



Wind That Shakes the Seas and Stars

Lightning on the Wave

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Fandom: Harry Potter

Relationship: Draco Malfoy/Harry Potter

AU of OoTP, Slytherin!Harry, HPDM slash. Snape begins the year with a mistake that sets his ward against him. Now Harry is using all his own considerable cunning to ride out the multiple storms, even as the Second War goes into motion.

Wind That Shakes the Seas and Stars Details

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From Reader Review Wind That Shakes the Seas and Stars for online ebook

Kate says

This book is long. This book is *really* long. This is longer than Atlas Shrugged. This is as long as the entire Lord of the Rings trilogy--twice. This book is too damn long.

"But Katey," you say. "Remembrance of Things Past is my favorite book. I re-read War and Peace every year. I am not afraid of a long book."

Well, hypothetical reader of my review (not sure who you are, no one reads my reviews), neither am I. If all of the hundreds of thousands of words are used well. And in this case...they're not.

Okay, this is fanfiction. I recognize that. It was written and posted chapter by chapter and not edited as a whole, which leaves me amazed that there is a *coherent* plot, let alone the overall quite excellent one that was produced. And admittedly, it has fewer typographical, spelling, and grammatical errors than some books I have read that are published and presumably did have a professional editor working on them (the notable exception being the author's use of "insure" when "ensure" is meant. I suppose it could be a valid regional variation, but I looked it up and couldn't find any evidence of that, so I think it's just one of very, very few errors in this, and it is unfortunately repeated often). Where the editing is really needed is in the content. I feel like there are a few conversations that Harry has over and over again with different characters, for example. Yes, it makes sense that he would have to tell these people separately, but it is not valuable to the reader to entirely repeat information that we already know from the last time he told someone. I can remember a few instances of redundancy in dialogue like that. In other places, it probably would have just benefited the book to cut down the overall verbosity.

Sometimes I thought back to something that had happened previously in the series, sure that it had been one or two books ago, and realized it was earlier in the same book. It felt like too much was going on in such a short period of time.

All of that said, I did enjoy it. I will continue to read this series. I just think it could have benefited from having about 10% cut from it, which still would have left it as a long book, but with a better use of that length.

Debbie Hazeleger says

still one of the greatest Au's I've ever read

Marwa says

Holy shit. And I thought that book 4 was long.

Colleen says

This might be the best one in the series. It's hard to tell -- in large part because the characters do SUCH a good job at growing and changing from one book to the next! -- but I think it really hits its stride here.

Ian says

The odd thing that Lightning on the Wave can do is make me hate the characters' choices and actions at times, and yet still furiously flip through more chapters in a vigorous dedication and obsession. The writing's just too good, so vibrant, imaginative, that I rail against the story enthralled with it's brilliance.

***Mature content:** The language and content in this installment is *so* much dirtier than the others. The others were so innocent of words and sexual mention that this part of the Sacrifices Arc is downright filthy. Nothing explicit, no sex scenes, but uncouth if amusing references and insults to it. It's actually quite hilarious and yet fairly disconcerting at the same time -- likely indicative of a poor transition and integration of more rough prose and descriptions, but still (always) a good read.

***Lucius/Narcissa:** (view spoiler)

***Henrietta and Rosier:** Approve. Continue. (Am I seeing a complementary theme here?)

***Voldemort:** (view spoiler)

***Magic over blood:** (view spoiler)

***Harry's mind:** (view spoiler)

*The Light Lord's magic: (view spoiler)

*The Dark Lord: (view spoiler)

***The battles:** (view spoiler)

choice quotes:(view spoiler)

Janina says

It's long ... really long. And some parts .. mostly Harry's internal struggles and some details about minor characters are maybe a bit too long. But, it's still one of my favorite works of fiction. Despite not being original fiction, it's amazing what the author did with what little (compared to this world) JKR provided. All those spells, the way magic works, the differences between light and dark magic, the ideas about freedom and will, the magical creatures, the villains, the battle scenes, politics and rituals ... it is simply breathtaking. I can't wait to continue on this journey ... though I will keep myself from reading on for a while. Despite the vastness of the story, it is still far too short and I hate the fact that it does end eventually.

M says

I have come to absolutely adore this series. I have been thinking what exactly is so brilliant about it, and I have come to the conclusion that it is the psychology and the world-building as well as the plot(s). It's also very intense, and I love intensity.

Now, you can say that this world is built upon that which was thought up by JK Rowling. True. But 'Lightning on the Wave' has expanded upon Rowling's world so much that it has taken on a life of its own. Rituals and culture, both Dark and Light, spells, magical creatures, original characters and the expansion of canon characters that were mostly mentioned in passing in the original books, the way Magic behaves. It's stunning.

And the psychology. I love the psychology in these books. The way characters grow and develop, turn out to be traitors or turn to Harry's cause, also the way we are persuaded to care about and sympathize with characters who have been or are still pretty evil or unpleasant. Unpleasant people (Dark but also Light) have good traits as well, and people who you expect to be good (Light but also Dark) do bad things. Draco, Harry's lover, is still often an arrogant brat. Lucius Malfoy is strong and protective, but also cruel and vindictive. Snape goes on a journey of his own, but he doesn't suddenly turn into a sweet guardian, he's still bitter and unpleasant to most. Morality, convictions, relativity, everything is being scrutinized. It's all so layered, gradual and realistic.

The numerous plotlines are pretty brilliant. How someone can think them up, start them subtly, pick them up later, while finishing other plotlines and starting yet new ones, it's beyond my capabilities. Generally I don't like reading about politics, but the way it is interwoven with the adventures, the drama and the personal journeys of the characters I don't mind it one bit here.

I really hope that the author will be or is already writing an epic original story that can be published, because they are very, very talented. To me this series is really up there with the likes of Terry Goodkind's Sword of Truth series. And it really does surpass the original Harry Potter books in many ways.

Finnegan says

Starting to read this...more than 700 000 words... Is going to keep me busy!

Finally finished it. This is next-level fanfiction, the original story has been expanded and evolved into a great fantasy novel. So much detail and imagination, it blew my mind. This is not an easy read, though. It is DARK, angsty, and very long. But well worth it in the end.

Errant says

I have to give 5 stars - not because it was perfect, but it was close enough. It hurts. Sometimes it hurt so much, but never too much. And I can bear the torture scenes as well (especially Lucius with Lily and James Potter - that was precious!) but there were times when I wished so very hard that someone finally would slap Harry in the face with a big and smelly fish (literally), but I know that every little flow he has what relly made me angry is part of the reason why I love this series so much. Yes, I started to read Saving Connor about a week and a half ago but (or because of that) it's very part of my daily live.

The scene where my heart broke (long before Fawkes did what he did) when Neville helped with his magic and said something like that that the Light knows the worth it, the Light asked his help. And then (a few days after) Harry also asked his help and he said to him that he can't hide anymore from him. Neville is one of my favourite canon characters, from the beginning (I mean Socerer's Stone, halfway maybe when he stood up againts our little Golden Trio.) along with Severus (he is from the first Potions class, that man can use alliterative words really well) and Fred (I relly hoped he won't die here as well - interesting though, I don't like George).

And another confession: I always hated Lily. Canon-Lily, fanfiction-Lily, it doesn't matter. He hurt my little darling and she finally paid for it (although here not because of her sins against Severus, but Harry, nonetheless, I'm happy about it. Does it make me a bad person?)

Dominique says

Oh my word.

I did not realise how long this was. It took me so long to read that I was starting to feel really disheartened by the whole process because I was reading for HOURS everyday and making hardly any progress.

I enjoyed it, but it was much too long. I understand that there was a certain level of detail that was necessary for the 274629 sub-plots, but it got a bit much.

I enjoyed this, but it was so freaking long. So much so that I don't actually remember enough to make meaningful comments.

I have decided to take a break from this series until my December holidays when I have more time. Although, since it does get so much darker, I might stop here. I'll have to see how I feel.

Brian says

Very good, but soooo long.

Julesmarie says

So, I was curious and just went to double check word counts on the longest books I can remember reading.

The Shadow Rising: 393,823 words

Les Misérables: 530,982 words

War and Peace: 587,287 words

Atlas Shrugged: 645,000 words

Which officially makes this (at 786,063 words) the longest story I have ever read. But, wow, has it been worth it! Even coming off of the almost 1 million words that make up the first four stories, I find myself fascinated enough with this world and these characters that I'm not beginning to tire of them.

I mentioned in my review for #4 that I agreed wholeheartedly with another reviewer who'd said that this was the most well-crafted fantasy world she'd ever read. I can't help but reiterate that again here. The stories are so long because they're so fantastically and beautifully well-described. Each of the characters is fleshed out and so, so human. We get to go through their moments of triumph with them, as well as their moments of disappointment, terror, frustration, or loss. I find myself more attached to this Harry, this Draco, and this Snape than I've been to almost any other fictional character in any other story.

I enjoyed this one even more than the previous ones, because it feels like Harry is coming more and more into his power. He's coming to know himself better and is in more control and able to rely on others more when he knows he needs to. Because of that, he's able to accomplish things he's not been able to before. And Draco is right there with him every step of the way.

(view spoiler)

The battle in this one has to be my new favorite battle in any Harry Potter story I've read yet--actual cannon or fanfic. The spells are more original, the action is more nail-biting, and getting to see so many of the characters I've come to love so much involved was amazing.

One of my favorite things of this series so far: (HUGE spoiler, I just couldn't NOT say this!)(view spoiler)

This journey reading these stories has been fantastic, and I'm so very glad there are still over a million words to go before I have to say goodbye to this world and these characters!

Favorite Quotes

"If you hurt him," said McGonagall softly, "I will Transfigure you into a mouse and set you loose in the castle."

Now we can either stand here asking whose fault it is, which frankly strikes me as a boring way to spend an argument,

No one's mistake means the end of everything. We can inflict deep wounds, but the wounds can heal.

Be savage, and be fierce, and be free-willed.

The onerous tasks are usually life itself, not something to be pushed aside so you can enjoy life.

In fact, Lucius was more than usually pleased with the world today. He did hope that wouldn't affect the way that he planned to torture James Potter. He would hate to think he was being kind.

"Sometimes you simply have to say fuck caution."

"So many people we could have been, so many things we could have done, so many other roads we might have walked, broken and stripped away."

The woman who, more than any other, had made him what he was, but not what he might become.

"Ah," said Vera. "I see by your scowl that you appear to have arrived at a conclusion."

"For we are alive in the past as in the future, and the present is the moving shuttle that connects the tapestries of both."

"When you've hung on thorns intent on eating your heart for two months," said Rosier softly, "cold doesn't seem to really matter anymore, and neither does hunger, and neither does sorrow. Poetry does," he added, as if he thought he should clarify that for Harry. "But poetry always matters."

They would continue moving, and choosing from day to day, and likely arguing until they had hammered out all the sources of Harry's anger and distrust, and Snape's anger and overprotectiveness, and then they would find new sources of anger and distrust and overprotectiveness.

"You're offering me a duel?" he asked Moody.

"Yes." Moody grinned wolfishly as he pulled out his wand. "You don't get a chance to have a proper one often, do you, boy? It's charging about and wandless magic this and draining Voldemort that."

"They're being hypocritical, and I don't know about you, but I don't want to struggle uphill through vast wastes of idiocy just to propitiate people who claim to value what we already have."

"Allow them to feel emotions in peace, but not to control your actions."

George was trying to contemplate a he instead of a they, a future that did not have Fred in it, and getting nowhere.

(view spoiler)
