



Starfire Angels

Melanie Nilles

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They've been coming here for thousands of years, using Earth as a sanctuary to escape threats from their own kind. Mankind knows them as angels, and one of them left a child upon her death to be raised as a human.

Raea is now a high school senior, and her life as a human is about to end. The crystal shard she bears is not a pretty pendant; it's a collective of powerful entities who chose her as their Keeper, a protector of one of the four shards that power a machine capable of destroying whole worlds. Those who desire the Starfire's power have sent an agent to find her, but she's too busy evading a nosy reporter ready to exploit her secret and dating a hot new foreign student to notice. Nevermind learning what she really is.

Only one person on Earth can help her, the last person she ever expected. But he's not from Earth. Life as a human would be so much easier.

Starfire Angels Details

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From Reader Review Starfire Angels for online ebook

Krys says

It is safe to say that I am uninterested in anymore books of this series. The characters lack depth and development, the plot lacks excitement and is inconsistently unrealistic. Not unrealistic in a sci-fi way but in a 'bad alibi' way. The author writes as if the reader is illiterate. The entire book just feels like a draft, like it's still in production and has yet to be critiqued and edited.

Sam Cristol says

For me, this book wasn't great. Even though the main character, Raea was nice and likeable, the characters did not seem fully developed. Pretty much, I felt like I was reading one of those beginning chapter books all over again. You know, the ones where it tells you the main story but not much character info, and is also very predictable? Yep. Well, that basically sums up Starfire Angels for you. The story had a nice, cute ending that was very predictable, but I really found it annoying how the main character acted. Every time something happened, she'd stutter while repeating what had happened. This book normally WOULD be good for a younger age, around 10-12 or so, except for the fact that Melanie Nilles tried to incorporate an older theme closer to the end. Either way, I think that is was ok, and that Melanie Nilles should definitely keep writing. Maybe this just isn't the type of book I need to read when I've had a bad day, and I'm looking for something deep.

Ruth says

Raea Dahlrich spent her entire life as a regular, ordinary teenager. Then senior year hits and her entire world changes. She wakes up one morning with wings. It turns out she's an alien from another planet. As if that isn't bad enough, her aunt (who is her guardian) brings her neighbor, Elis, over to help her adjust to her newfound identity.

The problem is Elis is also a creepy senior who keeps to himself, and now he's the one who has to help her adjust to being an alien. But there is a bright side to all of this. Pallin, the new good looking foreign exchange student, is actually paying attention to her. Then again, there is that pesky reporter who is snooping around and wanting to know about Raea's strange marks on her hands. Will the reporter find out Raea's secret? Will Raea end up with Pallin? Is Elis so creepy after all?

Those are the prevailing questions in this book. I really enjoyed this one. The perk (for me) was the humor. Now, this isn't a comedy. In fact there are some serious moments, but the way Raea thinks and her interaction with her friends provides some great light-hearted moments. I liked the reporter's quick thinking. This woman knew her job and did it well. I was constantly amazed at how her mind worked.

In my opinion, this book could be enjoyed by adult women. I know it says YA, and this book will definitely appeal to teens. I mean, who hasn't dealt with the pressures of high school or wondering if the guy likes you or not? So teens can definitely relate to the things Raea goes through. But adults can enjoy the more mature sub-plots. (I think there are some things adults will get that teens won't.) Melanie Nilles has woven in an

entertaining, fun, romantic, and sometimes serious science fiction story about a teenage alien girl who just wants to be normal again.

Josheka says

More of my reviews @ Reading 24x7

3.5 STARS

Sigh There was just so much potential in this story! The idea that angels might be some other creatures from another planet, in short "aliens", was something new to read for me and really innovative. The Shirukans(the bad guys) fighting with Inaris (Angels) for Starfire (as it would give them power) seemed believable. If only the characters were just as amazing as the concept...

I get that Raea didn't want to think of herself as an angel and how pressurized she must be feeling when all of a sudden, such a big responsibility was loaded on her. But her whining about it most of the time was not at all fun to read. And the stupid decisions she made, made her look like a spoilt 9 year old craving for some attention.

It was the typical, girl chooses bad guy over the good guy, the good guy tries to warn her and in return she slaps him and then when everything goes haywire (BECAUSE OF HER STUPIDITY) she runs back to the good guy and realizes her mistake and blah blah blah.

"None of this would have happened if she hadn't gone to see Pallin. She should have never let him charm her. "It's all my fault."

And this was my reaction when I read that->

Aside from Raea, I liked all the other characters in this book. Each of them had a different personality and were very realistic.

Overall, I wish there was a little more action, and a little less whining. I'm still contemplating whether to read the next book in the series or not. :/

Kristina says

Let me start off by saying this, if you liked Hush, Hush then I think you would like this one. If you hated Hush, Hush I think you would LOVE this one. I didn't hate Hush, Hush but I had mixed feelings about it. This one gave me no mixed feelings. I completely and totally adored it!

I'm not even sure about how to describe it. You think it's paranormal at first but it's more of a sci-fi story. I'll say this much though...I adored it. Melanie's writing style is excellent and she draws you in with her fast-paced story development.

The characters are great and a very "real" bunch of teenagers. There are surprises at every turn and the storyline was unique. I really recommend this one to YA and "fallen angel" fans as I think you'll find

something totally different and intriguing in this book.

Maverynthia says

I'm going to preface this review with a trigger warning for drugging and rape. It's something that needs to be said before someone reads this book and my review and have it bring up horrible memories.

Honestly I wanted to like this book more, but where the author took this book is just... wrong. If you think this book is about Raea, you'd be wrong and that is where most of the fault lies.

Nilles builds Raea up to be a strong character and about 70% into the book.. yeah. So much for that.

(view spoiler)

Another thing is that these angel people are supposed to be SOOOO technologically advanced, yet they fall into the standard gender dichotomies. Nilles writes "he needed the touch of a female," (dehumanizing language) "just as any man did." That wasn't written from the character's perspective either. Also, some of the "any man" out there that I know of prefer the touch of another man. So these scifi angel people haven't seemed to advance that far yet either.

Overall the book wasn't written badly, however where the book decided to take itself was into territory that it would have been better off just not going there. It could have easily ended that same way without the things happening at the end that seemed to steer the car off the road into "Don't-Go-Thereville"

J.S. says

Oh, Raea, you are a horrible person. In fact, a more hateful protagonist I never have met.

It's disappointing. Truly. Because the whole Inari concept is pretty intriguing and I can tell serious thought was put into the theory behind it. But the cast of characters through which the story is told falls atrociously short on all levels.

Starfire Angels begins with Raea in school. She's cursing her misfortune at being cornered by her best friend, Josh, and subjected to his geek out over the 'Dark Angel'. Such a hardship, giving time to her best friend's interests. I mean, a mysterious winged hero at work in a small town, how supremely dull!

Then an ill-timed vision overcomes her, she falls and is caught by the creepy outcast guy (who is strangely attractive...). This guy keeps to himself and hasn't ever done a damned thing against her but everyone mocks him, so she does too. That's fine, right?

And, so, there she is, touched by the weirdo in view of the whole class -oh crap, no. Worst day EVER! They're all gonna think he's her boyfriend and she's teased enough as it is.

Yeah, she gets bullied. Apparently because of the weird coloured splotches on her hands. I'd argue its surely more to do with her being a whiny-ass mare.

More woe-is-me strikes when wings shoot from her back, disturbing her slumber. Ok, sure, I'll concede: A freak out here is understandable. But is her focus on 'what the hell's with these wings? What could they mean?'...Nope. She's fretting about going to school with them and people thinking she's even more of a freak. A few deep breaths though, and phew, sleep returns. Yup, the growth of huge feathery wings is totally not worth losing sleep over.

Eighteen and of supposedly high intellect...erm, yeah, not buying it. The girl's development suggests 14y at most. Even then she makes for a particularly shallow and stupid example.

Her treatment for those who care for her is disgraceful, her obsession with the 'hot' Pallin is ridiculous (how blatantly dodgy can someone be???) and her reactions to the big revelations make her deserving of a huge high five to her face. She's all about the 'why me? Life is so unfair' and her reasoning for the over indulgent self pity is utterly skewed.

I didn't get much at all from her supporting cast, either. Nina, especially, is just plain absurd.

As for writing style, it's mind-numbingly repetitive and frequently nonsensical. The plot progression: Pure insanity.

If there was ever any doubt in my tenacity, the act of seeing this book through to its end eradicated that.

Shelley says

Raea is a small town girl, reaching the end of her school years and life hasn't been too kind along the way. Her parents are dead, she lives with her aunt's family, including the obligatory whelp of a younger cousin and an uncle who would prefer her to be elsewhere.

Life is about to get harder as Raea learns she isn't quite what she thought and her sudden popularity isn't to do with her sparkling personality, but more to do with her mother's necklace, her inherited abilities, and the politics of a land very, very far away.....

The stoy line of this and the next two books is interesting and well worth the read. But, for me, Raea is a selfish, immature young woman and I really haven't any liking for the character at all, much prefering the others who share her adverntures.

Considering everything she goes through, I was hoping Raea would learn to think "outside the box", the box being her total absorption in herself. Elis is lovely, her male friend Josh is great and her aunt is a heroine of the first order, as is the elderly, lonely woman who lives next door.

Perhaps at some point during the series, Raea will learn compassion and the desire to ease other people's hurt rather than wallowing in her own. the author does dwell on Raea's woes to the extent that I would like to slap

the girl. She avoids the pain of other's, appearing to resent their distress distracting from her own until I really didn't care how she felt and became indignant that she couldn't offer a shoulder for someone else to cry on when things became tough.

I've met many young people who have experienced life at its worst, and some shine with their triumph over what has been thrown at them to become far better people than many who have had it easy. Perhaps as this series progresses, Raea may learn some lessons too.

Nevertheless, an enjoyable and engrossing read, and I am pleased to have found it.

Maggie says

Okay, so this book absolutely sucked. The only reason why I finished it is because I absolutely have to finish things I start. One thing summarizes my feelings: This book reads ill-used cliche all over it.

Where do I begin with how it sucks?

1. Character development sucks.

It's been a day since I finished it and I don't remember who's in it anymore.

Does that say something?

All I remember is that the story is cliched, the girl is so ear gratingly annoying in how stupid, immature, and naive she is (does this girl know anything?!?!), and who she ended up with was so obvious that it wasn't even funny. And we don't even get a hint at anything cool about the characters' backgrounds at all, other than a glimpse of their "angel" background. And THAT wasn't even explained fully, if at all, ever. All we know is that there's a group of good guys with a select few of privileged powerful people and a group of bad guys and that's it. Gee, so original.

2. No real engaging plot.

Seriously, everything was so obvious that it wasn't worth reading. She finds out about her identity, is torn between two guys (of which one is socially outcast and the other amazingly gaga gorgeous *GAG* but we all know who she ends up with) and the phrase "beauty is only skin deep" is taken to literally here that the meaning was ridiculous.

In my opinion, the best bad guys are the ones who aren't outwardly bad. Like, they don't do common criminal junk. A real bad guy has an intricate plan, and will actually succeed in some parts and change the protagonist(s) in ways that are good and bad. If it's a complete one sided win, then what was the point of the challenge? Why was it important? I felt that this important aspect was missing in this novel, and it really, really made my respect for this book plummet.

I do NOT recommend this book. I'm too mean to say it, so I won't... but seriously, this book is not worth your time.

Andrea says

Starfire Angels is about a girl who finds out she isn't human, she is what humans call angels. She bears a pendant which is actually one of four crystal shards that have the power to destroy the world. Raea is the Keeper of one of the shards.

Raea is confused at first and furious at her aunt for not telling her the truth. She must learn about her family, her past and how to protect the shard.

Meanwhile, a new guy starts at school who is actually an agent sent by those who want to steal the shard. He starts to date Raea to get close to her so he can steal the shard.

At the same time, a reporter comes to town looking for angels and does everything she can to exploit Raea's secret.

Raea finds an unexpected friend in Elis a fellow student though a bit of an outcast. Turns out he is an angel too sent to Earth to teach about who she is.

This book has an interesting concept which a lot of potential. However, I found it to be predictable. There were no twists and turns. For example, it is obvious who the antagonists are right away, even if the author was trying to conceal it.

I enjoyed reading about Raea and Elis' developing relationship and I do plan to read the rest of the series to find out what happens between them. Their relationship starts out rocky as he is an outcast at her school and she just wants to be popular. She wants to worry about being a normal high school human girl. Slowly, she learns to accept and like who she is.

The book was an easy read and I do plan to read the rest of the series. I hope that we get a glimpse into Raea's world and her family.

Traci says

This book was almost painful to get through. It had such promise and I feel like it was just wasted.

Basically, this girl is belittling her friend for following some story about an angel that saves people in their town, and then she has some memories of before she was born, and then she realizes that she's of the same species that the angel is, and that they're aliens, and that this crystal she apparently has is... I don't know, another race of aliens all trapped inside crystal shards, or something, that she is charged with protecting. So she's an angel, but she's an alien. Oh, and she can hide her wings.

I literally am having a hard time remembering the names of the characters and I always write reviews right away so my thoughts are fresh. I *do* remember that every single one of them were brats, especially the main character, whom I really wanted to like. But no matter what was going on, she was bitching about it. I don't want to learn how to use my special power. I don't want to hang out with you. I don't want to listen to your stories. I hate this crystal. I'm so special. I can't take it. Blah blah blah. She bitched about her friends. She bitched about her friends' hobbies. She bitched about having to be the "outcast" because of the aquamarine

birthmarks on her hands. And then he turns around and every thought she has about this other main character guy is judgmental and basically exactly what everyone is doing to her.

She's supposed to be eighteen. Based on her age and her single-minded obsession over whatever boy is being nice to her that week, I'd put her at MAYBE thirteen.

I found parts of it unrealistic, like the fact that the main character speaks this alien language perfectly even though she hasn't heard it at all since the age of five (I think), and that all of her memories have been repressed except when the consciousness in her crystal shard shows them to her. Or the fact that she completely falls in love with this guy that she thinks is a creepy goth within the span of a week. Or the fact that she *learns* all of this stuff in a week. Or the fact that the good guy (the creepy goth guy) is all knowledgeable about their angel/alien background but *neglects to care that they shed feathers all over the place*.

Why didn't someone stop and think to pick up the alien feathers from the scene? Especially since the goth guy felt the need to explain how they were different from bird feathers.

Overall... just not really a book for me. I finished it because I felt compelled to and I already can't really remember it.

Carl J. says

A nice blend of sci-fi and paranormal, June 3, 2012

Amazon Verified Purchase(What's this?)

This review is from: Starfire Angels (Starfire Angels: Dark Angel Chronicles Book 1) (Kindle Edition) Teenager Rae is different. She doesn't feel like she fits in. So far so good (or bad, for her). Maybe it's the wings. Or that she's an alien. Or the problems that crop up after she discovers her wings. Or that she's an alien.

Did I mention she's an alien?

I read this a while back, but there are parts of the story that have stuck with me, perhaps because the author spoke to me in so many ways, to my years as an awkward teenager years ago. While I never want to go back to those years, I'm grateful for the chance to revisit them through Rae.

The writing is very good. Not perfect. There are certainly weaknesses. But all in all the story is well-plotted and the twists and conflicts and solutions reasonable, if sometimes a bit predictable. Some of the secondary characters felt a bit shallow. But all that is forgiveable for what Nilles offers in terms of Rae's world and her innermost thoughts.

A very good book, well worth the read. A solid 4 stars.

Cheryl says

All of Raeas life, she knew she was different. She would have these weird dreams about her parents and a strange world. It was like the events were really but that couldn't be possible as Raeas has never been to this place. Raeas Aunt Debbie and her Uncle Mike can't offer any insight to why Raeas keeps having these dreams. Besides these dreams, Raeas has another secret...she has a pair of angel wings. Her Aunt, Uncle and friends don't even know about her wings.

As if having wings wasn't bad enough, Raeas lives in McClarron, North Dakota, a town with a small population. Raeas just wants to be a normal girl but it is hard. McClarron, North Dakota seems to be a place of interest lately. Raeas friend Josh is obsessed with strange happenings of a mysterious being known as Dark Angel. No one really knows much about this Dark Angel. A television reporter from Xplorer Channel wants to do a special on the Dark Angel. This could spell trouble for Raeas, as this reporter could expose her secrets. Also what is up with the new guy at school, Pallin Montran?

Author Melanie Nilles is a new author for me. I thought she did bring a refreshing look between the genres of sci-fi and paranormal. Starfire Angels wasn't too out there that it wasn't believable but at the same time may a paranormal fan like me think this was a pretty good book. The only reason I say this book is pretty good is because, while I did find Raeas interesting and the storyline intriguing, the rest of the characters didn't draw me in and make me interested in knowing them. So a little bit of my interest did slip while reading this book. Starfire Angels did have me flying away in a good way.

Heather McGinn says

Well, you get what you pay for. While the story had promise and potential, everything was rushed and poorly executed. I was extremely intrigued to find out where the Angels were truly from, however, I was disappointed to see it so underdeveloped. This was a free Kindle download and so I can't complain to much, especially as it was so short.

There were several typos, the dialog was hurried and some points confusing, and the plot, while promising, became absolutely absurd! The story begins with Raeas failing instantaneously for Pallin, the foreign exchange student to which I felt no attachment. Immediately, the creepy and nerdy Ellis enters the story to which I also feel no connection.

Raeas quickly learns that everyone in her life has lied to her, her deceased mother and step father, her adopted Aunt and Uncle, and even the little old lady from church that lives next door. Raeas wakes one night from a painful nightmare with wings protruding from her back and the adventure begins as Raeas slowly discovers her true origin.

Sort of ridiculous that they can shrink and grow their wings. If it was part of who they are, an appendage then why would they need to grow and shrink it, particularly if it is so painful? It would be like me shrinking away my legs when they aren't in use. Then, there is the reporter that is constantly harassing Raeas, a child. How is it plausible that a reporter would be allowed to stalk and harass a teenager like she is the paparazzi?

Overall, disappointing read but at least it didn't consume a lot of my time. It took me days upon days to get through this because it was so boring. I'm sure it was meant to be just an afternoon read.

Jagged says

Alien angels. Well alright then!

Raea was a horrible character. Very self absorbed, selfish, conceited, shallow, and rude. I didn't like anything about her. There were a lot of contradictions in this book. Raea was having conflicting thoughts about Elis because he wasn't popular...nice. And one of her excuses was that she barely knew him....yet that wasn't a reason to not like Pallin. Eh.

Raea was very childish for a supposed 18 year old. She was a horrible friend to all of her friends. Especially to poor Josh. She didn't deserve his loyalty. She made a terrible girlfriend even to Pallin. She was awfully clingy for having known the guy for only a few days. She didn't deserve Elis, nor being a protector of anything in my opinion. I am having an issue with all these books having an inept, spoiled, and shallow main character. It really is boring.

I hated Nina, but I didn't think killing her off was necessary.

The action was boring. And was it really necessary to have Raea be raped? It just seemed like filler to me. I suppose it was used to rile Elis up for blood, but that was stupid. And it was taken so lightly. Elis pushed and pushed Raea and refused to respect her wishes on that. Which is something very private. I felt it did not fit in to his character.

Anyone else notice that Raea couldn't think for herself at all? She followed everyone else's lead. And she is supposed to be a Keeper? I can't possibly see how she would be successful.
