than she could possibly ever want. I really enjoyed the way that Cordelia Castel retold the story of Cinderella in Cendrilla, not only because she doesn't strictly adhere to traditional versions of the tale, but also because she incorporates other fairy tale and folkloric elements. Castel weaves these stories together to both tell the coming-of-age of a badass heroine and depict a unique fairy tale world where, in some places, magic and magical creatures are forbidden. I did feel, however, that the narrative pace was a bit quick and the story a tad short. For example, I would have loved more description about Cendrilla's time spent both with Mother and the twins and with Bluebeard and more development of her friendship with Jack. Also, since the geography and history of her world plays such a key role in the action of the narrative, a map would have been useful. Nevertheless, I loved Cendrilla, couldn't put it down in a 24-hour period, and immediately found myself delving into her Perrault Chronicles novelette Mother's Misfortune. I look forward to the rest of the series and so will those who love fairy tale re-mixes like the Once Upon a Time, Alethea Kontis's Woodcutter Sisters series, and Jim C. Hines's Princess novels.

As other reviews have mentioned, this isn't simply a retelling of Cinderella. It branches off in unique ways, like having lots of mythical creatures that are clearly being abused and experiencing prejudice. The story is short, but it is fast paced, and I think the shortness actually helps the story because it allows for suspense to be built. I love how the author incorporated lots of different old stories into the book like *spoiler alert* the character of Bluebeard. I can't wait for the rest of the series to come out.

I was captivated from the first chapter...the preview I was given just wasn't enough...I had to buy the book. Excellent reading!

This book was fun and page turning!! I loved the characters and the twist in the retelling with who she meets and the paths that are taken. Interested in the next book and hoping it's just as good.

Read the whole book all at one time couldn't put it down. Have the second book can't wait to start reading it.

Loved the book couldnot put it down...can't wait to read what happens next with cendrilla...!!

I loved reading this book

This isn't your typical Cinderella retelling. It takes place against a backdrop where other fairy tales are also happening, and magic is banned. The main character is called Rilla, and she's considered the "ugly" one because she's taller than all the other women. Her step mother decides to sell her to Bluebeard, who is known for killing his wives. I won't spoil the rest for you, but Rilla runs away, going from one mini-adventure to another. She meets other fairy tale characters, gains an enchanted weapon and kind of makes it to the ball. The ending was fabulous! What a twist! I had a fun time getting to know both the original and the already familiar fairy tale characters. It was great to see the main character develop from a sad, timid servant to a strong, capable woman. I loved all the challenges she had to face, some of which I would not typically associate with a Cinderella character! So if it's so good, why only three stars? Firstly, it's a short read, and I wish it was twice as long. I have read stories like Lord of the Rings, and Game of Thrones, where the author spends a lot of time building worlds. While there was background on things like the United Kingdom of Seven, the Anti-Magic Army and the dreaded Enchanted Realms, I wanted to read a lot more.

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