



Bound Spirit

H.A. Wills

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Seventeen year old, Callie thought climbing out of her hell of an abusive home life was going to be her biggest struggle, but it's only the beginning. Starting over in a small nowhere town in Oregon with an aunt she didn't know existed until a week ago, she makes five new guy friends that are each something otherworldly. Something supernatural-- and they say she is too. As if high school wasn't hard enough.

In this captivating and vivid, paranormal reverse harem, join Callie on her journey of healing from the horrors of her past, while discovering that the world is far weirder than she could've possibly imagined.

Warning:

This book contains graphic violence, adult language, underage drinking, mild sexual content, and deals in sensitive issues such as abuse, suicide, and PTSD. Reader discretion is advised.

Bound Spirit Details

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Author : H.A. Wills

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From Reader Review Bound Spirit for online ebook

Michelle Connor says

I loved the characters in this book and swore when I got to the end to find out I have to wait for the next book. The reason it got a four stars instead of five was because in some places the story moved a little slow for me and I couldn't decide between 3.5 and 4 stars, but the story is intriguing enough and left me wanting more, it nudged it up to 4.

Ash says

Since GoodReads took way the notes capability on their app. I'm having to use my reviews as a way to help myself remember the story line when the next book comes out.

Callie has suffered torturous experiences at the hands of her father for years. After her father gets arrested and thrown in prison for an attempted kidnapping, her maternal aunt takes over guardianship and they move from Arizona to a sleepy town in Oregon. Their little house is haunted by a teenage ghost named Felix who is surprised that Callie can see him. He tells her that he will introduce her to his friends the next day at school. They meet up in front of the school and not so subtly state Callie is a witch and pretty much the friends are supernatural as well. Kaleb is a light nephilum, Donovan is a dark nephilum, Conner is a wolf shifter, Nolan is a vampire, and Felix is a ghost who was a human friend that was murder along with his family 4mons earlier. Throughout the book, Callie suffers from flashbacks of abuses by her father along with moments of elemental power of a high degree. After a strong reaction to campfire, Callie goes into a catatonic state that scares the fellas and they take her back to her aunt who Conner figured out is a witch. The friends called her aunt, Mildred, out about letting Callie learn about her magic blindly but she had reasons to want to ease Callie into slowly learning about her witchy side what with her traumatic past and all. Felix had to end Callie's "dream" to pull her out and he witness one of the memoriae of her father burning her alive. Felix is deeply affected by the scene and opens up to Callie to pull her out of her dream. Callie explains her torturous past to the guys but leaves out the gory details that Felix was exposed to. The guys notice Felix being less than bubbly after the episode. Mildred decides to drop a bomb of knowledge on Callie and the guys. Turns out Callie is a spirit witch which is rare and her POS father was abusing her to break the bind on her magic. The witch counsel along with the wolf shifters, who were bodyguards, betrayed the Spirit witches who were meant to lead the witches. Mildred is suspicious that the counsel was killing off the spirit witch lines because they didn't want to give up control.

Overall, enjoying this slow burn series because the storyline is intriguing.

Gaby★Me Myshelf and I★ says

Question

Have we reached saturation point so soon in the RH genre? Are there not enough ideas that new releases all seem to resemble another popular and successful RH series?

The last 2 books I've read which have had the biggest buzz in the RH genre have both been copy cat of already popular series?? Whats going on or is it just me?

If you've read this book then I'm sure which series I am referring to. Its pretty obvious in my opinion. Also very sneaky of Wills to have the author as her "*senpai*" which makes it OK to have a similar plot and characters and backstory - because the author knows about it and actively promotes this new version of the same story.

Its so similar I almost expected a photo of Callie to appear on the screen at the football match! and can match up the guys personalities with the same personalities of the other.

Now I am a fan of the *other* series. So **after saying all of the above** I did enjoy this new version too.

I will also note in bold that the warning in the blurb should be taken into consideration before starting. The abuse is very jarring and I almost stopped after the horrifying prologue. Not for YA without some parental approval beforehand - If you're a parent reading this just try the prologue if its okay with you then the rest will be too

Personally I didn't like the way the author handled the abuse. It was thrown in so casually in sentences that it almost made light of the situation Callie faced growing up. Par exemple

"Asshole, I bet I could show you a thing or two about the real world. I know what it feels like to have every bone in my foot smashed to the size of pebbles. Do you?"

Not everything was bad though. It was slow paced but I was in the mood for a teenage high school drama. The mix of different supernatural's in the harem was really great and some aspects of her PTSD were handled well and made it interesting, the "big secret" of her past was the main plot driver. With no romance I was surprised that was enough to keep me turning pages actually!

I'll be looking out for the next. This was the debut novel of Wills so maybe I'm being too harsh, it was a great start and very accomplished for her first work. *Just not terribly original*

Lissa Hawley says

4.5 stars.

I liked this one. RH reminiscent (but definitely its own story) of and recommended by B.L. Brunnemer.

Needs a better copy editor.

Sbeck says

Hardship +Friendship +Magic with a touch of Supernatural= Awesome!

I love this book because it is so easy to enter Callie's world and follow her hard beginnings to where she finds the best friends she could ever have, even though they are all guys who are also supernatural beings. As you read, you'll find yourself lost in each character and their unique thoughts and challenges in learning about themselves and their special friendship. It was very refreshing to read new ideas about the usual creatures like Vampires, Shifters, Ghosts and Witches, not to mention Magic itself. I am eager for the next book so I can find out more about Callie's special magic and the next adventures for her and the guys.

Anna says

The book had a shocking start, but one that is bound to get your attention - it definitely got mine. All I could think of was "If this is just the prologue, then what the hell is going to happen in the main story".

And it was *good*. I do not want to go into details, because you should totally go into the story unaware of what you'll be facing, but just know that it's a good one. There were times when it was slightly bordering on cheesy and dramatic, but the author always managed to pull you back just in time and throw a heavy dose of "real feelings" on you.

And even though we got to know the characters pretty well here, I still have a lot of questions and guesses left and I cannot wait to explore it all in the next book.

Now, let's be real for a minute, okey? January 2019 is way too long a time to make us readers wait! Just put us out of our misery and release the second book sonner. Pretty please?

Melanie says

An enjoyable slow burn fantasy reverse harem with likeable characters and a storyline that progresses well. Though there isn't too much drama in this book, the heartbreakng abuse at her father's hand may be a trigger for some. This series is a hidden gem that I will definitely be continuing to follow

Melanie says

All the feels

This book will take you on an emotional rollercoaster and you won't ever want to get off. I got some B.L. Brunnemer vibes from this story as the writing and the way the author makes you care for all the characters is very similar, and you've got a somewhat similar story with a high school girl who suffered abuse from a parent joins in with a group of guys that make her feel safe and cared for for the first time, but this makes sense since apparently Brunnemer is a mentor to this author. There are some minor errors in the writing, but not enough to distract or detract from the story. If you're a fan of YA paranormal RH with characters that tug at your heartstrings and a story you don't want to end, I'd recommend this book for you.

Lauren the Book Slayer says

Bound Spirit was a hit for me during a string of misses. What really blew me away was the phenomenal character-building. I originally picked up this book because of the hinted at supernatural elements, but I truly believe that I'd have loved it just as immensely, even without the supernatural parts, because of the incredible characters and their relationships.

I cared for Callie immediately. She grew up with a monstrous father who tortured her for years, trying to make Callie use her extraordinary abilities, over and over again. Callie unsurprisingly and understandably developed PTSD, which made it hard for to feel safe and open up to others. I thought the author portrayed this disorder perfectly, because it felt real, raw, and made my heart hurt for Callie.

I liked Callie, a lot, but not as much as I did the guys. Actually – I LOVED them. Kaleb, Nolan, Donovan, Connor and Felix – don't even ask me to pick a favorite – because I can't. I mean, there's a couple that I favored an itty bitty more, but I'm not willing to give any of them up. Each guy had an unique personality, and played an integral role in the story. Like Callie, they'd all experienced some type of tragedy, and their combined sorrow made their brotherhood incredibly strong.

This series is supposed to go full-out reverse harem in the following book(s) and that makes me a little bit nervous. As of the end of book one, Callie and her guys are one, big, strong, cuddly family, and I'm afraid that once romance is introduced, the great dynamic won't ever be the same again. It's not that I don't believe in this author, I've just read more bad RHs than good, and it's made me incredibly weary.

I shaved off .5 stars because I think that this book could have done with a little more insight into the supernatural.

Savannah says

Holy heck

Oh my bless.... This book was so dang good! I absolutely loved the character!! I am anxiously awaiting the next book!! I cannot wait to see what happens with Callow and the guys!

Jordan says

Bound Spirit was an unexpected find that I was excited to read, but had no great expectations for. But WOW were my expectations blown away after reading this story. I fell in love with the characters and the story so quickly that I hope this author writes fast, because I NEED the next installment in this series!

Callie has finally escaped her abusive home-life and just wants to exist as a normal girl, as normal as she can be- and maybe make a few friends in her new town she moved to with her aunt. But for Callie this doesn't seem possible. Her first morning in her new house she wakes to an intruder in her room, and not just any intruder, but a guy about her age who was murdered a few months ago. Yep, he's a ghost. And his friends aren't just normal guys either. But neither is Callie, who is able to see Felix (the ghost).

After meeting and befriending these guys Callie quickly learns that she's not the only one out there with weird abilities. Her first new friend is a ghost, and the others range from a vampire, werewolf, and a dark and light nephilim. Learning that so many beings exist in this world is an adjustment for Callie, but she quickly accepts the guys and their help in discovering who she really is and what she can do.

Callie is a character who is overcoming a traumatic past, but still is able to open herself (however slowly or little) to the guys and let them in her life. She still has some triggers when it comes to certain objects or circumstances but her drive for a new life filled with friends and safety, and the support of her new friends, keeps her strong enough to move past her traumas. Callie is introduced to an entire world she had no idea about, and has some huge bombs dropped on her about her past, who she is, and what she'll be able to do. But despite this life changing information overload, she manages to deal and accept her new life, with the new people in it who truly care about her.

This book doesn't shy away from Callie's PTSD which I really liked. It keeps her very real and understandable. She has her issues, and some of the guys have some as well. They're not just basic 2-D characters but people with real problems and tragic pasts who still manage to live their lives, whether burying their issues or dealing with them.

The split POV in this story was great too. While mostly from Callie's perspective, the guys also had a few chapters in their POVs giving us a glimpse into their thoughts, pasts, and reactions to Callie. While this is definitely a slow burn reverse harem (YA but I think later moving on to being NA) and Callie and the guys are at this point just friends, I can definitely see the harem building and the feelings start to grow in this group.

I really fell in love with this book and I'm so excited to see where H.A. Wills takes us in the next book and the rest of the series.

Missy Brown says

I was looking through the new releases and stumbled across Bound Spirit! I am so glad I did. This was such an attention grabbing book, I just couldn't put it down. I had to find out what was going to happen. The characters just reached out and snagged me, especially Callie. Such a strong female lead who had me cheering for her from the beginning.

Callie is a special girl. When her Aunt that she never knew she had gets custody of her, when her father is sent to prison for trying to kidnap a girl, they move to Twin Cedar Pass, Oregon. Callie wants to use this new lease on life to be a normal girl. For Callie hasn't had an easy life, she has been abused by her father in some of the most brutal ways you can think up. So when she walks into her new home with her aunt, the last thing she expects to see is a ghost. His name is Felix. She gets a glimpse of maybe there is more out there than we know. He tells her that he has some friends who may be able to explain things to her. Thus her journey starts on finding out who and what she is. With the help of Felix, Kaleb, Nolan, Donovan, and Connor, she starts to feel normal. They are the perfect blend of protective, but letting her breathe. She is having to learn about the supernatural world of vampires, ghosts, werewolves, Witches and Nephilim. And they are there to help her every step of the way. They circle around her and protect her from all things. I just love the writing style of the story. The pace of the romances is spot on I believe, which is slow. I do not want to give a lot away, but I will say that this is a darker themed RH, so if there are some triggers please be advised to be cautious reading. Having said that give Bound Spirit a try, it really is a good read and will leave you needing book

two to read more about Callie and her guys.

Lily says

This feels familiar

Okay this is a good book, like it's written well and the story is somewhat interesting, but this seems like an almost exact replica of the Veil Diaries series. I'm not insinuating that the author plagiarized or anything, but it does feel a bit redundant as a reader to read two different series about a girl with very serious emotional trauma who moves in with a distant relative and meets up with a group of boys who are somewhat obsessed with her and are popular in her small town high school. I'll definitely be reading the next one, if only because it's free, but for now I wasn't that impressed with the book just because it felt like a re-read from a completely different author.

Ashley says

Loved it!

Callie has the chance to start a new life, but it's hard to move forward when the nightmares of your past haunt you. A new town and a new high school. Five unique guys, each doing the best they can to deal with their own pasts and/or futures. Learning there is much more to reality than most people know. This was an engaging and fun read that I could not put down, and those who like The Veil Diaries series will quickly fall in love with this book by Wills. I eagerly await her next novel in The Bound Spirit Series!

CoullCat says

What a strong and stunning first book by Wills. This author has a shitload of talent and a skill with storytelling. Bound Spirit is a darker YA/NA RH that has an excellent pace, strong characters and an awesome plot.

With the first chapter opening setting the scene for the abuse that Callie suffers, I knew that this novel was going to be full of emotions and gut wrenching scenes. And boy, was I right. Wills may have ticked the usual YA boxes, new school, new town, troubled past, bitchy school rival, but Bound Spirit has a much more mature feel to it and the darker tones throughout definitely pull this story out of the YA realm. Callie may have crippling PTSD and a backstory from Hell but she's no whiney teenager, instead Callie comes across as fierce and brave and very mature for her seventeen years. The guys are also mature and each of them have their own unique personalities and backstory and the relationship and friendships between themselves and Callie feel natural.

Wills writing is bold and confident, it is evident that much time and love has gone into creating this novel; there is not a mistake in sight. The plot flows beautifully from scene to scene and the dialogue is organic and insightful. There is a slight Veil Diaries feel - fingers crossed it won't be so slow burn - but the story and mix of characters is unique. There is a trigger warning for abuse, the PTSD scenes can be quite consuming, but no cliffhanger ending. This is slow burn, not even a kiss, but it is so worth it; bring on January 2019 and

book two.
