



So Mote It Be

Isobel Bird

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Special feature: This PerfectBound e-book contains Part One of an interview with author Isobel Bird.

With this ribbon I do bind
My heart to yours and yours to mine.
Love, I call you, come to me,
As is my will, so mote it be.

Kate cast the love spell with results unforeseen. She cannot stop it by herself, but the book of spells tells her of two strangers who can help her -- if only she can find them.

So Mote It Be Details

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Author : Isobel Bird

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From Reader Review So Mote It Be for online ebook

Cecilia Lauenstein says

Ein sehr unrealistisches Buch, aber vielleicht hat es mir deshalb auch so gut gefallen... :)
this book is very unrealistic but it is because of that, that made The book so good. :) lot of magic in the book. The book is about a girl at School and she wants that the boys should fall in Love with her. But IT does not happen so she learns to use magic to get what she wants.

Bookbuyer says

This book sadly wasn't as good as I remembered it but since that was almost 15 years ago I'm not really surprised.

What drew me to this years ago was Wicca and since I have lost interest in that this book wasn't as 'magical' to me anymore. :P

I like Kate. She wasn't a great character but she wasn't bad. Just average. It took me a long time to figure out that Annie was one of the other three MC's so I'm a bit concerned about that. :S

I found Annie to be a really good character though. She reminds me a bit of myself and of Tris from Tamora Pierce's books which is my favorite character.

I like that Scott still likes her.

I'm glad that ALMOST everything went back to normal. :)

ellemaddy says

I want to read this so bad but I can't find it anywhere RIP.

Literally me 2 seconds later: nvm I found it on iBooks.

I've been feeling extra nostalgic lately and I wanted to read this series so much. I read Through The Veil years and years ago. I didn't realise it was part of a series when I bought it but I remember really liking it back then.

This series certainly have great premises. I just really like the idea of girl friendship and Witchcraft. It makes me think of Charmed, Buffy, and the whole 90s getups. Will try to find the second book now!

LB says

This review is also posted at <http://readingnookandcranny.blogspot....>

I started watching The Secret Circle on Netflix and when I realized it was based on a book series, I could have sworn I had read it before initially before getting through the pilot. Then I read deeper into the full plot of the series and realized it was different than the book series about witches I had read in early high school. But then my curiosity was peaked, and I was determined to remember which series I had read.

After a lot of different search phrases in Google, I finally realized it was the Circle of Three series. So proud of myself for finding the series and remembering the correct one, I decided I should read it again. It took a little library hunting, but I finally got my hands on a copy of So Mote It Be.

Now I don't remember how much I liked this series growing up, but - assuming I was pretty devoted as I remember I read a good way through the series if not in its entirety - I will start by saying the literature does not stand the test of time. Reading this novel in my early twenties, the dialogue and much of the plot seemed cliched and weak. The characters were rather one dimensional, except for the three high schoolers that end up forming the circle - they at least had two dimensions... kind of.

Still, it was an okay read while watching a movie in the background. Nothing really original or anything that stood out, but okay for a first novel in a series. The true test will be when I read the second novel, if I can manage to get my hands on it as well. While I have no doubt it will be littered with the same teen "angst" and tendency toward boy craziness, hopefully the Wicca aspect of the series will have a chance to develop more, as it is still more of an underlying theme in this first novel.

Esmeralda says

This book is not just for anyone(not trying to hurt anyone) because its like for those readers that want to know in a fictional way about witchcraft. The books is hardcore right to the point in other words is fast pace the story start from the main characters "normal" life to a deep change thanks too... One needs to read it to know what I'm trying to say. I love this book sadly is only in eBook wish the author will comes back and decides to reprint them in a three in one paperback or hardcover book. This book I read it in high school never finished it and how I found it is a story to be told. Hope to find a hardcopy for this book someday.

Witchy Books says

From the Witchy Books Network review blog.

Kate Morgan, a 16-year-old, popular basketball player, is assigned a term paper on the witch trials of the 17th century. Amongst the pile of books she checks out of the library, she finds an actual spellbook. Skeptical at first, she decides to try a love spell to attract the football-playing senior of her dreams. When the spell goes haywire -- earning her the attentions of every guy in school and the ire of all their girlfriends -- she begins wishing that magic wasn't real after all.

Out of desperation, she discovers who checked out the spellbook before her, revealing two unlikely allies -- science whiz Annie Crandall and punk rocker Cooper Rivers. As they work together to undo Kate's spell, Kate finds herself questioning everything about her world and is faced with a choice -- to leave magic behind completely, or to pursue this new path and see where it leads.

This book is a solid introduction to a wonderful series. Admittedly, on its own it has its flaws -- a lot of the secondary characters feel like stereotypical "high school students". However, the injection of Wicca and magic spices it up enough to keep the reader interested. By the end of the book, we see all three girls make small but crucial steps towards growth and self-discovery that make the rest of the series worth reading.

Circle of Three is unique in that it's probably the most realistic series we'll review here. Isobel Bird wrote the books specifically to show the real world of Wicca. And while some of the books dip into the more explicitly supernatural (book 3 Second Sight, book 5 In the Dreaming, book 11 The House of Winter), it basically takes place wholly in the real world and showcases actual Wiccan practices.

Sadly, the series is out of print. However, the fansite Enter The Circle has a good rundown of all of your purchase options on their "Buy the Books" page. And you can read an excerpt on the HarperCollins website.

Book 1: * * * Series: * * * *

JonSnow says

It's the first book, so I'll give it some slack. That said, it was written decently for a teen novel. What was disappointing was how generic the story seemed. It is basically every romance/wicca tale you have ever heard of. Girl sees boy. Boy doesn't notice girl. Girl discovers magic. Etc. It was alright but very very generic as a plot. I feel like I've read/watched this very thing unfold a thousand times.

Over all I like it for what it was, considering there don't seem to be many books of this sort around. I'm a fan of coming of age stories in general. This certainly isn't anywhere on the level of Cate Tiernan's Sweep series, but it's not terrible. I'm already into book 2 and finding myself somewhat interested.

There isn't anything particularly shocking that happens in my opinion, hence the 3 stars. But, the generosity of the stars is based on the fact that the writing, while referencing pop culture a couple times here or there, wasn't actually all that bad for what this is. It could use a bit more emotion, a bit deeper character development, and a few more twists to the plot.

Ariel says

I about died from excitement when I saw on Overdrive a series that jumped out to me. I used to read these books ALL the time as a kid! It was cheap, flimsy paperbacks put on the crap revolving shelves at my library and it took forever to turn them around and find the exact book you wanted. My YA section was so small. It was one shelf unit, back to front and that was about it. Thankfully, my new library is much larger and seems to be investing quite heavily in ebooks through Overdrive (to my great delight!)

This series centers around three teenage girls in high school who face their troubles and trials with magic,

Wicca to be exact. You have your popular jock girl, the loner, and the book nerd and all seem to have struggles with not liking their lives and wanting to change. Kate, the "main" girl for the first book, finds a book of magic spells in the library while doing research for her paper. Not really believing that it will work, she does a spell or two in the books and is amazed that it really does work. But it backfires and she scrambles for help, recruiting Annie and Cooper's help to figure out what to do to solve her problems.

The author of the series meant this as a way to introduce young teenagers to Wicca. I know that as a teenager, I had to figure out what I was going to observe spiritually and whether I wanted to continue to follow my religion. I know a bunch of my friends went through the same thing and so I appreciate this author trying to reach out to kids and introduce them to a line of thinking that could possibly interest them.

For myself, I just read this as a series of adventures of young women learning magic in a "realistic" way but also a group of girls trying to figure out high school and romance and friends and just everything that people at that age go through.

This was pure nostalgia for me to read and I totally loved it. It's pretty simplistic writing and not at all preachy. I could connect on the "fun magic" level and enjoy it from that angle. I would recommend it as a fun, light hearted journey with Kate, Annie, and Cooper and watch as they grow in friendship together!

Rebecca says

This series is not all I hoped it to be. There are quite a few subliminals on trends for today. The storyline seems fairly decent, but a person can only take so much of those lines in between like "Ooo! Isn't this dress great! It makes me look just like Britney Spears!" and "No, no. Green certainly isn't your color. You don't want to look too much like Christina Aguilera." I did, however, enjoy about 50% of the story...and I like that a fair amount of truth with Wicca came out in this book. (i.e.:Maypole Festivities). If you're looking for a really great new series of books based on Paganism/Wicca or supernatural, the I'd suggest Cate Tiernan's SWEEP series books.

Alaina Meserole says

So Mote it Be was an extremely interesting book that intrigued way too much due to the amount of cold and flu medicine I was on. That being said my buddy read comment may or may not make sense (SORRY Book!). That being said, this review may or may not make sense as well... because of that said medicine that I'm still on. Let's do this!

Okay so this book is about Kate Morgan who is a 16 year old girl and a basketball player. She gets assigned a term paper about the witch trials that happened in the 17th century for one of her classes which leads to all of this magic stuff happening throughout the book. At times I was confused because I thought I was reading some stuff wrong or maybe I just missed something on accident.. but in the end I just kind of rolled with it and blamed on the medicine, sneezing, and overall feeling like crap.

Overall, I still don't know how I feel about Kate's character. Yeah she was head over heels over a stupid boy. Then she started to kind of ditch her friends. Then she started to dabble in magic. THEN she started to ruin a lot of things and then try to make everything better. It was entertaining to say the least but the end kind of

confused me. I definitely think I skimmed over something or just misread something because if Sherrie is evil then I don't know what is right in the world anymore. Yeah she's cold and weird towards the end.. and kind of annoying and mean.. but ugh my mind was a little blown at the last page.

Well, now I'm hooked and dying to know what the hell is going on and what the hell is going to happen in the next book. I am going to search high and low, on kindle of course, and find this freaking book and READ IT DAMMIT!

I'm sick.. I have nothing else to do but read and sleep.

Sarah Crawford says

So Mote it Be

This is the first in a series of books by Isobel Bird. The story centers around Kate Morgan. She's interested in a boy named Scott, but Scott already has a girlfriend. Her group of friends figures Kate doesn't have a chance with Scott, which doesn't exactly make Kate happy.

Her history class is going to have to do papers and Kate ends up deciding to do one on witchcraft persecution. As she goes through various books she has chosen from the library she finds one that is a book of spells containing a Come to Me Love Spell, just the thing she feels would help her get the boy of her dreams.

The old saying "Be careful what you wish for" then comes into effect. First, Scott agrees to go with her to a Valentine's Day dance. Other boys start paying attention to her; she gets a high grade on a chemistry test, apparently due to another spell she uses, but this tends to upset some of the other students in the class since Kate's A on the test alters the grading curve, in effect making their scores lower.

More and more of her friends get angry with her over one thing and another, thus starting to isolate Kate. In effect, it seems the spells she has been casting have begun to have a much more wide-ranging effect than she expected. The good things happening for her come at the expense of bad things happening for others.

She then turns to one of the non-in crowd, Annie Crandall (an extremely intelligent student) who she finds has checked out a book on witchcraft from the library. Annie knows some about Wicca and helps Kate try to counteract the effects of the love spell. Unfortunately, when Kate gets to school she finds posters up on the walls asking people to vote for her for Valentine's Day Queen.

So another student is added to the group, Cooper Rivers, known as being anti-social (who I happened to like immediately since she wears Hello Kitty T-shirts!). The rest of the novel then deals with this group of three trying to learn a way to counter-act the original spell and return things to normal.

The book is rather good, actually. It tends to get a little long-winded on explaining about Wicca, but other than that it is really interesting, especially when Kate tries to balance the group of three she is in with her other group of friends at school who would totally disapprove of Kate's involvement with the first group.

The book does a good job with examining the seriousness of using spells and the necessity of thinking

everything out before you just leap into doing things. It's a story of conflicting friendships and people learning to take responsibility for their own actions. It examines the social life of a school and what effect that has on what a person does in their own private life.

The book succeeds on a variety of levels and is well worth reading.

Jen says

Read this series in high school and loved it. Rereading it now, especially after having read a bit on Wicca is pretty nice.

María says

Me encantan las historias de magia. Esta es particularmente interesante porque vemos el proceso interno de Kate quien quiere explorar el mundo de la hechicería pero tiene miedo a renunciar a su vida normal. Me gusta como muestran a la brujería y a los aquelarres. Lo devoré y me sentí volver a mí infancia o preadolescencia...

Jeanette says

I read this years ago. Decided I needed to reread it to get started on the series again.

Stephanie says

I read this book in middle school and even though the level is still for that age range, it was nice to revisit as an adult. I particularly like how the author clearly demonstrates that all actions have consequences, even magical ones. This is a good little read. Now, on to the next one!
