



# Get Real

*Tellulah Darling*

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**Get Real** Tellulah Darling

**Magic and Mayhem in Manhattan**

Francesca Bellafigliore comes from a nice Jewish family -- one that happens to have magical powers. Underneath her good-girl exterior, though, she's a wannabe badass with dreams of becoming a paranormal detective.

Party boy Rafael Muñoz does everything possible to publicly disappoint his high profile father. Privately, it's a different story. His carefully crafted bad boy reputation masks the fact he's a master illusionist, forced into solo covert ops. The role is wearing thin and Rafael longs to be part of a team.

When Francesca and Rafael meet, it's love at first sight... For about five minutes. Rafael is spectacularly attractive—and, Francesca discovers, fully aware of the fact. Rafael knows from experience that girls like Francesca are more trouble than they're worth.

So it sucks big time when they're caught in a web of magic, minions, secrets, and enough sexual tension to power NYC. Their only chance to save the city and survive is to team up, trust each other—and maybe even fall in love.

Provided they don't kill each other first.

*Get Real* is a romantic comedy, urban fantasy whirlwind with sass, sex, and swoon.

## Get Real Details

Date : Published September 26th 2015 by Te Da Media

ISBN : 9780992070953

Author : Tellulah Darling

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Genre : New Adult, Fantasy, Romance, Paranormal, Urban Fantasy, Did Not Finish

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# From Reader Review Get Real for online ebook

## Nicole Hewitt says

This review and many more can be found on my blog: [Feed Your Fiction Addiction](#)

*Get Real* is a New Adult paranormal romantic comedy with a fun and sassy cast of characters. The book takes place in an alternate version of the world where a small subset of the population has powers. There are four different types of "Cadabras" (people with powers) - Bruisers, who either have super strength or super speed, Bios, who can manipulate organic materials, Moody's, who can read or manipulate people's feelings, and Gizmos, who can manipulate technology and the like. Francesca is a Bio and has spent her whole life training to be a Healer, like her mom - but what she really wants is to become a sort of Cad detective. She can't bring herself to tell her moms that, though. But when she and Rafa, who has his own parental issues, find themselves under magical attack, they end up investigating and Rafa might get her chance to solve magical crimes after all.

### What I LOVED:

Francesca.

I loved Francesca's brand of snarky humor and smarts. She was the type of character that I easily was able to like because she was believable and real. And while she had a whole slew of positive qualities, she wasn't without a flaw or two (her biggest being her inability to speak up for herself to her moms - she truly was a good girl with a snarky undertone, which I kind of loved).

Cultural diversity.

The characters in this book were very diverse. Just with the two main characters, you had three different languages thrown in - Francesca was Italian and Rafa was Venezuelan. I liked seeing bits of those cultures and languages thrown in throughout the book. In the author's notes at the end, I found out that Darling has family members from both of these cultures and she pooled from her experiences with them and used their expertise to help write the book - it showed because it all felt very authentic!

The magical system.

I loved Darling's brand of magic - similar to superpowers but with enough differences to make it unique. I was especially intrigued by how the Cads used magic with their technology. The powers were interesting because, although there were only four major types, they could manifest themselves in different ways, giving the Cads very different ways that they could use them. And I'm eager to find out more about Minna's unique brand of magic in future books - I can't give away too much about what makes it unique without spoiling things, but I'll just say that I'm very intrigued!

### The negatives:

Slightly confusing in some small parts.

While I loved the magical system in this book, there were times that it was just a little bit confusing - trying to figure out who could do what and why and why Minna's magic was so different. Also, the characters traveled a lot (and very quickly, due to the magic involved) and I sometimes had trouble keeping track of where they were. I wish there had been a little bit more definition to the settings, especially the foreign ones. There were three narrators to the book (Francesca, Rafa and Minna) - I didn't have trouble keeping track of who was who or anything, but people who aren't fans of multiple narrators might find this to be a negative.

Really, though, the moments of confusion or keeping track of these things was minimal - I mostly just really enjoyed this book!

This is the second series I've read by Darling (LOVED her first one) and this one does not disappoint - I'm eager to see what Darling has in store in future books! Oh, and while this is a series, there's no cliffhanger - it could almost be a standalone except for the overall story arc that Darling has created - I thought that she did this perfectly - gave us resolution but a definite direction for future books. I give this installment 4/5 stars.

\*\*\**Disclosure: This book was provided to me by NetGalley and the author in exchange for an honest review. No other compensation was given and all opinions are my own.*\*\*\*

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## **Elle the ClosetRomanceReader aka Leftie aka Shoebelle says**

*\*ARC received from author via blog tour\**

**3.5 ★**

Awww, so cute, and that was fun!

This is a first Tellulah read for me. Lucky for me, a friend here put this on my radar and piqued my curiosity. What a delightful read!

This is like Harry Potter meet X-Men mildly with an NA twist.

We have Francesca and Rafael (and their friends) who each have their own form of magic. In the meantime, there's someone with her own form of magic which caused a disturbance in Francesca and Rafael's world and led them to working together.

Tellulah (love that name, btw) definitely lives up to her promise of writing about sassy girls and swoony boys. Oh Rafa...

Francesca and Rafa have quite the chemistry. I totally enjoyed their sarcastic yet sweet and smart interaction. They acted their age without being patronizing or having contrived remarks. Their friends are just as fascinating.

The world that Tellulah started building here is quite interesting. For the most part, this is a fast-paced story with a lot of entertainment value if magic and fantasy is your sort of thing. The pace during the last 10% did feel a little off for me and I was worried that it will veer to cliché land but fortunately it didn't; although it did feel a tad convenient.

In its entirety though, there's humor, action, suspense, some feels, and yes, some swooning:D

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## **Yana Polishko says**

**4+ stars**

After **The Blooming Goddess Trilogy** I feel compelled to say that Tellulah Darling has become a must-read author for me, so when she asked me to review the first book in her new series, how could I refuse?

It isn't surprising I loved **Get Real**, but since you may think I'm a little biased after the statement above I'll give you my reasons.

In this series, Tellulah introduces us to an alternative reality where magic is not a secret to anyone. Here, we have two races: the Sapiens, or normal people, and the Cadabra, who are capable of wielding one of the four different types of magic. Given their differences, they have separate governments and educational systems; Tellulah Darling delves into this theme a lot because it plays a great part in the story and she does it well, giving tidbits that eventually you can piece into an understandable picture. You may be surprised or not, there are authors that can't explain political systems to save their lives. Along with those nuances we also get to read about a lot of cool gadgets developed by Cads and I absolutely loved this.

Side note: at first I thought the narration was from two points of view, but there are actually three.

Lots of cultures are present in the characterisation, since people can get to any corner of the world in minutes, and it makes it all so much more interesting because the author introduces a small variety of words and phrases in Spanish and Italian, Rafael and Francesca's mother tongues; but if you feel like you won't like it I warn you now it happens quite often.

All of the characters in the book, from what I've gathered, have their own stories and depth. At the beginning, the two main ones don't get along very well because 1. they're full of prejudice against the other and 2. they have a little romantic encounter in the bathroom that goes wrong. But of course, as the story progresses and they get stuck together in New York, they bond and eventually become an effective team.

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## Christine Alibutud says

*Note: An ARC was provided by the author in exchange for an honest book review.*

**[Review as of 24 September 2015]**

Pausing this read due to certain reasons.

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## Amber .:★Wild Heart Reviews★:. says

Get Real is the first book I've ever read by Tellulah Darling. It also happens to be the first book in the Get Real series. It is told in alternating first person POV's between the main characters with the exception of one chapter. It does have an HEA, but be warned, it doesn't exactly have a conclusion, and HEA for the couple yes, but an over arcing conclusion? No.

I'm a bit on the fence with this book, and in fact, it took me a good week to decide on a rating for it. The book is marked as new adult, and it definitely has new adult qualities to it, however there were times that I

felt like I was reading a YA novel. There were times in my head that I saw the characters as YA characters more so than NA ones. It can be extremely confusing to the brain when that happens. Aside from that, this book was awesome.

One of the biggest differences for me with *Get Real* is the vast amount of languages that are used in this book! Because the characters come from all over the world, and zipping around it merely involves hailing a cab (they have a word for it and it's escaping me), you basically have a melting pot of nationalities. The other difference I found was that the world is completely story rich! Because these characters are magic users, some of the terminology at first was hard to wrap my head around, and then it clicked. After which it completely hooked me in. You can tell the author put a lot of thought into this book, especially when you get the different types of magics explained to you, and the differences in the users of said magic. It's in-depth.

Moving along to our main characters! Rafe and Frankie. Yes, she goes by Frankie. These characters were fun, cute, engaging, and comical. They have one of those relationships where they like each other, but they hate each other, but yet, they like each other. They fight, they argue, there is drama... they don't exactly get how to communicate at times either. Misunderstandings abound between them. The chemistry and spark is there, and yet they fight it. All in all, they make for a fun book and that's before I even go into their group of friends. That is another favorite thing of mine with this book. The cast of co-stars are amazeballs. I want to read their books.

So, all in all, it's a four star book for me. The synopsis covers the plot extremely well. I also want to mention the book cover! That is what grabbed my attention first off. It's cute. Anyway! I would recommend it but also tell you to stick with it because yes, all the different terminology and what not can be confusing at first. The plot itself is worth hanging around for though!

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## **Laura Thomas says**

Sure, there's a lot going on in this book. Covert ops, a wanna be paranormal detective. Supernatural shenanigans. But that's only part of it.

I'm huge on character driven stories and *Get Real* has some fun ones.

I fell for Francesca immediately. She's snarky, sexy, and so ready to become a paranormal detective and kick some supernatural butt.

Enter bad boy Rafael. Ooh, he's swoon worthy to look at, has the under the lashes come hither look down pat, and a mouth begging to be kissed.

When Francesca and Rafa catch each others eye at a party, the heat goes up in the room. When they end up together in the bathroom, their kiss is steamy.

If you're thinking, oh no, another love at first story, you'd be right, for a few minutes. Then Rafa drops an ice cube on the passion and walks away, leaving Francesca gasping for air. You can bet she's not happy. She knew better than to go with a bad guy like Rafa. See if he ever kisses her again.

There are some other fun characters, but these two really had me going. The snarky dialogue, their inner thoughts, all of it cracked me up.

What happens next, you ask? You guessed it. Francesca and Rafa wind up having to work together as the world around them starts going wiggly. And that's just as fun. The two of them are as busy trying to ignore their attraction for each other, as they are for trying to stay alive.

Nothing but fun here. Looking for a little mystery and danger, some witty dialogue, and steamy romance? You should read this book. I promise you'll laugh.

I received this book for my honest review.

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### **Eileen (BookCatPin) says**

What to say about Get Real. I struggled to love the book but I did enjoy it overall. It was an amusing story with a complete cast of quirky and charming characters.

The summary sums up the story perfectly so I won't reiterate it. The concept of having two different types of people: Cadabras (humans with powers) and Sapiens (normal humans), was fun. Within the Cads people were categorized according to their power. Each is unique and interesting though admittedly I was confused by some. It didn't help that I felt the writing style was choppy. I had to reread a few parts to wrap my head around what was happening. It made me feel distant from the story but these Cads sure have some fancy abilities.

I really enjoyed Francesca's personality. She was sassy and unapologetic. ***"I visualized every single one of the myriad of butterflies flitting giddily inside me. Then murdered them. One by one. Snapped their heads. Crushed their wings. Stomped on them. It was sparkly insecticide and I was the serial killer on the rampage."*** (eARC, Loc 3885). I just about laughed my head off when I read that! A bit violent but so expressive. I'm just a little let down she couldn't be so honest with her moms. It took her long enough!

There was insta-lust between Rafael and Francesca although I didn't particularly mind since they were both rational about it. They end up spending quite a bit of time together and it was nice to see their attraction build from there. Their undeniable chemistry was only hindered by their stubbornness and Rafael's pigheadedness but their ABC game helped clear that up. I is for... L is for... ;)

The most enjoyable part about Get Real is the secondary characters. Byron, Eli, Devi, Jones, Shaw and Arkady all played their own little role in the story. They're supportive when needed, snarky when the occasion calls for it and hilarious when the mood is right. I'm looking forward to the shifting of feelings between them. I can see at least two future relationships forming.

Despite not loving Get Real, I'm excited for what else Tellulah Darling will be bringing to the table. The story's far from over and more adventures in this paranormal world with all these cheeky characters is a yes from me!

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### **Stacee says**

Tellulah always writes the best swoony boys and snarky girls, so I was pretty excited to get my greedy hands on this book.

I loved the dynamic between Francesca and Rafael. Their banter and arguments made for an excellent build up and some serious UST. The dual POV is fantastic as well.

My only real complaint would be the use of another language without context. I mean, sure, I could mostly gauge the tone of what was said, but there were a few sentences that I had no idea what it meant. For me, it disrupted the rhythm of the story a bit.

The world building was interesting, I liked how the magic worked, and I loved how it ended. I am quite eager to see how the rest of the series develops.

**\*\*Huge thanks to Te Da Media and NetGalley for providing the arc in exchange for an honest review\*\***

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## **Morgan says**

Reading this thanks to Netgalley...and this only influences my opinion regarding Netgalley being awesome and not with regards to the book itself. :)

Going to have to go with a reluctant 2.5 on this one.

I wanted to like this so much more than I did. *So much more*. The blurb is great, the author a plus, and the cover is cute, fun, and sexy.

But then there was just so much trying to fit into the pages of the book that it eclipsed the story. What do I mean by "too much"?

- Multiple languages in one sentence, let alone conversation. Her mothers both speak different languages in addition to English, she speaks all of those, Rafa speaks at least two and only English matches up to hers. Add in all the other characters and it was confusing to say the least. I love seeing languages woven together, and picking up on new vocabulary in ones I have minimal familiarity with. Most of these though had no contextual definitions where you would know what had been said through a reply or the remainder of the statement.

- Multiple PoVs and shifts that took me a second to get acquainted with where the action was now, who this new person was, and what was happening. (Potentially also setting my brain to pick up on what languages are being spoken.)

It's already a slightly complex world that Tellulah Darling has created, and I am interested in learning about it and experiencing it, but I was sort of left floundering without a guide in the form of one of the narrators.

That said, this wasn't for me, but it *absolutely* might be for you. Don't judge it solely by the cover and blurb though or you'll end up a bit misled. It's definitely a rich world surrounding the Cadabras (humans with magic of a handful of classifications). Like if there were only 5 types of X-men mutants and they were very well organized.

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## **Deniz says**

Eeeeeep!  
Swoony? Yep  
Cute? Uh-huh  
Fun? Oh yes!  
Cheeky? It's Darling...  
Must read? Defo!

A cute & fluffy must read!!

### **Review:**

Straight up: the book delivers exactly what it promised.

It's got loads of action, sassy characters and swoony romance. And if you loved Darling's previous books, you going to adore this one.

My first coherent thought when I finished: I want more...My second: I think this is Darling's best novel to date. ( I did totally fangirl all over my Goodreads review before I actually could have a coherent thought)

The story-line is super fast- in the best sort of way, Darling throws you into the deep end right from the start. And there is action non-stop. In fact I read this more or less in one reading. It's the kind of novel you don't wanna put down, because something important is always happening.

The romance is sweet and swoony. There is a huge amount of fun banter going around. I definitely could tell this is a Darling book when it comes to those two aspects but I also could tell by the group of friends. Essentially Darling thrives at the cute, sassy and funny thing but also she builds great groups of friends- diverse groups, I could see parallels between this group and the group in the previous books. Not that I mind at all. Mainly because Darling did a good job at character building. Each character is unique and relatable. She really does a good job at bringing in their different backgrounds, their fears and strength. Even though at times they do feel a bit politically correct and a tad cliché. At least I felt like this at the beginning of the book. At the end of it though? I still do think that, but I don't care. Because I grew to love this group of misfits and I seriously do hope there will be loads of more books about them, each one of them.

The writing style is classic Darling: fun, sassy with a seriously good dose of humor. I love her writing style and I honestly can say she is one of my favorite authors in this genre. Very few manage to keep the balance between action, humor and romance- she does. Her books are entertaining and fun, but also they are well written.

While I would say that Darling's strength lies in her humor and her character building....

In Get Real my favorite part was the world building.

Honestly it's fabulous! I totally love the idea. And it's incredibly well done. I love the traveling aspects. And most importantly for me, Darling gets the different locations beyond right. Because New York in get real is still my New York and so is Rome... and all other locations. Which is actually due to Darling's amazing writing, her descriptions of the locations is great, but she conveys the feel of the venues so incredibly brilliant, that I felt like I was there again. I should mention that I've been in most places Darling does

describe... So it's not just me imagining how a place should be, but I actually experienced it. And again she just got it right.

So if you looking for a cute & fluffy adventure, that's well written - this is YOUR book.

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### **Colette says**

I have love all of Darling's other books, but this NA transition didn't work for me. The storyline never engaged me, and I had trouble grasping the new world and its concepts as written in the novel. Overall 2/5 stars; I would recommend Darling's Goddess series, but this book just didn't meet the high standard I set for her.

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### **Sybil aka Lala says**

This was my first book by Tellulah Darling and WOW, I was completely blown away.

**“Words? Tricky bastards right now.”**

Frankie and Rafa are both Cadabras, humans with magical abilities. Each with their own unique gift, they are forced through both this ability and tradition to follow a certain path, but each of them wish for a different choice.

Frankie is the good girl wanting to be a bad-ass and Rafa is the bad boy forced into solo missions while longing to be part of a team. The two couldn't be more different, or more similar. After an unexpected event they are forced to form a team and solve a mystery.

From the very first page you are thrown into this urban world where magic exists on the fringes. I absolutely fell in love with Darling's rich and imaginative writing style as she crafted such a creative world.

**“I preferred Marie Antoinette on acid.”**

Her humour and use of language are great. I was treated to snarky and funny inner-monologues from both Frankie's and Rafa's POV and she created secondary characters that are sarcastic, witty and funny that I wanted to be friends with.

**“ He's a dickhead Eli, much like you.”**

**“ It's true.” Eli hung his dark head in shame. “I am the head of a deek.”**

Frankie as an h was not your typical good-girl. She was funny and fearless in the face of danger. She's always been in a comfort zone, afraid to upset her close-knit family. She always did the safe thing and dated the safe boys.

**“Pleasant. Great adjective for bathwater, depressing summation of our relationship.”**

She’s attracted to the sexy bad-boy Rafa, but knows that he is so far out of her comfort zone that she couldn’t dream of getting together with him. There’s no rationalising with hormones though.

**“New levels of swoon achieved, aforementioned gods had screwed off to have a celebratory vino.”**

Rafa knows he can never be with Frankie, their worlds are too different and their pre-chosen paths would never allow for them to be together. And yet...

**“.. this was the girl whose candy apple scent made me forget the bad guys. And my own name.”**

Rafa was insanely swoon-worthy. He was sexy and cocky and fought his attraction to Frankie with everything he had, yet the beautiful things that had my toes curling.

**“Sunshine is boring. Everything is all out there. No Mystery... You’re moonlight. Shadows and silvery radiance.”**

**I sent up a prayer to be good if God would reward me with those lips**

Together, their chemistry was on fire and the sexy times were incredibly steamy.

As a whole this book was perfectly paced with the golden balance between humour, angst, action and passion.

I don’t like to compare authors, but if you enjoy the kind of heroines, snark, humour and geekiness of Penny Reid and Meghan Quinn you will absolutely LOVE this book.

(ARC provided by Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. )

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## **Moon Love says**

First and foremost I'd like to say how much I love the cover. That being said, it's deceptive because while it totally conveys Francesca and Rafael's chemistry, it doesn't come close to encompassing the rest of the story. Another truth I'd like to share is that I'd forgotten this book had a paranormal/fantasy twist to it, so when it first made an appearance I was like, "Wha..? Oh, okay." Frankly speaking the magical element was a great way to tie everyone together and make the story work.

I liked Francesca, also known as Frankie. She's a good girl, but she's got dreams. She's intelligent and smart. She's also not one to give up when things get tough. I liked how she was with her friends. I didn't like how afraid she was of her parents, but I understood how much she valued their opinions of her. I really liked how

she used her powers for good, and sometimes bad. She might have this quiet outer presence at time, but she was bold and brave when it counted.

Rafael, or Rafa as he was fondly known by his friends, was a lot like Frankie. Rafa too felt familiar pressure. He wanted to be free to make his own decisions and he had a contentious relationship with his father who held a position of power in their world. I liked how Rafa was with his mother and brother. I also liked how he was with his friends and even with Frankie. I enjoyed seeing him spark with Frankie as they tried to figure out what was going on in their world. While it wasn't pleasurable for Frankie, I enjoyed seeing Rafael experience growing pains. He went from being an somewhat emotionally isolated to a more mature man.

I really enjoyed the mystery aspect of the story. I found it interesting that I both empathized with the culprit while also being afraid of them. While most of the details of the mystery were slowly revealed in the book, there's more to come and while I hope to see more of Frankie and Rafa in the future, I also can't wait to read about their friends and another unlikely pairing as they try to bring the conflict to a desirable resolution. Tellulah Darling really brought all of the aspects of this book together well. If you love to laugh, swoon, and enjoy a great story with action, suspense, mystery, and a dash of magic this book is perfect for you.

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## **Gokce ~Muslin Myst~ says**

At the risk of sounding shallow-but really, what are covers, if not reader magnets?- I solemnly swear that I picked up this book based first and foremost on its awesome cover. Just looking at it made me quite the happy gal. That coloring, that pose with the cover models, that potential bad girl making an appearance from behind the good girl façade of the heroine, and the ever so trouble bad boy of course. All was in that gorgeous cover and after skimming through the plot, I was a goner.

I gotta say I'm still a baby when it comes to New Adult. I can be confused with the classification, but what the book wanted to tell was loud and clear. Although I can't say that I'm a big fan of the genre, I truly believe that I can enjoy a good book no matter what it's about. And did I find this world of humans with magical abilities interesting? Oh yeah.

Told from both the point of view of Francesca and Rafael, the story was easy to follow. With no big angst filled dramas that always scare me, Francesca and Rafael presented many challenges as they were. I can't emphasize enough how much enjoyed such variety of people in one story, with both the hero and the heroine, and their families and friends, there was always so much going on and so many issues and challenges thrown in at once. It was definitely fun to read. I was on the verge of getting lost a few times with the speed of conversation of all 18 year olds, but hey, I got some young chica in me that quickly got the gist. Needless to say, after I got on board with them, I had a good time in their company. Francesca and Rafael's gangs were fun, and on their way to be united in more ways than one I think, which is something I'm looking forward to in the upcoming books.

A great, fast paced start to a new magical world, I recommend this book to those who like the genre, and to ones who wouldn't mind giving it a try. I sure didn't regret it. Plus, look at the cover! You gotta admit, that gets extra points in awesomeness.

Let me sign up for the next book! I hear there's still time. Now, how to kill it, hmm? Magic brownies and crazy tea parties anyone?

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## Silvana says

Meet Francesca Bellafiore, she is extremely attractive young girl. She has two mothers and ability to healing people. Yes, she has powers, as other people who she knows including her mothers. She went to special school for kids with abilities as no other, ordinary people. Rafael has ability too, he is an illusionist. They are different as fire and water, but when they meet each other that will be different kind of disaster. She want to be herself and helping people , but without exposing so much and she doesn't like to be in the center of the attention, but he is bad boy, very hot but bad. Hiding behind the mask of bad ass, he just wants to angry her father.

There are pretty interesting things that was new for me like Gizmo magic, transmutation and that kind of things, so I was googling little bit to find what those things are. It was interesting and I have fun. I'm not used to read fantasy books, so I needed few days to reread so pages just to figure out what is going on. I know you will think: Common who doesn't love fantasy books? There are so many blogs who review just fantasy books. I know and I love this book and most important thing is that this book brings my fantasy back, which I lost till this years.

The plot is interesting and keeps me reading. The characters are so vivid and dramatic, so who doesn't like that kind of characters. Francesca with her straight and ability is real goddess. She doesn't love to be in the center of attention, but she is like magnet of attention and when she meets Rafael that is explosion. It's hard not to have fun reading about them; they are like hot and cold together. The sparkles spark around them, even when they hate each other. I like the chemistry when they are together.

I recommend this book for fantasy fans and for people who love YA.

This copy was provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

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