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Hidden Huntress



Synopsis

Beneath the mountain, the king's reign of tyranny is absolute; the one troll with the capacity to challenge him is imprisoned for treason. Cecile has escaped the darkness of Trollus, but she learns all too quickly that she is not beyond the reach of the king's power. Or his manipulation. Recovered from her injuries, she now lives with her mother in Trianon and graces the opera stage every night. By day she searches for the witch who has eluded the trolls for 500 years. Whether she succeeds or fails, the costs to those she cares about will be high. To find Anushka, she must delve into magic that is both dark and deadly. The witch is a clever creature, and Cecile might not just be the hunter. She might also be the hunted.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Stolen Songbird, the first book in this trilogy was a magical read for me. It had a lovely romance that built on the characters getting to know each other, a very suspenseful and fast-paced plot, and an intriguing take on trolls and their mythology. The world-building was especially immersive, and I am delighted that all of the things I loved about the first book, is expanded and built upon beautifully in Hidden Huntress. There's already a lot of tension in this story because of the way the first book ended. While in the first book I did not always love the dual POV between Cecile and Tristan, in this book it was absolutely necessary and the two storylines meshed together perfectly. It's also a major plus that both storylines were equally riveting. Sometimes when a book switches to a different plot line at the end of a chapter, I feel frustrated and indifferent to the new direction the story takes

because I want to keep going with the other set of characters, but with *Hidden Huntress*, I was totally engrossed the whole way through. The author did such a wondrous job of keeping the pace and the interest in both plot lines pretty high all the way. This is such an excellently plotted book - there is no second-book syndrome here! With the romance between Cécile and Tristan being part of the reason why I loved the first book so much, I was afraid I wouldn't enjoy this one because of the circumstances from the first book. But again the author manages to keep the tension of the romance going despite the separation. And I was totally satisfied with every aspect of it. Cécile and Tristan have such great chemistry as characters - it's so easy to understand them and root for their happy ending.

Following up on Danielle Jensen's hit YA novel, *Stolen Songbird*, *Hidden Huntress* continues the story of Cecile and Tristan, and the trolls that influence their lives. Cecile is in Trianon, following in her mother's social footsteps and building her social and musical career while at the same time searching for Anushka, the woman who cursed the trolls so many centuries ago. Tristan is still trapped in Trollus, reviled by half-bloods and full-bloods alike for his deception, trying to regain influence and uncovering some disturbing truths along the way. The troll king wants freedom, wants Anushka's curse broken, and Angouleme wants control of the throne. Politics and prophesy come to a head as the layers get peeled back and the mystery comes undone. It's interesting to see Cecile and Tristan far apart for the better part of the book. With the two of them being magically bonded, they remain aware of the other's strong emotions, which influence them in various ways. Tristan's pain from having iron spikes shoved through his arms affects Cecile's health and energy. Cecile's bonded vow to the troll king to find Anushka brings Tristan to desperation, and the two feed off each other in a mostly detrimental way. I actually liked the way this was handled quite a bit, since it was a major inversion of how most psychic bonds are done in fiction, especially between two people in love. Most of the presentation of that bond were actually quite detrimental. The bond doesn't stop someone from cheating on their partner, for instance, but it does make the partner aware of what's going on, and the cheater feels the emotional pain of the one they've wronged. The death of one is often the death of the other.

4 STARS Well, that was certainly interesting! My feelings are all conflicted and discombobulated. On one hand I absolutely adored this book, but on the other, I had quite a few problems with it that just wouldn't settle. My love for these characters and this series runs deep from the first book, but this book lacked a lot of what I fell in love with from the beginning. But nevertheless, I still loved HIDDEN

HUNTRESS for its own reasons, and so excited to continue this series and finally see how it all ends. THE POSITIVE: The magic! I've always enjoyed the fierce magic of this world. The Troll magic is my favorite, it's raw and fierce, and a force not to be reckoned with. And I loved watching that magic be used and all the fun little things that could be done with it. I also liked the witches magic too, but that wasn't as strong or desirable as the trolls magic was. The witches magic was used through the earth, spells, and worst of all, blood magic. And that magic can get to be very dark, and it was almost as fun as the Trolls magic, almost. I still love my two favorite characters Cécile and Tristan, even if the romance lacked, which I will get into below. They were both broken and desperate, and riding the line of extreme. And that was a new side of both Cécile and Tristan, but also an interesting side of their characters vulnerability. Watching them endure and fight through each obstacles as it was thrown at them, just reminded me of why I loved them both so much from the very beginning. THE NEGATIVE: The romance! That was a HUGE let down for me in this highly anticipated sequel. I was expecting full blown chemistry and affection and a deep adoration between our main characters Cécile and Tristan.

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