



# Cold Iron

*D.L. McDermott*

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## **Cold Iron** D.L. McDermott

For fans of Jeaniene Frost and Kresley Cole, this full-length novel is the first in D.L. McDermott's fast-paced, sexy paranormal romance series—available exclusively in ebook!

The Fae, the Good Neighbors, the Fair Folk, the Aes Sídhe, creatures of preternatural beauty and seduction. Archaeologist Beth Carter doesn't believe in them. She's always credited her extraordinary ability to identify ancient Celtic sites to hard work and intuition—until she discovers a tomb filled with ancient treasure but missing a body. Her ex-husband, the scholar who stifled her career to advance his own, is unconcerned. Corpses don't fetch much on the antiques market. Gold does. Beth knows from past experience that if she isn't vigilant, Frank will make off with the hoard.

So when a man—tall, broad shouldered, and impossibly handsome—turns up in her bedroom claiming to be the tomb's inhabitant, one of mythic god-kings of old Ireland, Beth believes it is a ploy cooked up by her ex-husband to scare her away from the excavation.

But Conn is all too real. Ancient, alien, irresistible, the Fae are the stuff of dreams and nightmares, their attentions so addictive their abandoned human lovers wither and die. And this one has fixed his supernatural desire on Beth.

## **Cold Iron Details**

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Author : D.L. McDermott

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# From Reader Review Cold Iron for online ebook

**Marcela (BookaholicCat) says**

4 ½ Stars

Originally Posted at The Bookaholic Cat

Cold Iron is the first installment in the Cold Iron series by D.L. McDermott.

Reading a debut novel is almost like buying a lottery ticket (especially if there are not yet reviews for that book). You invest your money (time) and hope for a winning ticket (book). Sometimes you don't win anything (a bad book), sometimes you get a small price (a book with some potential), other few times you get a second best price (a good book with a few problems) and rarely you get the winning ticket (a book that surprise you and leaves you wanting for more).

I played the lottery when I requested Cold Iron and I'm happy to say I got a winning ticket.

Beth Carter is an archaeologist trying to survive in a man's world. Something made harder thanks to her ex-husband, Frank, and his manipulations. He has earned the recognition she deserved for her work and there is not much she can do about it. Even after divorcing him he continues to exploits Beth's ability to identify ancient Celtic sites and gets the credit for it, but Beth is done with Frank and his antics, especially after he desecrated their latest site in Ireland, a tomb preserved in perfect condition, the only thing missing was the body of the inhabitant of the tomb, something Frank didn't care about.

Beth is tired of Frank machinations, she knows he will try to scare her away from the site, so he can steal artifacts to sell them in the black market. What Beth wasn't expecting was a man showing up in her room at the inn she was staying, saying his name is Conn and he's the inhabitant of the tomb and asking for his missing sword. Beth thinks he's an actor paid by Frank to scare her away. She has had enough and decides to return to the US to denounce Frank with the museum authorities.

In Boston, Beth is surprised when she receives a shipment made by Frank on her name. After further examination Beth discovers Frank mailed the artifacts under her name to incriminate her. But what really worries Beth is that Conn has come to Boston looking for her and his sword. After some encounters with him she can't deny that he is what he says he is, one of the Fae. A ruthless "man" that won't stop at anything to get what he wants, including her.

I really liked Beth; she's a strong heroine that grows page after page. She has been used in the past and is tired of it, so she takes the reins of her life and is willing to do anything to survive, including allying with a man like Conn, whom she finds very attractive, attraction she won't act upon because she knows the consequences of loving a Fae. They use the women and leave them to die after making them addicted to their "attentions".

Conn is used to get what he wants when he wants, so when Beth says No to him he finds it frustrating but intriguing. Conn starts as a cold, unfeeling character until his interaction with Beth make him considering his actions. He knows he wants Beth as he hasn't wanted anybody before, he also knows he needs to change for her to accept him, something not easily done after millennia of being simple a Fae and taking what he wants.

Beth and Conn's relationship develops slowly, they not only need to learn to trust each other to be together, they also need to adjust to their circumstances, the Fae touch is addictive to humans and the last thing they want is for Beth to suffer from it. I really liked them together, I liked how Beth made Conn softer and I liked

how Conn gave strength to Beth to become a better and stronger woman.

From the secondary characters I liked Beth's friend, Helene, she's sassy, smart and strong. The other character I really liked is the Fae, Miach MacCecht. Miach is mysterious in a good way, it's clearly he has a good heart, a heart that is interested in Helene. The second book, Silver Skin, will be their book and saying I can't wait to read it is the understatement of the year.

The Fae D.L. McDermott gives us in her debut novel are the ones I like, they are not sweet and caring, they are scary and unfeeling, just the way I imagine them to be. At the same time "some of them" are redeemable, they just need to find a good woman to make them want to be better. That was the case of Conn; seeing him go through that transformation was a very nice treat.

The world D.L. McDermott created in Cold Iron is complex and solid. The plot is engaging and with enough twists and turns to have you glued to the pages and leave you wanting for more. So much, that I'm counting the days left to April 14th, to get my hands on the next installment of this series, Silver Skin.

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## **Melindeeloo says**

Archaeologist Beth has a knack for finding sites of Celtic significance, career-wise she's shackled to her douche of an ex-husband who light-fingered valuable artifacts from their latest discovery in Ireland and he smuggled them into the States in her luggage, so that she'll take the fall if she tells. One of the items is a sword of great importance to the Fae, and its Guardian, ancient Fae warrior Conn, wants it back. But Conn also wants Beth - since somehow she can resist his glamor it makes the chase more of a challenge - but other Fae are on the hunt for the sword and for Beth too.

I really liked Cold Iron (which is still 1.99 on kindle at the time I posted this.) Conn starts out icy, alien and cold and far from hero material- Conn's accustomed to taking his due from the humans around him by using his ability to control and compel. So initially, he's death in a beautiful and seductive package since the normal outcome of being touched by a Fae leads to obsession and a wasting death - not the stuff of any girl's romantic fantasy. However Conn decides he wants the challenge of winning Beth to his bed without his magic, and that pursuit gives him a chance to thaw before they hook up and the transition makes the nicely steamy romance work.

I started out feeling really sorry for Beth -her ex truly has her painted into a corner. But despite the fact that she has been so stomped on by her ex that she starts out pretty pathetic, Beth quickly decides to take her life back and she gains strength in her dealings with the Fae, and she grows to the point that by the end of the story she is a victim no longer.

The secondary characters of the Fae sorcerer Miach and Beth's friend Helen are strong and the set ups for them as the next up starring pair ( in Silver Skin which I pre-ordered) are all good and I also liked the character who I am guessing will be the lead in the third book (Stone Song). I am really looking forward to more of the Fae and where the story goes next.

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## Christal says

*See this review and others like it at [Badass Book Reviews!](#)*

D.L. McDermott's new paranormal romance series, *Cold Iron*, got off to a fun if slightly bumpy start with **Cold Iron**. This series delves into Celtic mythology and the fae but places them in a modern setting. Some of the fae have always been part of our society, but others have been locked away for centuries. This book follows shy archeologist Beth and domineering warrior fae Conn.

One of **Cold Iron**'s strongest aspects was the world building. The fae are not nice people in this book; they are cruel and uncaring, almost alien. They definitely do not feel or react like humans and have some very specific ideas on what we are good for. The human druids decided to turn against their fae masters and sent away as many of them as they could, unless there was a way they could use a specific fae here or there. These "useful" fae weren't sent to another dimension like most of their kin, but they were locked away in tombs until the druids had need of them. A few fae escaped the druids and have gone on to live at the fringes of society.

Conn is one of the fae that was locked away in a tomb and Beth unknowingly frees him. While they are in Ireland, you can see the old beliefs concerning the fae are still prevalent, but not all-consuming. The elder people respect Conn, but they also don't want to let him take Beth. They try to work around him without directly opposing him. It's an interesting dynamic. When Beth and Conn return to the US, the beliefs are completely different. No one believes in the fae here and Conn finds he has to learn how to work within the confines of this new society.

**Cold Iron** had some really fascinating characters. Beth is an archeologist that should be famous. She has a sixth-sense when it comes to choosing dig sites and is very capable. Her problem is that she made a horrible choice of a husband and now, even though they divorced, he is controlling her career since his name was attached to every dig they did while married. He already had a well-known reputation and he uses it to keep Beth down -- to make her feel like she can't strike out on her own because no one would finance her without him. Come to find out, there are even more sinister things that happened and continue to happen between Beth and her ex; I just felt so bad for the lady. She does come into her own in this book though and I am really interested to see her progress with her newfound abilities.

I wasn't quite as sold on Conn as I was on Beth. He started off as a pretty horrible character. He was one of the "god-kings" of old that thought humans were to be used and thrown away. He was basically a rapist back in the day, even though he used glamour to make the women think they are consenting. Then, when he was done with them, he would just leave them and they would waste away from want. When he first lays eyes on Beth, he decides he's going to take her and it's only the touch of cold iron that allows her to keep her wits. Throughout **Cold Iron**, Conn did learn what it means to love and wants to take care of Beth, but it was still kind of hard to forget his past. I did like him and Beth together and I do think he is a different person now, but it's almost like his past was glossed over and the reader wasn't meant to think too hard about how terrible he was before.

As much as I did enjoy reading about Conn and Beth, I think my favorite characters in **Cold Iron** were Helene and Miach. Helene was Beth's beautiful, Amazonian friend from the museum and Miach was an ally to Conn. I'm excited that they will be featured in the next book! There's major sparkage between the two of them, but I'm just not sure how they will overcome the events of this book.

*Cold Iron* seems like it will become a very intriguing series. There are a lot of great ideas here concerning the fae and the use of Celtic mythology. D.L. McDermott knows how to write a steamy scene and the plot had a nice tension throughout. While I didn't love Beth and Conn as a couple 100%, I do think this series has promise and I am especially excited for the next book, Silver Skin.

*Thank you to Netgalley and Pocket Star for providing a review copy of this book!*

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## **Marlene says**

Originally published at The Book Pushers

I have serious mixed feelings about this book.

On one side, the plot and worldbuilding were cool. We have an archaeologist with the talent for finding faery mounds and burial sites by “dowsing” through a map. And then she finds a burial mound that is still in use, because the fae folk, sometimes known as the Aes Sidhe or the Tuatha de Danaan, were not just real but a few of them are still around.

And they are not nice faeries; they are terrible and beautiful. The story even makes a nod to the Disneyfication of the fae by explaining that we created those sweet stories to explain away the original amoral versions.

Even the idea that the ancient Druids were not just real, but actually the enemies, make that the downright nemesis, of the fae, was an interesting concept.

However, when it got down to the actual hero and heroine, there were more than a few things that bothered me.

A lot.

Beth Carter, our heroine, is the archaeologist. She's tremendously talented, but her entire career has been sabotaged by her ex-husband, who charms everyone else, but seriously abused her. Physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, you name it, he did it. And he's still dealing out career abuse right, left and center, and she's still taking that part.

I know academic politics are vicious, but that she never completely broke away set my teeth on edge.

And when she discovers the fae mound that contains the hero, Conn, things get even crazier. Because of course he's instantly attracted to her, but because she's suffered so much abuse she has completely buried her sexual impulses. And Conn has just the magic to “cure” her of all her trauma. The magic peen strikes again.

There's even an element of the magic va-jay-jay, because Beth turns out to be the first woman who has ever made him feel anything emotional in centuries.

Then it turns out that Beth is a druid, even though she doesn't know it. Her power is supposed to be so awesome, except that someone needs to die for her to come into her power. In the plot, it seems that she gets

pregnant just so that she can have a miscarriage in the climax of the story and use the innocent sacrifice to gain her powers.

Beth just gets traumatized way too much and often, but Conn loving her cures all.

But while Beth keeps taking abuse, and getting kidnapped and drugged (again, her ex pulled that trick before) there's the story of the fae living in the modern world, how they survive, and that some of them will do anything to bring the old ways back.

The secondary characters in the story were often more interesting than the main characters., Particularly the sorcerer Miach who has sired a whole clan of half-fae and is the gang lord of South Boston. (I think his story is the next book in the series, and I want to read it)

However, the way that Beth gets not just beaten, but beaten up at every turn hit too many triggers for me. It's great that she got past everything, but there was too much everything. I liked the plot, but not the way the heroine started out as a victim and kept getting victimized.

I give Cold Iron a C.

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### **Holly says**

Oh my gosh, I *loved* this book! I picked it up as a kindle daily deal, never having heard of it before but was intrigued by the synopsis. I love books about mythology, and I'm so glad that I read this! I adored how the Celtic mythology was interwoven with the modern day world. And I adored the two main characters, and I'm happy that their POVs were distinct. Our heroine, Beth, is intelligent, quick-witted, and courageous. She was the perfect blend of vulnerability and strength, and I loved her growth. Our hero, Conn, is tortured, protective, and fierce. He came from a world that prided itself on violence and destruction, and he realized how bad those ideals were when he met Beth. A woman who matched him, who was his equal. Their romance developed quickly, to be sure, but it was believable. And steamy! Such great banter, between them, and with all of the other characters. The secondary ones added such a rich element to the story, and I can't wait to read more about them in the rest of the books! The plot was great, tangled with so much Celtic mythology but it was never very confusing. It was a quick read, and one that I enjoyed immensely. And I'm so glad that this was a standalone, and that *Silver Skin* focuses on Helene and Micah. I can't wait to read their story! :)

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### **Rachel V. says**

I love reading Fae books and this was no exception. This book also combines a lot of things I enjoy reading about such as archaeology, Fae, Celtic history and Druids.

Beth's character showed a lot of growth through the book. We learn of how she was stifled as a child and how her ex-husband treated her but also we see how strong she has become and that she can stand up for herself. I was not expecting the revelation about Beth although I should have expected it. It just helped to thicken the plot. I am glad to see that in the next book that we still follow Beth's progress. I really enjoyed learning her heritage with her as well as seeing just how strong she really is. Beth's best friend was a great character also I suspect we will see her more often in the next book.

What I am looking forward to the most in the next book is Beth's training. I can't wait to see what she is capable of and how she gets trained by a Fae. I also am looking forward to seeing how Miach progresses as he tries to get Helene to choose him. I have a feeling there may be some funny moments coming there. Conn was a perfect blend of arrogance and lethality that he was a perfect Fae. The only thing I didn't completely like was that Conn almost changed to fast and to perfectly in the book to become what he is by the end. However whether you believe it or not he is still a great addition to the story.

This series shows great promise and I can't wait to get my hands on the next book so that I can see what happens next. I am curious how the Prince finds his way back because I am sure in the future that he will along with the council. It may take a few books but that is my thoughts.

\*I received this book free from the author in exchange for an honest review.\*

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## Delta says

3.5 Stars

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## Lynsey (A Bookish Life) says

*Oh, Fae*

This was a great paranormal romance. Highly sensual, great worldbuilding, fabulous characters, compelling plot... All great stuff!

We begin with our heroine, Beth Carter, and her absolute arsehole of an ex-husband on an archaeological dig in Ireland. Beth is a fantastic heroine. She's kind of a doormat, and her ex treats her abominably, but she really was great to read. Her journey from the girl in the opening pages, to the woman at the end, was nothing short of momentous.

During the dig, Beth unknowingly awakens Fae warrior Conn. Now Conn was interesting because he's every bit the cold, unfeeling, superior being you might expect from an ancient Fae. He looks down his nose at humans and uses his glamour (compulsion) without qualm. He sees Beth, initially, as someone to take to bed, as is his right, even knowing it will leave her unable to function afterwards. Naturally, therefore, it took a lot longer to warm up to his character than Beth's!

Aside from the sexual connection and a few early interludes, the relationship between Beth and Conn actually progressed fairly slowly due to Beth's mistrust and reticence. However, once the bond began to form it seemed to catch like wildfire. The switch over from lust to love was a little abrupt for my liking. Especially from Conn's side, considering how he was at the start. However, that was probably my only blip in what was, overall, a really enjoyable story.

As well as the romance, COLD IRON also has a really great storyline - A search for a missing sword on the rough Southie streets. We meet some compelling secondary characters that are sure to take centre stage in future instalments, and also have plenty of opportunities to jeer and the slimy villain that is Beth's self-

serving ex-husband. Grr!

A highly recommended read!

4 Stars ★★★★★

ARC provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Emily Savageau says**

I received an ARC of this book.

I wasn't sure what to expect with this book, I've read books similar to this one about the Fae but didn't really get hooked. I really liked this book and I am looking forward to reading the next one.

The author focuses on the real Fae, not the cute little fairies people often think of. The story revolves around a woman who had some not so good things happen to her in the past but the author portrays her as a strong female which I like. When she comes up against the main male character she doesn't give in to him, which I kind of expected.

I thought it was well written and it kept my attention. I liked the characters and how the Fae had to fight internally with the behavior they are predisposed towards and what is expected when dealing with humans.

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### **Dana Alma says**

Cold Iron rocked! What a treat to find a new author that grabs your interest from the first page! McDermott catapults you into a world that has endless possibilities. Conn's story was an amazing start to this new series. He transforms right before our eyes with Beth as the catalyst to a new megacosm. Although Con and Beth's story is wonderful, the true alpha, in my opinion, was Miach. He exudes power and sex appeal in troves! Cold Iron would not have been what it is without McDermott interweaving Miach the way she bewitchingly did. The discovery of latent powers and hidden secrets fuel a non stop paranormal. A "Deosil" journey, creating magic at every turn. Lovers of all things Fae will find themselves encased in a rich story. Teaming with Fae magic, Druid powers, and fairytale charm. I highly recommend this book and know all bookish and wise friends will fall to its endless charms. I'm delighted to say the next story in the series, Silver Skin, and it will be Miach and Helene's story. I'm salivating for that one!

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### **Tami says**

Inconsistencies galore. Combined with plot holes. And mediocre writing. DNF at 60%.

Just a few points:

If fae can't stand being close to iron, and the iron in the church gates in the museum is enough to sting Conn, how is he able to get into a car? Which is made of steel. Which is basically iron.

Why does Conn leave Beth alone in the museum with the sword (that holds the potential to free the nasty fae and thus destroy the world and human society)? He could have stayed hidden in his glamor on the other side of the iron gate and wait for an opportunity to get it back. He decided to roam around instead.

Why does Miach leave the two women with the guys if he knows that his son is a traitor?

(And then there was the bad decision making - thrown in with the plot holes.)

Beth is basically TSTL, she ignores her instincts, changes her opinion by the minute and is totally naive in believing that she can salvage her career by proving her ex-husband's theft. But she was in possession of the stolen goods - why would anybody believe her, that it was not her who stole the stuff??? She decides that cleaning her name is more important than making sure the world is safe from the dangerous and lethal fae court. Self-centered much?

Nothing makes any sense.

Conn is a hunky fae, who changes from "I can rape you with a thought because I am a cruel, but beautiful fae. Oh, and I am cold and don't have feelings" to an infatuated Teddybear within a few pages. No explanation, but Beth being "special". Right. Especially stupid. But what can you do when insta-love has you in its ugly claws...

But Conn has nipple piercings, and did I mention that he is totally hot? Besides the totally wimpy metamorphosis into a sappy puppy. And his favourite compliment towards Beth? That she has "cow-eyes" - who could resist this kind of charm?

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## **? BookAddict ✍️ La Crimson Femme says**

Fae lovers this is a must read new series. In Cold Iron, Ms. McDermott creates a fresh look at Fae and Druids. While the Fae Court is still locked away in a world away from ours, there are a few Fae still roaming freely on earth. Conn is such a fae. His home is disturbed by archeologists. The person of interest is Beth Carter. Beth possesses extra senses she is unable to explain. While her credit stealing ex-husband discounts her abilities, he has no qualms about abusing her to use them.

The characters in this story are fabulous. This is because they are not black or white. Each character contains different shades of "evil" in them. Evil not as the devil, but more a darkness which allows a person to become callous and lacking in morals. The degree is different for each main character as it is for each secondary character. For Beth, she comes across wholesome pure, until her heritage is uncovered. Will she be able to resist the power she is able to tap into? Time will tell. Rather than only one anti-hero in this book, there are two. One is Conn, the lead protagonist. The second is secondary yet important character, Miach. Both of these male fae are alpha males who will do what they need to make sure their families are protected. It seems a bit inhumane, but really, from an Eastern culture, not so much. This is no Disney fairy tale. This is a fairy tale on par with Grimm. This is why I like the book so much.

This world is gritty and filled with darkness which a person with power must constantly stay vigilant against. For a weak person, it would be too much. Beth starts out coming across as a weak-willed female cowed by

her asshole ex-husband. As the story progresses, she strengthens and grows. This is a delight to witness. It's even better that as she becomes stronger, the men still treasure her and aren't afraid of her. They may be afraid of what she can do and what will happen if she falls into the wrong hands, but they don't fear her for her power nor do they want to strip it away from her. This is what made the story so good for me.

Ms. McDermott does a great job with the erotic part of this story. This is unexpected yet deliciously kinky at times. There is a hint of D/s which is to be expected when dominant males are in control. The provocative sex tied to a geas is rather hot in a sexual submissive manner. The sexual chemistry between Beth and Conn is smoking. There are too few scenes of their rough sex. This is an Urban Fantasy rather than erotic romance so this is to be expected. The sex in this story gives it an added appealing erotic element. This is a great start to a new series and I can't wait to read the next two books. This Urban Fantasy is recommended to fae lovers who also enjoy spicy sex.

*\*provided by Edelweiss*

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### **Kate's Corner says**

**Cold Iron is a unique story with well developed characters it takes place in our day and age which made the cover a little misleading as one could think that it is a historical romance but thankfully it isn't. It was tough to rate this book but I'll get to that later after thinking about it for two days I have come to the conclusion that it is 3.5 - 3.75 Star read. But as GR offers only be able to give either 3 Stars or 4 Stars I have rounded it up to 4 Stars.**

The book had all needed elements to make it a spectacular read but in some places it fell short. The beginning started off really well and then it ebbed and after 30% it nearly became a DNF for me but thankfully after hitting 31 % it suddenly picked up.

Archaeologist Beth Carter is one of a kind in her field unfortunately she has been pushed into a corner by her ex husband who has lived off her finds when it comes to find Celtic burial grounds. He is a thief and a douchebag. They find a burial mound but all the gold is there but no body.

*A few days ago, Beth would have insisted on driving - it was her town, after all - but after being skewered by a Fae sword, tattooed by a Fae sorcerer, and nearly ravished by her new Fae master, she felt cold and tired and couldn't stop shivering.*

Conn has been set free and is the betrayer for his race the Aes Sídh or the Fae. He needs a woman and goes after Beth unfortunately Frank has looted the burial and sends an important artifact back to the States.

Beth finds out something about herself which leads to a chain of events that could change everything. The book dragged out in certain places but it is very well done and I look forward to the next book.

Book received via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

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## **Mara says**

I am not sure why this series is considered dark. Sure it's not fluffy and uberlight, but it doesn't fall into my category of dark. The People of tradition are cruel and uncaring [think Pratchett's *Lords and Ladies*], but those here aren't gruesomely so. They simply are Fae.

And none of those important in the story are really such. The Betrayer comes out as a nice misunderstood guy, Micah as a patriarch defending his family. Meh.

As a purely personal peeve, the love in a week storyline is never my cup. But I appreciate that the author made a well defined stand separating lust and love. I didn't feel the second, I got no idea why the two fell for each other. But it is an almost "fresh" start when a PNR author doesn't try to shove down my throat the insta/love/lust.

Overall it's a nice PNR, but nothing to talk about. I enjoyed reading it, but it's too standard to be really engaging. Once ended, nothing really stands out. Still, I'm probably going to read the second.

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## **Mei says**

**I received this book from Netgalley for my honest review.**

WOW! I love finding out new books that grip me this way.

I'm not overly fond of Fae books, but his one was very, very interesting.

Here we have a really bloodthirsty Fae! They're immoral, cruel, and beautiful. They have power and they use it and abuse it without thought.

Even our hero, Conn is like that. He's powerful and he knows it. And he's enjoying it at its fullest.

When he meets Beth, he just want to own her. But his complusion, which have worked so well until then, doesn't work on Beth. She fights him in a very literal sense, even if she's not completely immune to him.

And that's just the start.

Conn is faced with something he hasn't faced since his imprisonment by the Druids. First he's confused and intrigued by her resistance. Then he begins understanding what he's facing in Beth - his worst enemy (view spoiler)!

Beth starts as a perfect damisel in distress. Her childhood was strict, she was ridiculed by her family. Her marriage was bad... very bad: she was exploited by her husband and betrayed by him both as a woman and as an archelologist. But she's still fighting.

Both Beth and Conn have a lot of "growing up" to do here.

She to become a *free* woman, and Conn to understand that Fae are not withour feelings, but have only forgotten them during their long lives.

But beside the main characters and their growing, I enjoyed the description of Fae and their ways. Their behavior is, curiously, very appealing. Their cruelty is almost those of a child that hurts because it can, without thinking about the consequences or other's feeling.

Both Conn and Miach are like that. And Beth confuses them. At the same time she's making them re-think what they want and what they do. She makes them understand that they're not as immune to compassion and love as they think they are.

I don't want to spoil the book for you and if I go on with this review I'll do exactly that, but I urge you to give it a try - it's worth it! :D

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