



Dime Store Magic

Kelley Armstrong

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Paige Winterbourne was always either too young or too rebellious to succeed her mother as leader of one of the world's most powerful elite organizations- the American Coven of Witches. Now that she is twenty-three and her mother is dead, the Elders can no longer deny her. But even Paige's wildest antics can't hold a candle to those of her new charge- an orphan who is all too willing to use her budding powers for evil... and evil is all too willing to claim her. For this girl is being pursued by a dark faction of the supernatural underworld. They are a vicious group who will do anything to woo the young, malleable, and extremely powerful neophyte, including commit murder- and frame Paige for the crime. It's an initiation into adulthood, womanhood, and the brutal side of magic that Paige will have to do everything within her power to make sure they both survive.

Dime Store Magic Details

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Author : Kelley Armstrong

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From Reader Review Dime Store Magic for online ebook

Bark says

I haven't yet read Armstrong's "Bitten" or "Stolen" so had to pay very close attention to the first few chapters to get the feel of this world and figure out who was who and what they had to do with the current story but now that I've got most of it figured out the pages are flying. Paige is tough and gutsy and vulnerable as well. And I'm digging the gore, the suspense, the wise-a*s humor and the tension (sexual and otherwise). Kind of reminds of very early Laurell K. Hamilton before she became sex obsessed to the point where a coherent plot was no longer an option ;)

The action is pretty much non-stop and the secret world of witches and cabals working behind the modern day world is well done and a nice take on things. The fact that they have to hide their abilities from normal folks is a nice touch and adds a touch of realism to the plot but I'm a little annoyed at the author for taking such obvious joy at poking fun at modern day Wiccans in the "They Aren't Naked, they're Skyclad." chapter. Her Wiccans all seem to be a bit loony and stereotypical . . .

This was an enjoyable read with some great action, humor, romance and characterization but at times I feel like I was missing something when past events were mentioned in passing and probably should have read this series in order.

Fables&Wren says

WrensReads Review:

I absolutely adore Paige and identify with her purely.

If you haven't read the first two books of this series, you need to turn that little butt right around and march to your library and check out Elena's books Bitten and Stolen. Even though these stories are not always told by the same person, there is a flow to them. Like, for example, Paige and Savannah were not only introduced in the second book, Stolen, but they also rely heavily on the set up into this story.

Paige is a young twenty-something witch who is taking care of a tween named Savannah. Both of their mother's died (reasons in the last book, Stolen) and they are constantly trying to make it work.

Well, here comes a Volo (telekinetic) half-demon cop named Leah who just really wants Savannah for some reason. Seriously I don't know why she is so bent out of shape about her. She wants custody over the girl. But she isn't a relative or anything.

In order to lay her claim, Leah goes and finds Savannah's dad. For some reason she believes that it is a sorcerer who is a big bad business lawyer, Nast Cabal. The Cabal thing is just too much for me to explain for you. It's kind of like Wolfram and Hart (TV show Angel, Buffyverse) except they are all sorcerers and family members? There are different branches for each family? You'll have to read to find out exactly who they are.

There are satanic rituals, house burnings, running from the police, grave digging, conjuring demons, unexplained deaths and the dead walking in this book. The story itself is literally the most entertaining thing. You won't get bored.

Now, the writing on the other hand... is literally better. Armstrong does not disappoint when it comes to writing in a way that makes you laugh and makes you feel for the characters she wants you to. Paige is nothing like Elena, yet she is everything and more. I love Elena and Paige for different reasons and I am happy that more than one character has been the center of a book.

Not to mention Lucas is 100% legit.

Get into this series if you like risky things, gore, horror, supernatural, twist, and nonstop wonderfulness.

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Megan says

The thing about Kelley Armstrong is that while I didn't love the main characters or even the story line here, her writing is completely addictive and her world building amazing. I'm enthralled by her Otherworld and in awe of her ability to tell the reader so much about it without ever presenting it in an info dump or mind-numbingly confusing way.

That said, Paige is naive, boring and slightly TSTL. Savannah is interesting. And as for Lucas Cortez... see the description for Paige. The issue I have with Paige is that while she seems like a fantastic person to know in real life, for an urban fantasy heroine... she just doesn't cut it. And the entire way the villains and mystery played out seemed like an episode of Scooby Doo gone awry. Even with ~~unlikable~~ uninteresting characters, Armstrong had me hooked the entire novel. Perhaps it's the ex-Catholic schoolgirl in me, but I loved all the witchy rituals and candle burning and whatnot.

I am in love with Armstrong's story telling ability. In fact, *Dime Store Magic* would have gotten four stars from me if it weren't for (view spoiler)

valee says

Well, what can I say? I'm definitely hooked! Even more than what I want to admit. Maybe it is because I was so sure I would not like this series. Of course no complains from me as this series turned out to be a wonderful surprise which I was definitely not expecting. Even though in this installment we get things from Paige's POV, which I thought would be extremely boring as I did not like her in the previous book, we still get to read about this same world which is captivating me little by little. I like that in a paranormal series, to

start book by book and get to know a bit more of that new world with each new installment we get to read. And I definitely love it when we get to read about a lot of different paranormal species in a same series. This installment is specifically about witches and sorcerers, but we still get glimpses about the other species as well. I thought it would't be interesting to read about them, but it ended up being original and refreshing. The author made a terrific work with the world building and the description of this two species, so elaborated that I just got sucked into the story. Read the whole book in a day, couldn't put it down.

I'm just not giving 5 stars still because the endings in this series are always incomplete, not exactly cliff hangers, just torturing little details you wanna know about but you never do. As we know there are still many more books so I am not worried about it, but I am a very curious person to be completely satisfied with a book without having all the information explained at the end. I can understand cliff hangers because they are about situations and actions, but in this case we just know somethings will come in the future and we just have to wait for the other books to see it. Just wanna clarify that from now on I am a fan! Just bring me more books because I wont be able to stop with this series for a while.

Alkyoni says

Been four years since I read the previous book.

So, even though I don't remember the details, I do remember the feeling after finishing Bitten and Stolen (Books 1 & 2). Underwhelmed pretty much covers it.

For some reason that I can't really explain, I wasn't all that into Elena and Clay's story the way that most fans of the series were. I liked the writing, the world building, the action, but not the characters. I didn't like them but I didn't dislike them either, I just couldn't bring myself to care about what happens to them.

So it was with a heavy heart that I picked this one up, considering that most readers found it to be a lesser instalment in the series after the werewolf stories. And what do you know? I loved it.

Yeap, the odd one out once again, forever alone, call it what you want but I loved Dime Store Magic. The funny thing is that the MC, Paige, was in the previous book as well and I can't even remember her. I loved her in this one. She's tough, she's smart, she's funny, she's stubborn, she's lost, she's the girl next door and one that most readers will be able to relate to.

Savannah, well... She's 13 and a major pain in the ass. A total brat and not in the endearing term of the word. Reading about the two of them trying to understand each other, hell, to communicate, was frustrating and the same time totally understandable. Considering Savannah's upbringing and the events of the previous book, it would have been completely unrealistic to have it any other way.

Lucas... *sigh* I am alone in this one but I have a crush on him. His looks are average (Paige says that you wouldn't remember him 5 minutes after meeting him), he is a total nerd, he talks like Sheldon from the Big Bang Theory, he can't throw a punch to save his life, but he is so ADORABLE. He wants to make the world a better place and he offers his services to people in need (something like the cloaked crusader in a

permanent Clark Kent disguise, according to Paige).

Keep in mind that this is an UF, not a PNR, so don't expect much on romance. Paige and Lucas do fall for each other, but that's a very minor part of the story and it happens well past the first half of the book.

What you can expect is a good written story, with much more information on the creatures of the Otherworld, lots of action, some funny moments and little romance thrown in to spice things up.

Lucy says

I read *Bitten* a few months ago and gave it four stars, but I didn't continue with the series. I'm not sure why because I really did enjoy *Bitten*. I have a feeling it was one of those times where I picked up the first book and I had a pile of other stuff to read and I just never circled back to it. I enjoyed *Stolen* the second book in the series, although not as much as the first. I was skeptical about *Dime Store Magic* because I didn't like Paige when I encountered her in the second book. I felt bad for her at times, but my feelings about Paige were much like Clay's about Paige. I was annoyed she was around interfering with the series.

Dime Store Magic revolves around a custody dispute over a young witch. Most of the book is an idiot plot, as in the main character has to be an idiot for the plot to move forward. Paige makes the wrong choice at every turn and walks into some very obvious traps. I can forgive a lot of it, but when she gets a phone call requesting she go to the funeral home where a man she's been accused of murdering is being waked... who would say 'gee golly okay, let's go.' No one. There was absolutely no reason the paperwork she was going to retrieve couldn't be sent to her via UPS. She walked into a trap that was built off a situation that had ALSO been a trap. Paige is an idiot and you have to spend 400 plus pages with her.

I didn't think she was a particularly good guardian and I didn't have a lot of interest in the coven side story so it was really hard for me to be emotionally invested in any of this. A lot of universe rules were broken in this book, including characters risking exposure they normally wouldn't risk. There's a whole scene at a funeral home that's totally implausible given the world building and the fact that Kelley Armstrong's universe is a hidden universe, meaning it exists within the one we all occupy. It's not so hidden with corpses flying around. I'm sorry, but I can only buy hidden universe stories if the hiding is taken **seriously** by the occupants of the world.

The romance is lackluster... the big sex scene was weird! I'm all for smut! I'm all for magic smut! I thought the sex scenes in *Bitten* and *Stolen* were well written... but this? Paige and Lucas didn't have a lot of chemistry to begin with and then when they finally sleep together it's all magic fireballs and radios. Also, I've never had a man stop kissing me when sex was fast approaching so he could like tune the radio station. I get what Armstrong was trying to do here. She had magical people, she had the opportunity to write a magical sex scene, but I just wasn't sold on how it happened or when it happened... I was mostly embarrassed to be reading it.

Unfortunately I was doing therapeutic book buying when I picked up Kelley's books. I own them all. I don't know if this means I'm going to skip the next one to preserve myself, take a long break between three and four, or if I'm just going to swallow the fourth book as a loss and move onto five.

Niki Hawkes - The Obsessive Bookseller says

Dual Review: Dime Store Magic & Industrial Magic

It took me a loooooong time to get around to continuing this series with Dime Store Magic. I loved Bitten and Stolen, but found myself a little bitter that the series would start following different characters from there. I think my overall sentiment was “well, if continuing is going to feel like starting a new series, it doesn’t matter when I read them (salty reader, party of one).” For the most part, that was true. The story in books 3&4 focuses on Paige and her involvement in the witch and sorcerer communities (Elena’s story is a footnote, and werewolves take a backseat to other supernatural beings). It does tie back to Stolen, but more in a spin-off kind of way.

I’m not going to lie – I didn’t hate it.

I think I can see what Armstrong is trying to do with the series, and think nowadays I’m more in the mood to appreciate a series that takes a little longer to get to the payoff. What it has going for it are interesting and sassy female characters (I think Paige is one of the most relatable uf leads I’ve come across even if she is a little typical), good mysteries, romance, and writing that you can really lose yourself in. The story components weren’t earth-shattering, but I absolutely love where I think it’s going and look forward to seeing through some potential plot points.

Dime Store Magic offered a good Kate Daniels/Julie* relationship between Paige and Savannah and had a lot of excellent witchy moments (by witchy I mean supernatural spell casting and other creepy shit). It also had a decently organic romance, which I always appreciate. I finished this book feeling genuinely excited to see where the story went next. I even picked up Industrial Magic within a couple weeks (a turnaround that’s pretty unheard of with me). *Side note: I realize this was probably written before the KD series, but as I’m a super fan of that one now, everything must be compared. ;P

Industrial Magic was less about Paige’s relationships and more about the politics and dynamics within the witch and sorcerer communities (with a dash of necromancer and vampire). It expanded the plot sufficiently for me even though the story went in a different direction than I was expecting. It was much more inclusive of other supernatural groups, which made the whole world feel more robust and well-developed. The further I read, the more I appreciate how Armstrong is writing this series.

Overall, comparing books 3&4 to 1&2 is like apples to oranges. They’re still fruit sitting together in the same basket, but the sampling experience is vastly different. Elena’s story was more carnal and sensory, whereas I would call Paige’s more thoughtful and conceptual. Armstrong did a great job adapting her storytelling to both of these unique POVs, but I can see how such a drastic change caused a lot of readers to complain of a quality decline. They say the apples aren’t as good; I say that’s because you bit into an orange when you were expecting an apple.

Recommendations: I personally think there’s more than one type of urban fantasy, and books 3&4 strike a very different note than books 1&2 (as discussed above). As someone who likes most types, I’d recommend both as long as you’re prepared for the change. These haven’t landed at the top of my uf list yet, but they’re making a very compelling (and entertaining) case. :)

Other books you might like:

Jilly says

The best part of reading this was doing a buddy read with the MacHalo group. If you want to join a fun and active reading group, join this one. They are not crazy, but definitely pushing the boundaries pretty hard. You can even get away with barely participating, like me, and still be a happy member.

Okay, now that the commercial is over.

So, this book was about a witch, Paige, who has custody of a seriously bratty teenager who has strong magic. Let's just say that rebellious bratty kids with the power to hex adults is a really really bad idea. We learn this a few times when her little spells ended up in much bloodshed.

But, there are others who want bratty teen-witch for their own, and they are suing Paige for custody. Yes, this book is a custody battle. And, like all legal battles, there will be lying, scheming, murder, mayhem, zombies... and worst of all- lawyers...

For the first part of the book I was seriously wondering if I could get through it. There were summons', legal maneuvering, and depositions going on. It was that same feeling as when we all got excited that the Star Wars franchise was going to make prequels and then we got senate meetings for two hours.

Oh my gosh, could they ruin it any more than this?

Yes. Yes, they could.

Luckily, this was no regular legal battle, though. There was a hella lot more killing going on. So, it wasn't too boring. Just a bit boring.

Speaking of boring... our heroine meets her hero in the form of a young lawyer that is going to help her. She describes him as looking bland. She says that he's the kind of person you see and then forget a minute later. I would also describe his personality as bland. He's the kind of guy that won't laugh at a joke, but will point out the scientific errors in it. He's the kind of guy who will tell you when it is appropriate to use the word "whom". Stand back, ladies, he's taken!

Yes, our hero is a Hispanic version of Dwight. I'm not sure about his stance on beets.

Much like Dwight, though, this guy grows on you. He is always there for Paige when she needs him, and he is very steady in every way. I know, I know, your ovaries are probably quivering by now, but like I said, he's taken. You missed your shot.

Overall, when it came to rating this book and I was hovering over the stars, when the two-star rating came up as "it was okay", I felt like it completely captured my complex feelings over this book. It's like a mind-reader or something.

Will I read the next one? Maybe, if it is with the group. No, if it is dependent upon my motivation to read it on my own.

Carol. says

A ridiculously fast re-read, done mostly to keep my mind of a building headache. It's done well enough. I found the story interesting. I just remained amazed that Paige could be so naive. Mistake after mistake, and the classic romantic "throw your rescuer out on his heels" mistake. Still, maybe small town living and thinking help explain some of that.

Choko says

***** 4.25 *****

This one was more fun than I remembered! That was a pleasant surprise, since the first book in the series was kind of hard to push through... However, the second and third books are starting to grow on me and I think the author is growing as well ?! This book is about the young witch Savannah and her efforts to get used to her new family, her powers, and figuring out what is acceptable or not, very much in keeping with every single teenager in the heat of puberty, only when throwing a tantrum she can level a city block down to dust! Talk about a need for anger management before anything else ?...

Savannah is the prize in a custody battle between her new guardian and her newly discovered father, who is a big shot sorcerer. His newly acquired desire to play daddy dearest is the fact that Savannah is an emergent powerful witch and the reputation of his house can really grow ? if she became a part of their daily operation. In Page, her current foster mom and tutor in the good-witch arts, she has a woman who is growing to love her more with every passing day and is passionate about making sure to keep her on the side of the good guys. It sucks that so many of those who are supposed to be among the good guys are making it so hard on the two young women... And don't get me started on supposed good lawyers... Ghhhhrrrrrr! But, maybe there is one of the Lawyer persuasion, young, Hispanic, and new to the court proceedings, who might be brave and brazen enough to stand in their corner and go against a powerful House of Wizards... Maybe ?! Oo, and maybe he is a total nerd and has hardly any personality, but I still think he is adorable ?!

There is a recurring appearance by a bitch villain and some really spooky stuff happening in a funeral parlor, which gave this volume some creepy vibe and didn't leave any space for relaxation - once the action took off, it didn't let up!

I am looking forward to reading the next book in the series and hope the author cuts back even more on the info dumps the first book was so riddled with. This was sooooo much better!

I wish you all Happy Reading and many more wonderful books to come!

Anastasia ? says

A really good read.

Erin ? *Proud Book Hoarder* says

“According to Cortez, the Cabals had strict policies against employing any supernatural being that might mistake them for lunch.”

I have to admit that after the first two books through Elena's point of view, I wasn't excited about switching points of view and diving into Paige's head. Willing to give it a shot, after taking the dive I didn't want to emerge again. Paige is awesome - while I may still like Elena a wee bit better, her story was just as good.

Paige and Savannah have been living together since the horrors that took place during Stolen, and not only are some not happy about it *cough* snooty coven *cough*, there is now a custody battle brewing that involves the super powerful Cabal and former villain Leah. Help comes from an unlikely place in the form of Lucas, a new intro for the series and someone I hope sticks around. There's some legal play going down but it's mainly a battle of the magic, set ups and luck. The office scene with the lawyer ending his career was kind of epic.

Paige grinded on my nerves some by not getting over some of her paranoia toward Lucas, but once she thaws out she's great. Loved the development of their bond. Lucas is described as a little generic and scrawny; he speaks with a lawyer's spiel and uptight manner for most of the book, but this just makes him more endearing. He's passionate about causes, he's protected for the weak, he's trying to make his way in the world. Savannah acts like a pre-teen girl which is annoying at least half the time.

The book wins with its storyline because there are different forces pushing against them, plenty of tension, action is kept strong, and personal relationships better the characters actually keep me caring. If I had to say a bad thing, it'd be Paige's naivitiy with falling into some of the traps was annoying. The funeral home, come on!

If you've shied away from reading more of the series because you don't want head-swapping, I assure you Paige's story is filled with magic, dimension, and all sorts of Urban Fantasy goodies.

Kathy says

From a blog post I wrote in 2006:

I found a new author I really dig. Kelley Armstrong has a series of books out with supernatural characters. I whipped through Bitten, Stolen, Dime Store Magic, Industrial Magic, Haunted and Broken in no time at all.

The first two and the last books have as their main character the lone female werewolf in the world. The third

and fourth book have a young witch as the focal point and the fifth one features the story of a dead (but ghostly) witch.

These were really good. My favorite topics, sex and violence, are in there but there's also a lot about personal relationships and a well developed world that the characters reside in.

The books share the same characters throughout. The stories and characters actually show growth which is nice. I'm really growing tired of series where the characters seem to be stuck at a certain point and it all feels like just more of the same (think Anita Blake).

Good stuff here, check it out.

Alex is The Romance Fox says

I somehow missed reading this book, which is the 3rd novel in Kelley Armstrong's Women of the Otherworld series and as I loved this series, decided that I wanted to know more about Paige Winterbourne.

Synopsis: Leader of the American Coven, guardian to the preteen daughter of a black witch ... it's not the lifestyle twenty-three year-old Paige Winterbourne imagined for herself, and it's wreaking hell on her social life.

But she's up to the challenge. When half-demon Leah O'Donnell returns to fight for custody of Savannah, Paige is ready.

She's not as prepared for the team of supernatural's Leah brings with her, including a powerful sorcerer who claims to be Savannah's father. Cut off from her friends, accused of witchcraft, Satanism, necromancy, murder...Paige quickly realizes that keeping Savannah could mean losing everything else. Has she finally found a battle she isn't willing to fight?

The first two books Bitten <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1...>

and Stolen <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1...> concentrated on Elena Michaels, the only female werewolf in the world, and now we have Paige's story, we met before.

Paige, a young witch, who has inherited the leadership of the American Coven of witches after her mother was murdered, is living a quiet life in a small town and is the guardian of a teenage witch, Savannah.

When dark forces try to take Savannah away from her care, Paige and Savannah will have to fight the supernatural powers that are determined to do anything to get Savannah into their clutches.

The author has created likeable and endearing characters and it comes across in Paige, Savannah and Lucas, a sorcerer, who helps them and who also is attracted to Paige. Even though he dislikes witches and struggles to gain Paige's trust, there's a strong bond between the two.....and the way their relationship was handled really well.

An exciting, exhilarating and fun read...filled with witch and demon lore, engaging characters and a fast-paced story-line

This is such a fascinating world where clairvoyants, demons, humans, witches, necromancers, sorcerers, shamans, vampires, and werewolves live secretly in a modern human world.

I am such a fan of this series....

Delirious Disquisitions says

You should read this if you like: witch mythology with a twist, blood magic, covens, cults, non-skinny protagonists, slow-burn romance, small towns, necromancy, slight gore, and mild horror.

Dime Store Magic reminds me of that time I went to watch *Avatar* with my whole family. I mean, what an interesting concept! What graphics! But ultimately, I was bored out of my mind and fell asleep halfway through the movie. Same with this, expect the boredom was compounded by about 30%. And I fell asleep multiple times. *shrugs*

I picked this for a change of genre since I've been reading fantasy non stop for a while. Having read the first couple of books in the series, I was interested to explore more of this supernatural world. However, I think I might just stick to the Werewolves in this series. Compared to the Werewolf lore from *Bitten* and *Stolen*, the witch/sorcerer mythology kind of paled in comparison. Like its Puritan origins, the witch's Coven in *Dime Store Magic* are abysmally boring, steeped in petty superstition, and run by a trio of old, narrow minded women. The dialogues in this book made me want to pull my hair out! Nothing ever gets done in this Coven because of the sheer paranoia of the Elders. It was frustrating how they just refused to change, or listen to reason, or do literally anything helpful! Honestly, reading about this town and its people just made me feel terribly claustrophobic. If that was the author's intent, then I applaud you for doing such a terrific job of it. It wasn't a very pleasant experience however, and I don't think I would like to repeat it anytime soon.

The other problem I had was with the characters. I just, I felt nothing for them? Any of them? Expect maybe Savannah. I've never been the maternal sort. I'm not too fond of kids and don't ever want any for myself.

Dime Store Magic just confirmed those feelings. There were times, while reading this book, that I seriously just wanted Paige to dump Savannah's whiny ass on the side of the road and set it on fire. Savannah is hands down the most fucking annoying teenage brat I've ever read about. I hated literally every. single .thing about this child. And honestly, no one was happier when she finally realized how much shit she is in. Like child, you need to fucking listen to your guardian for once in your God damned life or else she will end up dead and literally you only have yourself to blame! Ugh!!! I get she's 13. I just hated her anyways.

1.5 stars really. This book did nothing for me so I don't think I'll be continuing with this series anymore.

Jennifer says

★★½

Dime Store Magic is the third installment in Kelley Armstrong's urban fantasy series titled Women of the Otherworld. I loved the shifter characters featured in the first two books: *Bitten* and *Stolen*. In the second book: *Stolen*, I tolerated the witches that were introduced and seemed to slowly but surely take over the plot. Now in the third book, the shifters appear to be totally absent - this story is only about the witches. I'm not a happy reader right now since the only reason I follow this series is for the shifter pack.

However...

Even though I want to thoroughly enjoy my temper tantrum, I must take a moment to say Dime Store Magic wasn't a bad book. I wish it was so I would be justified in hating it but to be honest the story was fairly engaging. Needless to say, I didn't enjoy the characters much at all, and if this series continues with the witches then I may have to drop it so please tell me that Elena, Clay, Jeremy, and the rest of the family will be coming back...please!!!!

My favorite quote:

"She threw open her arms, embraced me, planted a kiss on my lips, then another on my left breast. I yelped...I grabbed the nearest discarded robe. "Could you please put this-- Could you all put these-- Could you get dressed, please?" The woman only bestowed a serene smile on me. "We are as the Goddess requires." "The Goddess requires you to be naked on my lawn?" "We aren't naked child, we're sky-clad."..."That's --uh--very-- I mean--" I stammered. Be polite, I reminded myself. Witches should respect Wiccans, even if we didn't quite get the whole Goddess-Worship thing. I knew some Wiccans, and they were very nice people, though I must admit they'd never arrived in my backyard naked and kissed my tits before."

Tatiana says

"Dime Store Magic" is the third book in Women of the Otherworld series. It is narrated from the POV of Paige, a Coven witch introduced in the second book of the series. The story is centered on Savannah, a powerful teenage witch who is taken care of by Paige. A custody battle ensues when Savannah's sorcerer father tries to bring the girl to his Cabal. He does it with the help of telekinetic half-demon Leah, also introduced in "Stolen." Paige quickly finds herself overwhelmed by both legal and magical assaults on her and Savannah and is forced to resort to the help of an unlikely ally - a sorcerer lawyer Lucas Cortez.

Once again, Armstrong creates a very convincing world of witches and sorcerers, Covens and Cabals, spells and rituals. I thought the hierarchies, the structures of the societies of the two races, even politics and history were very well thought out and written, and yet for some reason I wasn't taken by this new world as much as I was by the werewolf world in "Bitten" and "Stolen." Maybe it has something to do with overwhelming presence of elderly women and lack of strong sexy men, maybe I prefer violent cut-throat world of werewolves more, or maybe witches are simply not my thing.

The romance part also lacked. Paige's love interest Lucas is a nice enough guy, but nothing more. He is rather uptight, proper, and a bit goody-goody for my taste. This book certainly missed the passion and drama of Clay/Elena relationship. Plus, the entire romance part was very secondary to the main story line and introduced almost as an afterthought.

I will continue reading the series, maybe I will warm up to Paige and Lucas in the next book about them. Also, I am curious to see what will come out of Savannah's character. Right now she is one spoiled and snarky 13-year old. I think she will make a great protagonist in the future books (I heard she'll narrate books 11 and 12 of the series).

Jessica ☺ ☺ Silverbow ☺ ☺ Rabid Reads-no-more says

At the end of *Stolen*, Paige took custody of Savannah--an arrangement that promised to be entertaining as at age 22, Paige was only roughly ten years her senior. In *Dime Store Magic*, we fast-forward nine months.

Things between Paige and Savannah are stable, but not comfortable; they're still trying to understand each other. This is complicated when Paige receives a summons to appear for a custody challenge. From Leah. Paige shows up only to find that the challenge is really coming from Kristof Nast, Savannah's biological father, a sorcerer and heir of the Nast Cabal. Not long after this, Lucas Cortez, heir of yet another Cabel, shows up on Paige's doorstep offering legal representation.

Havoc ensues.

This is not my favorite in the Otherworld series. Lucas and Paige lack the passion of Clay and Elena--aside from a comment Savannah makes to Paige insinuating Lucas *likes* her, I didn't realize they were seriously interested until they suddenly jumped each other. And while it is completely understandable that Savannah is having serious issues for various, valid reasons, the fact remains, in this book she is a B-R-A-T. A temper-tantrum throwing little hellion. And not at all in an amusing way.

Still, it was an entertaining, quick read.

Redfox5 says

When I first realised the series moved away from Elena and the werewolves, I was slightly sceptical. After reading the second book, though my liking for Elena took a bit of a decline and I wasn't too bothered about getting away for a bit.

Following Paige's story would not have been my first choice, as she was very irritating in the last book. But this goes more in-depth with her character and she is much cooler than I first thought.

Not only has she taken teenage witch Savannah under her wing, she is also coven leader to a group of crusty old witches who would rather hide than stand up for anything.

She then finds herself being targeted by half-demons & sorcerers who are claiming family connections with Savannah and she has a battle on her hands!

Enter the lovable Cortez and things start to get real interesting! This pulls the series back up there from the last book. Looking forward to the next one!

Robin Edman says

Jesus God, this book is boring! It's one long explication of a magical quality that doesn't exist, explained by people I wouldn't allow in my home twice (I don't invite anybody back who lacks a personality). When the book takes a break from that, it's canting morality at me. I just cannot tell you how dull it is to listen to a person agonizing over the morality of a non-issue. And I most certainly do not recommend that you find out for yourself by reading this tripe. People with fully developed personalities know right from wrong and can pin it down for the rest of us in seconds.

