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Beast Within, The: A Tale Of Beauty's Prince (Villains)



Synopsis

A cursed prince sits alone in a secluded castle. Few have seen him, but those who claim they have say his hair is wild and nails are sharp--like a beast's! But how did this prince, once jovial and beloved by the people, come to be a reclusive and bitter monster? And is it possible that he can ever find true love and break the curse that has been placed upon him?

Book Information

File Size: 3134 KB

Print Length: 224 pages

Publisher: Disney Press (July 22, 2014)

Publication Date: July 22, 2014

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00LOYVGL8

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #2,048 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #1 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Fairy Tales & Folklore > Adaptations #1 inÂ Books > Teens > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Fairy Tales & Folklore > Adaptations #2 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Teen & Young Adult > Media Tie-In

Customer Reviews

A rather short and quick adaptation of Disney's original award-winning film, it does seem rather rushed. About halfway through the book, it starts to delve into the original storyline, but it hurries along very quickly, skipping over Belle's arrival at the castle and hurrying to her trespass upon the West Wing to her rescue from the wolf pack that attacks her in the woods. Swiftly within a few pages you find Belle fleeing to rescue her father from illness, and before you know it the book is already over with "The End." Most of the storyline is told from the third-person perspective of three of the witches that assisted in cursing the Beast who are hellbent on driving him mad and aiding Gaston in

killing him. The first half is possibly the most interesting part because it's the most original and deviates from the original story the most. The Prince's origins are the most elaborated, adding twists that weren't there in the film. I would have loved this more if it were longer, like in the book "Maleficent." It just feels far too rushed. The second half of the book would have been far more entertaining were it from the Beast's third person perspective and not the evil witches'. It does make some references to other Disney characters in the Disney universe, and the reader will find that enticing. It really is a one-time read, though I'm a huge fan of the original, but I just wanted more from it. There seems to be a lot of missed opportunity from the author to take it to further reaches. If one sits down and really dedicates their attention to it, it can be finished within a day or two. Belle's and Beast's romance could have been explored in-depth much more, but it's hardly touched upon and breezed through. I hope someday a better adaptation is written with far-reaching details and hope-fulfilling content. The reader will just find it lacking overall, though sometimes enjoyable here and there. Don't expect a masterpiece here. I wish the publisher, author, and editor had spent more time dedicated to making it what the fans would appreciate; they really missed a big opportunity here.

Oh, my. First off, I have to start by saying that I absolutely love (as in want to marry) the Disney film 'Beauty and the Beast' (seriously, can anything be better than that wolf scene?) I also loved Serena Valentino's interpretation of the Evil Queen in her book 'Fairest of All'. Naturally, reading this book was a no-brainer. Unfortunately, the book didn't seem to have brains, either. While 'Fairest' heightened the story of Snow White and really made the Queen a more likeable (and understandable) character, 'Beast' muddled the story. It was obvious the book was rushed, and characters were not as fleshed out as they could have been. Valentino could have done a lot more with the Prince's backstory, but instead she tried to give him another "love" interest, made Gaston his hunting buddy (can you believe that?) and incorporated those three witches from 'Fairest' into the book. I don't entirely think this is her fault, however. I can practically hear her editor and publisher saying, "hurry up! Finish the book! We've got to get it out!" while reading each page, and unfortunately, the muddled plot shows. If you're a huge fan of 'Beauty and the Beast' like I am, then just watch the movie. Don't give yourself a headache trying to figure out how this backstory is possible.

This book was written so poorly that I actually researched the author to see if she happened to be a fourteen year old that Disney took pity on. The story itself could have had potential, but the actual

writing let me down page after page.

(jeffrey's wife) I was very disappointed. I'm a big B&B fan and I was excited at the idea of being able to see the other side, like Midnight Sun vs. Twilight. I looked all over locally for the book and finally decided to buy it on sale on Prime Day. It reads like bad fan fiction. It has intriguing ideas, but doesn't fully develop them. It bounces around, leaves things out, THEN tries to bring in parts of the movie, poorly. Towards the end I was basically skimming through it, just to finish it. I have 2 young readers I'll probably let read it, but I do feel like I wasted my money and effort. On the other hand, it gives me hope knowing that apparently I TOO could write something worthy of getting the Disney stamp.

I liked the story in itself and getting to know the previous life of the Beast. Though the part when the curse is becoming reality is too rushed off, so it's way too fast, and is not like you get to "hear" the servants speak in their enchanted forms, instead it looks like they are plain inanimate objects instead of the enchanted one we all love from the film. Not as good as I expected. I hope Ursula's story is better.

I love the Beast even as an adult and to be able to read something teenagers and adults can read is great. I happen to come across this by chance for new reading material for my daughter and it is so intriguing, sucks you right in.

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