



Snow Bound

Elizabeth Kirke

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Jen is all too happy to accept an invitation to go skiing with the gang. She gears up for two weeks of snow, magic, and fun. Just when everything seems to be going great, an uninvited guest turns up. Soon the skiers aren't the only things going downhill. Jen thought that vampires were just about the most dangerous thing the magical world could throw at her. Unfortunately, she's about to learn that people with no magic at all can be just as deadly ...

Snow Bound Details

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Author : Elizabeth Kirke

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From Reader Review Snow Bound for online ebook

Jenny - Book Sojourner says

I really liked Semester Aboard, but I can honestly say that I liked Snow Bound even better. I love the characters that Kirke has created, and what we loved about them in the first book, we love even more about them here. I want to vacation with these guys (although maybe without being in mortal danger). What starts as a "normal" vacation quickly turns into the craziness we grew to love in Semester Aboard. But while I predicted a thing or two, most of the detours Kirke takes us on are surprise after surprise. I love that she kept me wondering what would happen next. Her pacing was great, alternating action scenes, romantic scenes, and informative scenes.

The best part of this series is the characters. The book is once again narrated by Jen. While I felt like Jen was doing too much observing at times and not getting in the action and dialogue when she could have, I also loved how we get to know so much more because of the curiosity and intuition of her character. I also loved her boldness with one character in particular, helping him get over his insecurities (yay). Thomas remains my favorite character, with his low-key, sweet side, his vulnerability and sensitivity, but also his strength. I love that he was so much more powerful in this book. Danio is my second favorite. He has so much depth that still remains a mystery, but he can be super funny and patient, yet fiercely protective. Okay, I really like everyone.

I don't want to give the story away, because even talking about the first few chapters could give away spoilers. But I will say that that Kirke does a great job combining a plot-driven novel with a character-driven novel. Snow Bound combines both of these brilliantly, and I can't wait to see what happens next to these characters.

Merisha28 says

Snow Bound by Elizabeth Kirke
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I bought this book from Amazon!

My Review~

I adore the cover! It is so beautiful and intriguing.

WOW OH WOW! This author has done it again what a masterpiece! I was so emotionally connected to this book I could not put it down. It was a very fast paced read full of action suspense, romance, and heartache. OMG! Had a terrific storyline and plot! Loved all the characters and love the new ones that show up in the book also. The writing style is superb! I think this story I'm in love with TS and Thomas. I so couldn't get this book out of my mind after I finished it. Wow weee why can't there be another book already out? So ready to read the next in this great series!

Amazon Book Description~

After learning how to use magic and fighting vampires, anyone would be bored going back to normal college

life. As if that wasn't enough, Jen didn't realize how hard it would be to tiptoe around her non-magic family and friends. She can't even talk to her familiar, Rak, without making sure no one else is around! Worst of all, Jen misses the friends she made over the summer. Aside from Rak, they're the only other magics she knows and she hasn't seen them in almost five months!

Jen is all too happy to accept an invitation to go skiing with the gang. She gears up for two weeks of snow, magic, and fun. Just when everything seems to be going great, an uninvited guest turns up. Soon the skiers aren't the only things going downhill. Jen thought that vampires were just about the most dangerous thing the magical world could throw at her. Unfortunately, she's about to learn that people with no magic at all can be just as deadly ...

Jasmin says

DNF - 50%

Nope

I guess I'll give it 1.5 stars because I wanted to like it, but I hated it..

Melanie says

I loved the More Than Magic: Semester Aboard Book #1, but this book, More Than Magic: Snow Bound Book #2 is even better! It starts with Jen going to a ski resort to have a vacation with the Magics she met on the cruise. Jen is so excited to see all of them, but is most looking forward to seeing Thomas who she developed a serious crush for on the cruise. She is all prepared when she arrives at the resort with her bag, skis and her familiar, Rak, a cat. Thomas was supposed to pick her up, but as much as she loves TS, he is alone to take her to their cabin. She is so excited and gets to ride TS as a werewolf the three miles to their cabin. She soon sees everyone, Dani, Mariana, Char and Thomas! Also she meets Ember, Char's Niece, who is a fire elemental herself. They all ski and have a great time. Dani tricks Thomas and Jen by getting them by themselves. It happens that they talk and kiss. :) This is the most darlin' scene. I love how it is written. They end up 'going steady' and Dani gets to tease them. Everything is going great, then Jen's non-magic cousin, Shannon, shows up as a surprise. Jen is tense and doesn't know what to do, but everyone else offers for her to stay in the cabin with them. Jen doesn't think this is a good idea because Shannon is sharp and can pick up little clues to figure out they're magics. No one else is worried and Jen decides to be ok with it. Things start to happen, Shannon starts putting things together and chaos erupts.

This is a must read! I love this book! I love how the author make reference to other vampire books.

Some of my favorite lines:

"Thomas shrugged. 'I like the cooked kind. But raw fish reminds me of congealed blood.'" "That is the grossest description of sushi I have ever heard!" Shannon cried."

"How long have you been twenty-two?"

It was well written and a good length so I didn't get tired of it, but it left me wanting more! I cant wait to read the next book in this series!

Becca says

So there is only one reason that this didn't get a five stars from me and that is because i am crazy and i have crazy reason as to why...but i can't say it because it is a spoiler...so i will put it at the way way way way end and hide it and all that jazz if you read and you are wondering what is wrong with me. So lets start this review shall we?

Well characters again: YAY! each one kept their own personalities and we are introduce to, two new-ish characters who become bigger parts of the story. Though it seems to me really that there isn't much character shifts, no real changes for them but honestly i am not that concerned about it because its a series and there really was no need for it. Each character though remained as awesome as last time. So you want me to tell you about the other two new-ish characters? Sure you don't but i am going to go for it anyways! OPPS i lied there are three new characters...hehehe

Ember who was acknowledged in the last book and if you haven't read Semester Aboard...i'm a bit confused why you are reading this review...but hey whatever....to each their own. so back to what i was rambling about before. Ember is the niece of Charlie, so she is a fire elemental as well, and we don't get a whole lot of her on a separate basis but she is closer and best friends with Mariana so thats not to shocking. Mariana and her kinda of get a little lost in this book, but honestly again it didn't bother me because there are so many other characters to focus on that i wasn't upset. But you could tell that Ember could develop into a main character and she would have her own personality.

Rak who also was introduced last book but only at the very very very end, so this is Jen's familiar. Black cat, who i was hoping was going to be a bit more sarcastic than he was...i think its a Salem complex...if you don't understand that reference then my God...im old...Sabrina? Really? No? nothing? damn....if you did then YAY WE CAN BE OLD TOGETHER! anyways... He was helpful, and sweet to Jen. He like i said wasn't as sarcastic as i wanted him to be but he was and he was a fun character to add.

And last but not least Shannon. She is observant, excitable and i am going to stop now...Take this from my review though that she is her own character just like Elizabeth Kirke is really good at. At least in my opinion.

So plot: there was still a lot of new information that we are getting about the magics in this world, i was expecting one thing and got another - thats not a bad thing, its a good thing really it is. Keeping me on my toes and actually i was quite uncertain where Kirke was going and i have to say i love that! Why you ask? well because i don't want a story that i can figure out within the first five minutes. And she throws in quite a few twist that i didn't see coming.

Again the ending was somewhat conclusive so if you are dying to read it but don't want to be left hanging waiting impatiently for the next one if you would like to take my opinion i would say its fine you wiill be fine go ahead and read it. I can honestly say that i am excited for the next one but not going to die because she left me in the middle of everything.

Okay so there was my awesome review on the second one in this series, you can check out how i felt about the first one on my blog...yup im that ass hat deal kiddie cats.... so if you are looking for another interesting read but don't want to wonder aimlessly on goodreads for three and half hours... not that any of us do that...of course....you can check out how i feel about other indie or not so indie books...and my friends opinions too.... so here it is: <http://theviolethourbookreviews.wordpress...>

So are you wondering about that spoiler reason? well (view spoiler)

Andrea says

I loved this book just about as much as I loved the first book in the series. The characters are all a lot of fun as they play with their elements and powers. They enjoy topping each other and picking on each other, just like one big happy family. (I am also a New Yorker who is a Lions fan, so I get a kick out of all of the football banter!) Jen definitely feels the most comfortable when she is around them, because she can truly be herself. She seems to be growing into herself, but still has a really long way to go.

In this installment, Jen has been away from everyone else for the past five months. I do wish we would have had more insight into what she did for those five months, because that seems like an awfully long time to go without seeing everyone. I'm waiting for more lessons about her powers and abilities. She does have the opportunity to learn much more about the history of magic and more about their magical world as the new dangers present themselves up on the mountain. She also seems to find herself in the new position of being somewhat of a teacher. Old friends rejoin the cast in this book, as well as a couple of new additions. I love Dani and Charlie. This time around, I didn't confuse TS and Thomas as much. (Their names are too close!) Marianna didn't play as much of a role in this book. Sometimes, I forgot she was even there. Ember is new and has a lot of spunk. Shannon is also new, in that she now has an active role instead of being just someone mentioned. She too smart for her own good and definitely keeps things spicy!

I enjoyed the action in this book and still had a hard time putting it down. I shook my head, laughed out loud, and even got a little teary. I did feel like Jen was a bit more of a passive observer in this book, as opposed to being involved in a lot of the action. The story is told from her perspective, so she does get a lot into her thoughts and emotions. Her biggest change in life revolves around her love life and her cousin's visit. The dynamic of those relationships change drastically.

I enjoy how the series holds true to its name. Yes, magic is involved in each book, but the stories are more about friendship and creating everlasting bonds with your loved ones. It's about finding your place in this world.

I feel like something bigger is being set up in this book. Jen and her friends are working their way up to an epic battle of sorts in the future. I can't wait for the next installment!

Lesley says

100 times better than the first book! I'd give this an easy 4.5.

Plot:

The winter following her cruise, the other magics invite Jen on a skiing trip. She's really excited because she hasn't been able to use magic around anyone or even speak aloud to her new familiar. She also misses her new friends, especially Thomas. Her excitement is short-lived when her non-magical cousin, Shannon, shows up at the lodge, and chaos quickly ensues.

Characters:

Jen is back and more of a heroine this time around. She's not as powerful as the vampires, werewolves or elementals, but she is able to help them out. I like her better this time around because she is not near as

irritable as she was in the last book. Thomas, TS (Tethys), Dani, Charlie and Marianna return as well. Can I just say that I love these guys?! This time they are joined by Charlie's niece, Ember, who is very much like Charlie except that she is even more volatile.

The most prominent new character is Shannon, Jen's cousin/best friend. Shannon had been skiing separately with her friend. When the friend breaks her arm, Shannon decides to surprise Jen on her trip instead. While the group makes extra efforts to try and appear "normal," Shannon is very observant and quick to realize any idiosyncrasies that come up. As if that weren't tricky enough, circumstances come into play that complicate things further and put everyone at great risk.

Writing:

When I reviewed the last book, I mentioned that it lacked a sense of urgency and maybe even emotion. That is definitely not the case this time around. Snow Bound starts with a bang and keeps going throughout. And this time it's not just physical altercations; there's lots of romance, too (finally!). There are a few errors here and there but nothing that would or could take away from the story.

The Bottom Line:

This was a great book ... very exciting. I also liked the way it ended. Things are wrapped up very neatly ... maybe too neatly for some readers. I like neat though. You know why? Neat means no cliffhangers. That means I can read the next book willingly and without resenting the author. Yes, in my last review, I said I thought there were only two books, but there is another one coming. From the looks of Kirke's website, we have to wait just under a year to see how Jen's story continues. For the truly impatient fan, there will be a book about Dani coming out in March. Jen will be one of the narrators in that book, so I'm hoping it will tide me over.

Michelle's Paranormal Vault of Books says

I didn't think this series could get even better, but it did! It was amazing. I just loved this magical world that is hidden in the real world that Elizabeth Kirke has created.

If you have not read Semester Aboard (More than Magic book 1) then you need to get to it. It's great too, and is just a building block to this amazing book.

I always liked Jen, but found myself falling in love even more with the whole group, Dani, Charlie, Thomas, TJ, Marianna, and even Ember is in this one (Charlie's niece) I found it interesting them all getting together to go skiing, and some major stuff happens, stuff that keeps you on the edge of your seat, and wonder what will happen next.

I was in tears and about to be openly crying in one part, as it was so sad, and I could not see a way out of what was happening, but won't spoil it by telling you, it just was a twist I did not see coming, and it shocked me, and saddened me too. I love Jen's cat (her familiar, Jen is a witch) Rak, he is something, love his personality, who wouldn't love a talking cat that is full of info.

I really like the relationship that finally gets going for Thomas (he is a vampire) and Jen. Here is an adorable scene I just had to share. Where they were skiing, and Dani has "accidently" cause Thomas to crash into a tree (and broke his leg in the process, good thing Thomas is a vampire and will heal up in no time)

Thomas grinned. "Payback, I suppose."
I was confused. "For the suitcase thing this morning?"
"No. For introducing him to Charlie. He's been trying to find me a girl and return the favor for years. Ugh. Not that I'm saying this makes you my girl or something. Not that I'd mind! But, I'm not in a rush to make you go steady or anything. I just mean—" "Go steady?" I echoed, glad for an excuse to cut off his frantic backpedaling. "You know, nobody says that anymore."
He groaned. "Please pretend I didn't."
"And like I said ... I don't think it's rushing. I'd um ... I'd like to date you."
Somehow, the idiot still managed to look shocked. "Really?"
"You say that like you think I frequently make out in the snow with random guys."
"No! Of course not."
There was an almost awkward silence.
"Well?" I finally said.
"Well what?"
"Are you going to ask me out or not?"
"Um ... "
"That means go steady."
"I know what it means!"
I tried to hide a grin. "Or is it too forward of me to ask?"
That broke the tension. Thomas started laughing. "I am not that old."
"You said go steady."
"It hasn't been that long since people used that phrase," he protested.
Before he could say anything else, I leaned up and kissed him again. It was still a bit exhilarating to think that I could.
I could feel his mouth turn into a grin against my lips. "You are very forward, you know," he said softly.
My laugh turned into a sigh, as an awful thought struck me. "Am I too young for you?" I asked.
"No," he said immediately.
"Are you sure?"

Thomas is so sweet, and almost too nice. He is a vampire, but a younger one (60's I would say, but of course looks 22 or so I think)

I don't want to spoil anything, just say, you have to try these books out. Start with book 1, then this one. Its just amazing. I think you could read this without the first, as its all its own story, you will miss out on some of the background of everyone, but most of that is mentioned to remind us anyway, so really either way, this book is amazing.

I was honored to get to read an advance copy for my honest review, and thank the author Elizabeth for that. 5 huge stars out of 5 for me. I highly recommend this book, with or without reading the first one.

Be sure to visit my blog, I will have an excerpt with my review at my blog post for you. Here is direct link to that post with excerpt:
Snow Bound Excerpt

Cindy says

I frequently have mixed feelings about introducing new principal characters in the second and third books of a series. Unfortunately, I was less than excited about Jen's cousin, Shannon, and DNF at 57%. Not only was she annoying to begin with, but curiosity at the expense of the safety of other characters is really unattractive. And after such a great first book too...

Yvonne (The Shadow Realm) says

I loved this book so much! Im ready for the next one now :) Full review to come

Review:

Wow. I didn't think this series could get any better after the awesomeness that was book 1. But oh how wrong I was! Kirke took this book to a whole new level. She has an unbelievable way of pulling you into the story. The relationships between the characters are so heartfelt and memorable that you feel everything they feel and become a part of the action along side of them. The writing flows beautifully and everything is described in such detail that you can almost feel everything they feel, taste everything they taste...almost like your living the story yourself.

These people can't seem to have a normal vacation. Jen meets up with the whole gang after not seeing them in months. Things should be fun and exciting but nothing ever seems to go as planned for this group. They face new tragedy and danger and oh how my heart was in my mouth at many parts. I was ready to throw my kindle at the wall if the author did what I was fearing she was gonna do! But thankfully she didn't! My kindle lived to see another day :P

I love all the characters in this series. They all bring their own unique quirks and personalities to the story. Thomas is still my favourite :) He's so cute and shy and sweet. I love them all though. Jen is such a great character. She's smart, funny, tough, level-headed and down to earth. She's not whiny or totally self-obsessed. I really connected with her.

I won't say any more for fear of giving something away but I strongly urge you to read this series. Kirke has a real winner on her hands here :) Can't wait to see what's next in store for the gang.

I was so happy to have won an eARC of this book from the author. Thank you again Ms Kirke! :)

Kristin Aragon says

After reading More than Magic: Summer Abroad, I couldn't refuse a chance to read and review the second book Snow Bound. I love this group of characters and their ingrained friendship. They're fun, loyal, and smart; but, somehow they're always attracting trouble. If you haven't read Summer Abroad, go check out my review [HERE!](#) Catch up on the characters and give it a read. I don't think you'll be disappointed.

So, Jen's back with the gang after 5 months of being separated from the only "magics" she knows. When we left her in the last installment, she'd barely learned she was a witch. Now she has her familiar Rak, who I adore, and she's been practicing spells. Her friends have decided a ski trip would be just the thing for their winter get together, and it might have been...if snowstorms and vigilantes hadn't been part of the equation.

As always, I try hard to provide spoiler free reviews, but I do have to say this: GO JEN & THOMAS!!!

Now, outside of the previous statement, there are plenty of surprises awaiting you in Snow Bound. Just as everyone gets settled and is enjoying their skiing, the weather gets bad and bullets start flying: the kind of bullets no werewolf wants to get hit with. As usual, tragedy strikes and the competent MES officers are forced to take things into their own hands, doing some things that could end their lives...literally.

As much as I enjoyed this book, I had a difficult thing with just a couple of things. There's a part in the middle where Dani goes into a detailed explanation about the side-effects of the potions the "magics" use. I found the description to be a bit overboard when a simple explanation would have probably been more effective. As it was, I found myself skipping over large portions of the explanation to get to the action. Also, I felt like the personalities each character portrayed in Summer Abroad didn't shine through as much in this book.

That being said...I highly recommend both of the More than Magic books to anyone who loves the usual mythical creatures as well as water and fire elementals. Everyone has a unique role and a matching personality. They're all connected in one way or another...most often in ways that when one of them is hurt or dying, the others experience the desperation. Elizabeth pushed the characters out of their comfort zone and placed them in situations where they had to make difficult and controversial decisions. I absolutely loved the way she had Thomas think out a certain decision and come to the understanding he did. It showed brilliant maturity and growth!

Another fantastic book Ms. Kirke!!! Keep it up, because I cannot wait to read the next installment.

H.J. Daly says

We join Jen, Thomas and others on another vacation, this time they have met on a snow capped mountain and can't wait to start skiing and relax in a magic filled environment. Jen has been unable to speak about her new found power to her friends and family as exposure to humans is a huge no, no. She is hoping to be her true self though nervous about what Thomas will do and say. Unsure of where they left their relationship after the summer semester, if one even existed. The holidays start off well, as Jen immerses herself in the magical world with her great friends. Of course it doesn't stay that way for long and the peace is quickly shattered. There is a human stranger hanging around the cabin and Jen's human friend, Shannon turns up in a surprise visit which throws everything into turmoil. How can they keep their secret now?

Elizabeth Kirke has a really nice writing style, the dialogue she uses between the main characters flows so well that they seem like old friends to the reader. We are re-introduced to all the characters, such as the lovely TS, Dani and Charlie. It settles down to them enjoying their time together but the pace picks up as the danger increases. We are drawn further into the magical world and the rules that surround it, drawing you in completely. Everything is wrapped up nicely by the end of this ready for the next one, though maybe a little too nicely but that's just picky old me who likes a cliff hanger or two. As always this is a great read and I really enjoyed.

Delphina says

I really enjoyed Semester Aboard and was very excited that this magical group of friends were going to go

on another adventure together after their semester aboard was over. Semester Aboard was actually named on my favorites for 2012 list. It was super fun, clean, and had amazing characters. When I saw that book two was out, I snagged it up right away. I actually won a copy in a contest a while back, but bought it anyway because I found that I needed to use my kindle highlight feature a lot because I did not want to forget the amazing banter. I actually liked book two even better than book one. It was fabulous. Here are some of the things I loved about it:

*I just love the characters Elizabeth has created. They are all so different, yet mesh so beautifully together in this wonderful array of friendships.

*My hubby will disagree with the awesomeness of this because I kept waking him up laughing so loudly at it, but the banter between characters at points had me in stitches.

*Elizabeth gets the varying levels of friendships. It was great to see the characters all connecting with each other in very real ways.

*My favorite fictional couple is in this book and we got to see more of them, which is always good :).

*The blooming love story between Jen and Thomas is sweet and fun to watch unfold. Even though it is very pg, I blushed numerous times at the fumbling of young love.

* There was adventure, a bit of mystery, and some suspense. There were a couple of times where I caught myself actually holding my breath. I will not be too spoilery, but I will say there were some moments when I was not sure if things would work out the way I wanted them to.

*There is a talking cat. 'Nuf said.

*Danio

*I could not put this book down and should not have started it so late in the evening. Seriously, what was I thinking? I had to give up around 2 am because I kept waking my hubby by laughing. Thankfully, today is a holiday and I did not have to wait a whole day to finish it.

I am seriously loving this series and really hope there will be a book three. I did see that there is a short story collection coming in March about Dani and I will so be getting that. I think you could probably read this without reading book one and be ok plot wise, but book one really does introduce you to these amazing characters and I think that knowing them made this book that much better.

Courtney says

What I don't like about this book/series:

- the way each fight/problem always seem to end with a different person getting nearly mortally injured, only to be saved at the last minute.
- the fact that the MC is completely and utterly useless, and no one ever consider teaching a witch any REAL skills, whether magical OR even basic self defense. All she can do is make herself warm and see in the dark. Booooooring.
- the fact that even though the MC is completely and utterly useless, they all keep acting like she saved the day.

- the MC's romance is boring as hell and I don't even know why they even like each other.
- Mariana the mermaid. What's her purpose? She does nothing, she's rarely seen, and the fact that she's a mermaid almost never matters. She's been in two books by now, while Char's niece Ember has been in one and is already more useful.
- Shannon. Ugh. Go away. I can't see any reason for keeping her alive other than for TS's wellbeing. If not for him, I'd be all for giving her the ax.
- the author is CONSTANTLY commenting on how much the MC reads too much fantasy and has all these false ideas about each of the magics she comes into contact with, yet she's always somehow surprised when something happens that an avid fantasy reader would know/expect. For example, I caught the first hint that the MC's love interest was a vampire (can't enter room without being invited) on page 19 of the first book BECAUSE I read so much fantasy. Then, there were at least 4-5 other obvious clues for the next 100+ pages, but MC didn't even begin to suspect anything until around page 135, and finally got confirmation on page 140. For someone who claims to love vampire books above all others, this is just atrocious and unbelievable. Then in the 2nd book, she's surprised a silver bullet would hurt a werewolf. Like has this girl actually ever read a fantasy book or what!?

What I LOVE about this book/series:

1. TS. <3
2. Dani. <3
3. Charlie. <3

They are the only reason I gave this book 3 stars (one for each of them), and the only reason I haven't completely ruled out reading the 3rd book, though I'm in no rush whatsoever. The only way the 3rd book could turn things around for me is if Rak (MC's familiar) is around more and becomes more vital to the plot, MC actually learns some magic and makes herself useful, and TS survives.

Tasha and Megan Mahoney says

After taking part in the audiobook blog tour for the first book in this YA fantasy series, Semester Aboard. I thoroughly enjoyed everything about the story and at the end was left wanting more. I logged straight onto Amazon and got the rest in the series. Snow Bound is the second in the More Than Magic series and picks up a few months after Semester Aboard took place. Jen meets up with her fellow magics for a winter ski break in a cabin supplied especially for Magics (in this series that includes all magical beings like Vampires, werewolves and Elementals and Witches)

Jen along with her Familiar were relishing the chance to be able to freely practice her magic and spend time with her friends doing fun activities. Of course, spoiler free, things do not go to plan and what starts out as a fun break takes a turn for the worse.

I really am finding this series an easy read, it is really well written with plenty of excitement and plenty of amazing characters. I get the sense that author, Elizabeth Kirke really knows her characters well, because their personalities and behaviour is so unique to each character and their specific type of magic. One fun, non-spoiler treat that I can tell you is that the characters have their own phrases depending on the type of magic that they are, Mermaids for example say 'That's splashy' as an explanation for 'That's fun!' There are many of these little treats that are a relatively small details in relation to the story but bring so much to the stories.

There is a bit of everything, romance, friendship, loyalty, and action aplenty. I thoroughly recommend this

book for young adults of all ages. Seriously, in terms of age, there is violence and some intimate scenes so I would not advise this for someone under about 15. (The intimacy is not overly descriptive, the action scenes and violence are more descriptive.)

I will happily re-read this series and plan to seek out more of Elizabeth Kirke's work
