



The Naughty List

L.A. Kelley

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Something smells at Penrose's Department Store and it isn't sugarplums. Christmas had always been a magical time for Rosalie, but not this year. The new manager introduces idiotic rules, steals the affections of the cute temp Santa, and forces employees into butt-ugly elf hats. Then Rosalie meets a real E.L.F. (Elemental Life Form) named David and gets lassoed into a desperate hunt for the stolen Naughty and Nice List. Now the couple must stay one step ahead of the hell hounds, dodge a murderous invisible demon, and retrieve the List before the world tumbles into chaos.

The Naughty List Details

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From Reader Review The Naughty List for online ebook

Donna Sharkey says

A new favorite

May need to add this to my annual Christmas reading list. surprising and inventive with well developed characters. Sequels please!

Lynda Bowles says

Great story

Fantastic story line the was an enjoyable read. Once I starts it I was unable to put it down stayed up until 2:30 am reading. Hope this is the beginning of a new series

Adrenna says

Funny, light-hearted, and cute. "The Naughty List" fulfills every promise of being a fun, simple story you can read while cozying up with a mug of cocoa.

Rosalie is having a tough go of it this holiday season. Her new boss values corporate efficiency over family, makes all the employees wear idiotic Christmas hats, and has even stolen the affections of a boy she had her eyes on. All of the people Rosalie's grown close to over the years are getting the shaft and she's just about resigned to leaving when she meets an E.L.F. (an elemental life form) named David.

His hunt for Santa's stolen Naughty List has brought him right to Rosalie's doorstep. After a few panicky arguments and even a little teleportation, they decide to team up to find the book before the forces of evil can use it to bend the world to their will.

Like a Pixar movie, this is a well-plotted and easily accessible book most anyone can enjoy. The world building is reminiscent of Joyce's "The Guardians of Childhood" but it adds its own flavor, attitude, and twists. I suspect Kelley must have worked retail at some point because she does a good job showcasing the wide variety of colorful characters you come to work with.

I would not recommend this book if you don't like romance or if you're looking for a complicated meditation on the existential agony of life. This is a book where the good guys are good, the bad guys are bad, and the hell hounds are hell hounds. And yes, there is a happy ending.

I recommend this book if you're looking for a solid paranormal adventure or something to help you get into the holiday spirit. Call it a guilty pleasure if you want, but it's a well written one!

Beverly says

Cute

Another Christmas story with a twist, paranormal, demons, elves and Santa. What else could you ask for in a Christmas book!

Sabrina says

I love reading Holiday books with a paranormal twist and this was no different. I really enjoyed the story and all the characters. Even after they found the naughty & nice list the story continued and wrapped up the characters story. I loved all the characters they really come alive and you get to know them all. I am definitely going to be looking for more books from this author. 4/5 Bloody Fangs

Deborah says

I fancied reading something festive over the season, and this drew my eye, with its fun description of a desperate hunt for the missing Naughty and Nice List, of an E.L.F. (Elemental Life Form), hellhounds, demons etc.

I will admit that my original impression was of a more humorous book than this one turned out to be – not that there isn't humour; there is – but the beginning was decidedly more grim than I was expecting.

David Kloss, son of the Santa, is on the run. He's responsible for the Book that holds the Naughty and Nice Lists, and his carelessness has allowed it to be stolen. In the wrong hands, the world starts to shift towards a more negative existence, and only restoring the Book can reverse the trend.

In Penrose's wonderful department store, Rosalie is caught up in the downward spiral as the manager's job goes to a mean-spirited woman intent on making savage cuts in the lead up to Christmas. When Natalie and David accidentally become involved with each other, life becomes very interesting, in the way of the Chinese proverb.

The dialogue in this book is excellent, and the characters bounce right off the page. What, for me, was a little downer was the pacing of the plot, which seemed to rush at first, sag in the middle, and then build slowly towards a slightly hurried ending. Don't get me wrong, the story and the resolution are great, the magic and the secret society of Integrals (such colourful people as Gnomes, Cupids, Shivas, Medusas etc.) is extremely well worked out and well presented, it was just that I found myself checking the read percentage on my kindle, because I couldn't figure out whereabouts in the story I was a lot of the time.

There were a small number of incorrect words (homophones), but not so much as to spoil the read.

Overall, this was one I thoroughly enjoyed, even with the pacing issues, and I will be checking out more by this author.

Jen says

This was a very cute book, with a very well thought out magical system. It takes place in contemporary times, with magical beings from many different mythologies living amongst humans in secret. The political

system in which the mythological beings live is archaic and is in the process of being fought and changed, which causes some underhandedness on the demon side of things.

I like how after the book was found, that wasn't the end of the story. There were multiple plot lines that were all resolved satisfactorily by the end. I would LOVE to see Marissa's story after this. Rosalie was a pistol and I'm sure her best friend is no different. The characters all lived and breathed for me. I really enjoyed this book and would like to read more by this author.

Tamara says

When the Naughty or Nice book is stolen, it is up to David, an E.L.F. (Elemental Life Form) to find it and the thief before chaos begins in the world. When he discovers that it has been hidden in Primrose's Department Store that is where the real fun and excitement begins.

Primrose's is the type of department store that you would expect to find in a small town. It has been established forever and the employees' generally love to work there and the customers always seem to get in a good mood upon entering. But, that all changes when the Naughty List is stolen. Attitudes change for the worse and Primrose's becomes the place you just don't want to be near. Bah Humbug! Will David be able to find the Naughty List before it's too late? Well, you will have to read the book to find out!

In between the mystery and mayhem, this is also a love story. David and Rosalie are the cutest couple! But since David is an E.L.F. and Rosalie is human, the Integral Council sends a cupid to ensure that all guidelines are met. This was by far my favorite part of the story and Natalie, the cupid, my favorite character.

The Naughty List was so much fun to read! It is the perfect story to get you in the holiday spirit. With a great cast of lovable, quirky characters, made this book absolutely impossible to put down! Ms. Kelley has taken a traditional Santa story and put an entirely different twist to the jolly old man – and I liked it! The romance is sweet, and the action is abundant throughout. If you are looking to get in the holiday spirit, or just need to read an uplifting, feel-good story, then I would highly recommend The Naughty List!

*I received a copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

- See more at: [The Avid Book Collector](#)

Kim says

I received a copy of this book as a Goodreads giveaway.

I suppose I can no longer say that I don't gravitate toward this subject matter, because the last few titles that I've selected have all had a supernatural/fantasy theme with a romantic inclination. Who knew I'd be into that sort of thing?!

To be honest, I entered the giveaway because it was Christmas themed....then I read the synopsis, which seemed interesting enough. I glanced at one review, which stated it was humorous, and I figured I could

overlook the fact that one of the main characters is an E.L.F whose father is the Santa (no, not Santa, the Santa. Just read the book...it'll make more sense that way).

I found myself unable to put the book down. It took me two days to read, only because I actually had to work during the day...and they frown upon multitasking in that manner.

Rosalie was a very likeable, relatable lead – I enjoyed her take-charge attitude. She's a loyal friend, a hard worker, and a girl who just needs someone to care about her – but not in a desperate "I'm going to stalk you until you pay attention to me" way. She felt like someone I could be friends with.

David, the E.L.F., was also likeable – though when I first read about his ability to "dash-away" I found it slightly absurd. Really....dash-away? But I get it. It fits the theme – and the more I read it, the less cheesy it seemed.

The story was clever – I really loved how all the elements of traditional lore (Santa, Elves, Cupid, etc) were woven into the fabric of the plot – it all fit together quite nicely, and actually made me read more about those beings to see how the author came to incorporate them into the story. I liked the RomCom aspect, the adventure, the mystery (which, at times was a bit predictable, to be honest)...nothing felt forced to me. I did panic at one point once I realized I wasn't even half-way into the book and we had already discovered who the guilty parties were, and what exactly happened – I didn't want it to end too soon! But I enjoyed the search for said guilty parties, the trials of David and Rosalie trying to just enjoy each other's company without a Cupid popping in every 5 minutes...it was an enjoyable ride.

I hear Christmas songs on the radio now that I think "Hehe, I could totally see Rosalie and her co-workers rocking out to this as they're decorating Penrose's for Christmas...or burning that ridiculous hat!" To me, that's the sign of an enjoyable read – the story and the characters mean something to you, and you can still relate to them long after you've put the book down.

Becky says

This was different then what I usually read. This was a funny and lighthearted book, with some hellhounds, and a murderous invisible demon! But don't let that scare you from a funny and whimsical read, sometimes trying a new authour or a new book from your norm will surprise you on new adventures! The characters are delightful and the romance was spot on. Do you want to be on the Naughty List????

Laura of Lurking says

Originally reviewed on [LauraofLurking](#)

Strong language: Mild

Drugs: No

Violence: Mild

Sexual content: Mild

I received a free copy of this novel in return for an unbiased review

Rosalie Thatcher is one of the few in this world who truly loves her job. She works in an old fashioned department store in a modern world, taking customer service seriously. She also loves Christmas. But then on the day the new manager was to be announced, widely expected to be her hard working friend, the most hated woman in the store is promoted instead.

Stupid persnickety rules, ridiculous hats and fake shoppers designed to report even the slightest infraction of the rules rule everybody's lives. Tempers rise and spirits fall, things get progressively worse. And then of course there's the shopper hiding behind the clothes rails spying before work even starts... except whenever she pulls the clothes back there's no one there and nowhere to hide.

The adventure soon kicks in as she finds, David, an E.L.F imposing on her life and begging for her help. She's thrust into a world of demons, demi-Gods and many others in between as she finds herself helping David rescue The naughty and nice book stolen from his care and the blame placed on him. There's the mall matter of hellhounds and other descendants of Gods after him, many who'd like to take her along for the ride, so times of the essence.

This is a thoroughly modern take on ancient fables and myths as they are brought into the 21st century and have to adapt to fit in. over the centuries they have bred with humans to keep their lines going, a fact that allows them to look fully human and integrate much better, assuming they don't still want to live in draconian Medieval times, with rape, torture and pillage at the top of their to do lists.

As David and Rosalie search in vain for the book they also spend time getting to know each other, and getting far closer than either intended. "He's not even fully human for God's sake!" is Rosalie's excuse to herself, but since when did the heart listen? It's a sweet, tentative romance, that she realises too late she'll do anything to keep. She'll keep working and doing whatever she has to to clear his name, and hopefully get him back.

There was a good mix of danger, different species and characters to get to meet in the book. Something new was always just around the corner, but always with enough of a break to not feel rushed.

I liked Rosalie and felt she was well rounded out. She had a cool calm to her, but also wasn't afraid to freak out at new experiences and revelations, making me laugh. For the most part the secondary cast also felt real, with everything from a shopping mall santa complaining of back pain on the ancient throne used in the grotto, to a best friend with money troubles and a sick child.

The ending felt good and complete, I liked that they had to fight for their rights, but in the end... well, it's Christmas, and the Santa's around, how could things stay wrong. It is a feel good novel and an easy read, but long enough to get your teeth into and settle back with a hot chocolate and some festive lights. A modern take on the santa story, I think this was well done, covering many bases, while keeping to a world adults know and are comfortable in. That said, I think teens will also get something out of this story and have a laugh along the way.

While this is currently pegged as a stand alone I hope to see at least one sequel following the different characters we met along the way, I think there is a lot of story left to be told, both in the past, present and future.

The 411

Overall I felt this was feel good novel for the Christmas season, and a good take on the myths surrounding it, as well as touching on many other myths from a wide variety of cultures.

The writing was good, I felt some characters had their emotions stated too often, as opposed to shown, but this was just a minor problem. The plot was good, with a wide mix of themes, layered so you never got bored of a particular one. From romance to adventure, to danger and facing down demons there was always something new and an aspect for everybody.

I hope to see a sequel.

Overall I give this novel a 4

Tammy Demby says

Very good!!!

Much better than expected. The plot is entertaining and kept my interest. Good Christmas read. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year's. Enjoy.

Damon Hatton says

Another fantastic read!

I always enjoy the authors stories and this was no exception! Good characters and humor with a dash of action and magick to provides good holiday read! I highly recommend it.

L.J. Capehart says

This is the second book that I've read by L.A. Kelley. I enjoyed this one as much as I did 'One Enchanted Evening'. It's a fun read, very imaginative. The romance is sweet, and I love the ending. Despite the fact that I'm busy with NaNoWriMo AND Thanksgiving prep, I had a hard time putting it down, and finished it in a couple of days!
