



Wasteland

Lynn Rush

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Bound by the blood contract his human mother signed four centuries ago, half-demon, David Sadler, must obey his demonic Master's order to capture fifteen-year-old Jessica Hanks. But as he learns more about her, he realizes she may be the key to freedom from his dark enslavement. The only obstacle-Jessica's distractingly beautiful Guardian, Rebeka Abbott. He must not give in to their steamy chemistry, or he will lose his humanity. But fresh off a quarter millennia of sensory deprivation as punishment for not retrieving his last target, he may not be able to resist temptation long enough to save what's left of his human soul.

Wasteland Details

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From Reader Review Wasteland for online ebook

Giselle says

From page one, Wasteland jumps right into the tortuous life of David; a half-demon who either has to resist temptations, or succumb to his demon half - for good. No sooner had I started reading, that I realized this is not your average YA novel. It has a lot of mature content and a sophisticated prose that will appeal to older YA fans.

David is a tortured soul. He wants nothing more than to be free from his demon half who screams to let him loose. It's distressing to see what he goes through every day, but his strength, his goodness, is remarkable. He's an all around fantastic character. Simply having a male protagonist is wonderful. I've come to really enjoy books written in a male's POV. We see David develop a connection with Beka almost instantly. However, it doesn't seem rushed or unbelievable. It's written in a way that you can see to the depths of his core and feel his attraction to her. It's not simply lust, nor is it the cliché love at first sight (or insta-love if you wish) that we often see in today's YA novels. They just have this bond that you can feel from the start. And Beka as his own personal forbidden fruit, makes this a positively maddening romance. It was great! The steamy scenes are very intense and give these characters an immense amount of chemistry; almost unbearable at times. I would not recommend this to younger teens. I even think it's classified in the new "new adult" genre. As a non-teenage YA reader, I thought it was perfect for the sophisticated storyline. It has the flow of a YA novel, but the maturity of an adult's.

Wasteland is the definition of action packed! Fast paced and full of unexpected turns- It's easy to get immersed in this book and lose track of time. The world building is interwoven in the plot in a way that gives enough details to make us incessantly curious, but without bogging down the story. This was also great for creating excellent turnabouts in the plot. As the first book in a series, I was not expecting the ample amount of story development that we got. The ending is also reminiscent of a stand-alone. As I looked into it further - the next installment feels more like a companion, as it's the story of one of the secondary characters from Wasteland. I'm truly delighted by this since I get tired of series that either drag on a story until it turns into a jumbled mess, or simply feel like one book divided in 3 (or more).

A positively refreshing read; I recommend Wasteland to paranormal fans who crave just a bit more out of their YA novels. You can expect a hot romance, captivating storylines and a fantastic world- which, by the way, holds awesome fight scenes that would be brilliant on the big screen!

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Lola says

I got a copy for review in exchange for an honest review.

I liked this book, but it was not great. It is a nice enjoyable story, but do not expect much more than that. The story is about a half demon David who after years of confinement is sent out in the world again to find a girl who has some significance (what isn't exactly clear at the beginning and this is only revealed later on). The beginning is a bit confusing, but quite fast we understand who David is and what he has to do. Ofcourse this book is a romance and David quickly falls in love with a woman. But if he sleeps with a women he will turn complete demon, so he has to struggle to not fall in love.

I liked the idea behind the story. I also liked that the narrator is a male. I liked how David had to struggle to contain his inner demon. But strangely enough I liked the first half of the story more than the second half. I am not going to tell why, because I do not want to spoiler anything. The story contains some unexpected plot twist, but overall the story is pretty predictable. Also there were some parts that went a bit too fast and other events that seemed to drag on a bit.

For a romance novel it in fact does contain not too much romance. There is much action in the book, although I have to say that the action scenes were a bit boring. The fights seemed very easy and I felt like the same thing happened again and again. The action scenes just weren't that interesting. There were many fights, but they weren't interesting. I also easily tired of some phrases that were used a bit too often, like the word "treasure" and the fact that every time there is romance both characters moan a bit too much. And the way the characters use the same word to refer to each other (view spoiler)

The characters were oké, but there was not much depth to them. The lead characters felt in love with each other at first sight, something I do not like. But they were very faithful to each other, which I did like. The characters were oké, but I didn't really feel like I knew them and didn't really care what happened to them. I also found it strange that when (view spoiler)

To conclude a nice and enjoyable story, but do not expect too much. The story is oké, but not great. The book contains a lot of action for a romance novel. The romance was a bit predictable. But overall it was a nice book.

Michelle Leah Olson says

Wasteland

Author: Lynn Rush

Synopsis: Bound by the blood contract his human mother signed four centuries ago, half-demon, David Sadler, must obey his demonic Master's order to capture fifteen-year-old Jessica Hanks. But as he learns more about her, he realizes she may be the key to freedom from his dark enslavement.

The only obstacle-Jessica's distractingly beautiful Guardian, Rebeka Abbott. He must not give in to their steamy chemistry, or he will lose his humanity. But fresh off a quarter millennia of sensory deprivation as punishment for not retrieving his last target, he may not be able to resist temptation long enough to save what's left of his human soul.

Our Review [by a LITERAL ADDICTION Associate Guest Reviewer]:

When David is released by his master from 250 years of sensory deprived captivity he is thrust into the world of life, color and touch. When he is sent to a club to locate his mark he can't keep his eyes away from a beautiful woman named Beka but he knows he must not give in to his desires as it would transform him into a full demon and he wants to keep his last shred of humanity for as long as he can. When he finds out that Beka and her brother are Guardian's, whose job it is to protect the mark he was sent to retrieve, David has to decide whether to betray Beka, his master or himself.

I really enjoyed this book and couldn't read the pages fast enough. David has had a really crappy life. His mother sold him to the devil before he was even born and he must do his masters bidding or he suffers for it. When he is first released from his most recent captivity he is overwhelmed and out of touch with the times but he is watched by another demon who likes nothing more than to taunt and tempt him. His reaction to Beka is beautiful as he knows he cannot touch her. He is the perfect mix of alpha male with a lot of vulnerability thrown in. Beka is so different from him she is everything that is good and doesn't have any problem with protecting herself. She is intrigued by David as soon as she meets him but she doesn't know he

is a demon. When David saves Beka and betrays his own kind he realizes he must try to find a way to get out of his contract and he realizes that his mark could be the key.

This book had it all. Action, romance, mystery and kept me guessing until the last minute. It is beautifully written and so easy to follow that it was a pleasure to read. I would recommend this to anyone who likes, angels, demons, action, romance and a story that will keep you up till 3am because you just couldn't put it down!

LITERAL ADDICTION's Associate Guest Reviewer gives Wasteland 5 Skulls.

Arlette says

It was an amazing book. The setting is quite different from most books I've read and really liked that. I was a bit wary about the fact that it is written from David's point of view and I was afraid I wouldn't be able to really get into him, since he is a boy, but from the beginning on I could really feel how he felt, being so new with the modern world and all.

Lynn Rush did a great job in describing the characters and bringing them to life. The connection between David and Beka was amazingly described, as well as the loyalty of Russell.

Sometimes it felt like it was a little rushed through some events, but on the other hand so many things happened in the book, it was probably good to keep the pace up.

All and all, definately deserved 5 stars *****

Lynn Rush says

Since I wrote the book, I have to rate it five stars, right? **LOL** Seriously. I really enjoyed writing this book, and I hope you enjoy reading it.

Lillie Roberts says

David, half demon by his mother's blood contract, has spent 245 years at the mercy of his Master's torture. Unable to fulfill Master's demand, he was sent to the burning pits, darkness, sensory deprivation, and unending hungers. Upon his release, David is sent after Master's newest desire, Jessica Hanks, with no other information other than the name of a nightclub in Arizona and that she bears a mark.

Gage, his demon 'brother', jailor, and unwanted companion, tries to intimidate David, cow him into become the full demon he knows rests inside David's body, the one who claws for release, the one who wants to taste tender flesh. But, David knows, the instant he gives into his unholy desire, his life as he knows it will be over. His humanity lost. This he cannot live with.

Beka is a guardian angel sent to protect the one thing David must have, Jessica Hanks, but with as little information as David. She and her 'brother', Russell, become the operators of this nightclub where Jessica is to be found. Who is Jessica Hanks? Why is she so important? Beka has the answers to some of these questions. She knows what Jessica will transform to be. And she'll sacrifice her life to make sure it happens.

But, when David meets Beka, he is tempted, first by the feel of her pale flesh, then by her lilac scent. When Jessica is discovered, it's David who ends up protecting her and saving Beka's life, linking them together forever. But, with his failure to obey Master or to give in to the desire of Beka's flesh, Master will punish David all over again.

Wasteland by Lynn Rush is under Crescent Moon Press's new genre of New Adult, targeted toward the emerging late teens to early twenties, those facing first time relationships, jobs, life of an adult. It has some of the qualities of YA, looking for answers, but also some of the qualities of Adult fiction, finding love, making lasting commitments. Wasteland is the story of David Sadler, half-demon who is held by a blood contract signed by his mother before his birth. Sold for riches she never enjoyed, raped by a demon. He's a 400 year old immortal who's clinging to what's left of his human soul, who has done Master's bidding to the best of his abilities. His only failure occurred with the death of his last mark. But, even the tiniest failure earns Master's wrath, and he spent 245 of a 250 year sentence in torture, released early to find Jessica Hanks. But, what so special about this girl that makes Master release him early from punishment? Why must it be he to bring Jessica to Master? Why not one of Master's other demon slaves? What is Master truly trying to accomplish? When David is sent to retrieve Jessica, he meets Beka Abbott and he discovers some of the answers to his questions. But, will he lose himself in the process? Will he be able to resist what he desires most? Can the dark survive in the light?

Wasteland is a wonderfully told tale of the discovery of truths. The title of the book speaks volumes, and it's uniquely found. Lynn Rush creates a world that exists within the bounds of the human realm, one where demons exist to do their Master's bidding, and guardian angels exist to stop the demons and protect the innocent. But, what happens when one of the innocent has been sold to evil? Forced to become what should have never been, but as destiny would have, has indeed occurred. That's what happens in Wasteland. The question is can one survive the other. Can our hero, David, become what our heroine, Beka, needs? Or will they fail each other, especially when the truths are laid out for everyone to see. Crescent Moon Press has taken an ambitious step filling the role of this new emerging genre with Wasteland as it's first entry. It accomplishes the feat and more. Wasteland is for the paranormal romance lovers, urban fantasy lovers, and for anyone who loves the struggle to find and then hold on to love once it's found. Readers of YA outside it's targeted audience, and for those emerging from YA hoping to find a middle ground, should also give this new genre a try. Wasteland is an excellent read, highly recommended. Lynn Rush will follow up Wasteland with Awaited in 2012. She also has a new release coming March 2012, Violet Midnight, Book 1 of the Violet Night Trilogy. Wasteland gets 5 out of 5 fairy kisses for this reader.

Ciara Knight says

Wasteland is stunning in both characterization and action packed storyline. When the story opens, I immediately sympathized with David, a half-demon forced to obey his master after his mother signed a blood contract before he was born. Will he give into his demon side or fight the sexual urges for a forbidden, beautiful Guardian, Rebeka. The snarky, formal dialogue of a four hundred year old half-human was believable and engaging.

Long after I finished reading Wasteland, the characters still haunted me. This book is full of hot, sensual scenes, suspense, adventure, and forbidden love. Settle in before you pick up this book because you won't put it down until the very end.

A must read for 2011!

Sarah says

Fantastic story. This one has it all, Angels, Demons, romance, action, what more could a girl want?! It kept me reading right to the end. Can't wait for the next one.

Laura says

I liked this book, it had so much potential, but lacked in the romance dept. I felt some chemistry between these main characters, but it didn't fully bloom in the sex dept. I'm not sure if this was meant for teenagers or young kids, but the story involved "adult" characters and I felt the author babied the readers. Now on the other hand we have Stephanie Meyers books which she could write to the point you thought you were in bed w/the characters but you weren't..here it's like..ok, lets go have sex,,wink wink..and then next thing you know a different part of the story is starting...I'm like, what just happened here!? Rip off!! lol! Anyways..it would have been so much better if ..well..you know. Nuff said.

Amy Turner says

Lynn Rush has packed one heck of a punch with *Wasteland*. David, whose mother used him to negotiate a deal with Lucifer, is half-human, half-demon, with a contract to find whoever his Master tells him to find (called a Mark). Recently released early from a hellish punishment a few years early, he's set on the trail of his newest Mark. Instead, he mets Beka. Beka, on the other hand, is a Guardian. Her soul purpose in life is to protect humans from demons. Her job, when they meet, is to protect the Mark that David is hunting. When they meet? The chemistry is instantenous and off the charts. The only problem is that David's punishment was solitary confinement - of the sensory deprivation kind - and to give in would mean the end of his humanity.

Once David and Beka meet, the chemistry and the challenges that face them keep you turning pages, devouring until the end. Then? You are quite impatient for the next book! I don't want to give anything away, but Lynn Rush definitely had me going for a minute, unsure what was really happening and if they could make their love work. David is strong and honorable, but sensitive to whether or not he is worthy of love - or of a second chance. I'm not usually a fan of first person perspective, but Lynn made it genuine and believable, without drowning us in David's internal thoughts. The sizzle between David and Beka is palpable and vivid; you can't help but root for them to find a way.

My only question is this - when do we get to see them again, Lynn? How long do we have to wait?

Stina Madison says

Full review here: <http://zodiacbookreviews.blogspot.com...>

Wasteland isn't your average YA or Adult novel. It has everything you love about YA, but the maturity of an Adult novel. This puts Wasteland in the virtually unknown New Adult genre. The first half of the book has the grittiness of urban fantasy and gradually gets more of the fantastical elements of paranormal romance in the second half. Lynn Rush has created a world and characters that are so fascinating to read about. Each character has a depth that you don't find very often and it's exciting each time we learn something more

about them.

Wasteland opens with David Sadler, a 400-year-old half-demon just released from his 245 year punishment of sensory deprivation for failing his last assignment, being thrown into sensory overload in an Arizona dance club searching for his next Mark. David's new Mark is 15-year-old orphan Jessica Hanks. Jessica bears the Mark of Elpida, and it's not only David's Master who wants her. Standing in his way are Guardians, Beka and Russell. They are there to protect Jessica from the demons.

Jessica is a being of pure Light, called the Merus, who can cleanse those who have not become fully demon. But if she falls into the wrong hands while going through her transformation, the opposite can happen. Jessica is David's only chance of being freed from his contract, signed by his mother before he was even born, so he has a choice to make. Take her to his Master and lose his freedom forever, or help the Guardians protect her and gain more than just his freedom.

(SPOILERS) There is a moment in Wasteland that was so terrifying, heartbreaking, hopeful, and powerful. This moment is my favorite part of the whole book. It's a turning point for both David and Beka. This is the moment when David is holding Beka's head to her neck, willing her to heal and live. It was so terrifying because Beka is on the ground with a sword thrust through her body and a blade at her neck, literally giving her life to protect Jessica, and you just know that the demon is going to behead her. It was heartbreaking because David is begging Beka to fight, but all he can do is watch as the demon swings his blade though her neck, watching as the woman he loves is being murdered right before his eyes. It's hopeful because, while David is helplessly willing Beka to live, she is healing and her heart begins to beat again. You can feel David's relief in knowing that she's going to live. And finally, this moment is so powerful because it shows the strength of David's love for Beka, but it's also David's breaking point. If Beka had died David would have had no reason to keep fighting his demon. It's also the moment when David and Beka became connected. When David was holding Beka together, their blood mixed together, effectively making their "hearts beat as one." That one line really sums everything up.

The feel of the book changes once David is changed into a Guardian Angel. Before his change you can feel the darkness surrounding him. You can feel his torment, his inner struggle, and his hopelessness. After his change you can feel the Light. You can feel his happiness, his love for Beka, and his dedication to his new cause. Atmosphere is important to a great story and Wasteland has an atmosphere you can literally feel.

Now that the Guardians have their King and Queen, the Dark Angel and White Angel, the demons have lost a lot of power. I can't wait to read Awaited and see what happens in the next adventure.

Katrina says

Great storyline - A demon caught between choosing between darkness and the light !! ;) and so much more !!

David Sadler, is bound by blood, a contract in which his human mother signed before his conception. This contract has spanned four centuries and still David is bound and must obey his Demonic Masters requests. His master has sent him on his latest target a young 15 year old girl – Jessica Hanks but as time goes on David learns more about her and realizes she maybe the key to his humanity and to cease his existence within his demonic enslavement.

The only catch - a beautiful guardian who David feels an instant attraction to, David must not give in to temptation or he will lose his humanity- his human soul. His quarter millennia of sensory deprivation as punishment for not getting his last target will test his resolve and he may not be able to resist the beauty and

temptation of Rebeka Abbott. David must resist the lure of Rebeka long enough to save what's left of his human soul.

An array of events take place making it almost near impossible for David to cross from darkness to light, will he return from the wastelands to join the light? Or die in the dark depths below?

My Thoughts!

Lynn has woven a very well crafted and unique storyline here with Wastelands. A Demon who does not wish to be dark, and only wants to be human - but the concept behind it is more than just this. Its Cleverly scripted making it an intriguing storyline. Im sure will suck you in !

David does not want to live in Darkness and do evils works- he wants to see the light at the end of the dark tunnel - a demand bestowed upon for centuries. This concept, can a demon change his ways will make you ponder throughout!!

If you're a paranormal junkie then Wastelands is the book for you, Lynn has weaved many aspects into this wonderful action packed, suspenseful storyline, giving it grunt, spunk, passion, lust, action , suspense and a climax I'm sure will have you gasping.

A fantastic array of supporting characters I really enjoyed, and the main characters I'm sure you will eagerly follow.

Rebeka's kick arse attitude has spunk – but yet is sassy!! A woman, who is powerful, yet contains powers both within and also physically. Beauty not only skin deep and also the qualities of a true leader.

David is a torn soul, having to deal the hand of death in his Masters demands, killing and living a life of loneliness, unable to love or be loved in fear that what is left of his humanity will be stripped from him giving in to his inner demon !! This man sure had willpower!!

Four centuries celibate!

I'd give him a crown myself, but rest assured, his days of glory are not far behind, you can see the sparks, and electricity between him and Rebeka and just want them to get it on!!

Rebeka may just cause David to spontaneously combust with lust!! lol..

An intriguing concept A Demon born to be bad = but wanting so much more. David was charming, smexy, kick arse warrior with the skill to kill and a master of mayhem when he is slashing and gashing !! A character I'm sure you will fall in love with ... The passion him and Rebeka share is electrifying and smoking !! Passionate, loving, hot and sensual and a Forbidden love...

A love that is not meant to be???

Kick arse action scenes, a Villain we all want to see vaporized and a crisp dialogue and compelling storyline to boot. Chapters all flowed smoothly, descriptions well placed. The last few chapters will have you on the edge of your seat. This story had my interest piqued within the first few chapters and I must say Lynn has left us an opening for book 2 and I eagerly await its release ;)

Keri says

Okay, so I'm glad I waited a few days before reviewing this book. It caused me to really think about it, and I ended up changing my 3-star rating to 4 stars. The reason for this is that the book was probably a 3.75 for me, and I think it only fair to give it a 4-star rating. Now, on to the review...

This book was incredibly fast paced, and I enjoyed the story immensely. I liked the characters, and I found myself drawn to the main character because he was flawed and lives in shades of gray (not black or white.) I had a few issues with the story (mainly the second half.) I found it a little distracting that the author found it necessary to explain the dialect of the characters. I didn't really care how they spoke because I assume angels are either smart enough to pick up on modern dialect, or too above it all to care (and thus would speak as they prefer--either in their ancient way or not.) So, having this explained to me more than once was annoying. I also felt the second half of the book was a little rushed, but still very well written. There were a few grammatical/spelling errors, but nothing that took away from the book (and nothing that couldn't be corrected with another round of editing.)

Overall, I really enjoyed Wasteland and would recommend it to anyone who enjoys paranormal romance. I look forward to more interesting reads from Lynn Rush. :)

UPDATE:

Okay, so I originally gave this 3.5 stars and rounded up to 4. However, I have continued to think about this book for a long time. It has really stayed with me. It's calling me back for another read (which is unusual for me.) So, I'm changing my rating to 4.5 stars rounded up to 5. I'm excited about reading it again, and about the next books in the series. The author writes in a way that haunts me and has me begging for more. :)

Ramblings From A Chaotic Mind says

Half human, half demon David just got out of a very long solitary confinement punishment for failing to bring in his last mark. Not that it was his fault, hard to bring in someone who dies in a fire you know? Regardless he's just been freed, early even, and given his next assignment. Bring in the extremely important Jessica. Though he has no idea why she is so important he sets out to find her which in turn starts a chain reaction of events that will change the face of good and evil.

Rebeka is Jessica's Guardian and protecting her is of the utmost importance. She can not allow David to stand in the way of the job she has been entrusted with for centuries. The feelings David awakens in her shake her to her core and make her question everything she's ever believed in. Can she truly love a demon who is trying so hard to fight the darkness? And will Jessica be able to save him in the end?

Wasteland is an intriguing read from new author Lynn Rush. The world building is simply worded and I didn't suffer from trying to pronounce names I had no idea what they were. Lynn does excellent at painting the picture of the characters surroundings. I think that was my favorite part, her descriptions of the world she had built.

David and Rebeka worked well together though there were several times I wanted more from them then they

gave me. I liked their old world style cadences and throw backs and found that part enjoyable. I think where I felt it lacked was in their connection. I read the words and I could see where I was supposed to feel certain things, but I just couldn't. I liked them individually just fine but I never felt this eternal love they seemed to feel. I had an issue with the 35 yr time gap half way through the story. I thought that had it been a bit shorter I might have been able to commit a bit more to them. I just had a hard time believing it would take the Guardians so long to find David again...especially if he was as important as they were told he would be.

I also had a hard time with Jessica's sister, Elizabeth. She is said to be seventeen but whenever she's around I found she acted more like a 7 year old. She came across very immature and I had to recheck her age several times.

I really liked David's internal struggle with his human and demon side. Even when his demon side emerged I thought he showed great strength in repressing his baser urges. Though I tend to go for the guys that embrace their bad boy side as well, this was a welcome change of pace. I really liked the Guardian angel aspect and I thought both David and Beka were wrote with a great human edge to their emotions. Since Rebeka was so much older then David I would have thought she would have been a bit different about showing her emotions and been more stoic, but she wasn't and that did help a bit as far as connecting with them.

I think that for readers who like angels, a small amount of smex and great world building, this one is for you! Lynn Rush has done a solid job on Wasteland and has given the readers a lush story with great individual characters and she has something to build on if she takes it to a sequel! The secondary characters are all well wrote and I hope we get to find out more about them..especially Russell and Abraham...hint hint Lynn LOL.

I give Wasteland by Lynn Rush 3.75 stars

Rachel Firasek says

When you start into a new genre, it's not always an easy task. New Adult is very new to the Romance world, or is it? New Adult reminds me of a time about thirty ears ago when the heroines were 15-17 years old (an age we now consider YA) and the heroes were wealthy bachelors ready to produce an heir, or at least that's what I expected.

Lynn Rush has captured a youthful innocence and an old soul all in the same package with her hero David and somehow made it work. I read this story in just a few hours and hated it when my kids demanded feeding--otherwise I would have read it straight through. This story is packed with so many action scenes that led to plot twists that I felt like I was watching an action/adventure movie riddled with demons and angels.

The romance was so sweet I had tears during their first kiss--Seriously one of the best first kisses ever. I'd totally recommend this if you're look for high action, high heat--but spoiler: it is mostly closed door. It didn't stop me from loving it.
