



Golden Stair

Jennifer Blackstream

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A devil-may-care incubus with a ravenous appetite...

Adonis is a demon determined to bury his desire for love in the pleasures of the flesh. Bound by a vow to maintain his physical form, Adonis requires a great deal of energy just to live, energy he can only absorb through the carnal arts...more energy than any one woman could ever provide. Adonis knows he could never offer a woman the fidelity she would deserve as his wife, and so carries on with his wild ways, his cryptic smile hidden behind a puff of smoke. No woman can reach beyond the heat of his embrace to touch his heart. Not even the golden-haired maid whose lonely eyes keep wooing him back to her side.

A damsel in distress with the power to destroy him...

Ivy has lived in a tower, locked away from the rest of the world, for her entire life. Her mother, a witch who leads the resistance against the bloodthirsty kings of the five kingdoms, is her only company. Ivy knows that her battle-weary mother relies on the golden power flowing through her veins for the energy to continue the good fight, but she can't completely smother the selfish yearning to see the world beyond the safety of their hidden valley...especially when her wildest fantasy almost literally falls into her lap. Despite their best intentions, they're drawn together like phoenixes to flame—and if they're not careful, they'll both burn.

An incubus can only deny his nature for so long...

Long golden hair. A tower with no stairs. A witch with serious possession issues. Debilitating blindness. None of these are enough to keep a demon from climbing...the Golden Stair.

Golden Stair Details

Date : Published March 13th 2015 by Skeleton Key Publishing (first published February 1st 2014)

ISBN :

Author : Jennifer Blackstream

Format : Kindle Edition 222 pages

Genre : Romance, Paranormal Romance, Fantasy, Paranormal, Fairy Tales, Demons

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From Reader Review Golden Stair for online ebook

BigComfyChairBookReviews says

This one is my least favorite in the series and the only 3-star rating I have given Blackstream. She is usually a 5 for me. Oh Adonis. I, of course, knew going in that he was an incubus, man-slut, and I tried not to let that negatively impact my opinion of the book. Rakes are one thing but men who are incapable of abstaining (for even a day) or staying true to one woman for any length of time aren't my favorite heroes.

I got over it for the most part. One thing that I really struggled to get past was that he used his powers to get women to agree to have sex with him. I tried not to think about it too much, but it is just so close to rape that I find it disgusting. Just because a woman is attracted to you and, on some level, may want you doesn't mean she doesn't get to, or won't say no. But, as I said, I knew going in he was an Incubus. The real reason for my 3-star review is the lack of chemistry between Adonis and Ivy. Ivy, having grown up alone in a tower, was way too innocent and naïve about the world. She is then paired with the one hero who has slept with thousands of women and has maybe the worldliest experience of all the heroes in the series. She spends her whole gullible life just believing what her "mother" tells her without experiencing anything for herself.

I didn't really care for Ivy or Adonis, I guess. But, it was still a quick, easy and fun read, and I recommend it, even if it's just to get to the next in the series. I have read the entire Blood Prince series, twice, and will read them again in the future. They can all be read as standalones if you skip the prologues and epilogues, which I honestly skim through anyways. I really couldn't care less about the whole "World Tree" plot. WARNING: there is sex in this book, it is not erotica, but enough to be a steamy & hot adult romance. Blackstream usually sticks to just 1 scene towards the end of each book. Please do not read if you are looking for something PG. Romance-4/5 Steaminess-2/5 Explicitness-3/5

Heather andrews says

Oh Adonis I knew your story would rock my world and it certainly did with all your smarta** remarks, "I'm the one lying here like a roasted boar," he said lightly. "It seems the slightest bit odd that you are the one who seems upset?" I mean his mouth is just something else, "as much as I would enjoy having you in my arms, warm and willing," he murmured, his voice a hot caress of warm silk on bare skin, "that is not what I offered you just now. I am asking you if you would let me kiss you - just a kiss. I can take the edge off the power that seems to be flustering you so." Then he can be caring under all that wisea**-ness, "her voice was nearly his undoing. Not like this, not outside like an animal, he swore to himself, scrabbling to grab old of the last thread of his self control." And Kirill good lord that poor man catches Adonis and his leading lady in a lovely position, "this is my bedroom, Adonis. Wouldn't the more pertinent question be, what are you doing here?" He inclined his head slightly toward the bed. "And a pleasure it is to see you, Ivy. I'm so pleased you're well."

Coral says

Plot: 4/5

Characterisation: 4/5

Prose: 4/5

How much I enjoyed it: 4.5/5

Kirill and Adonis together are gold..

Rebecca says

I received this book in exchange for an honest review (LoP or Lovers of Paranormal)

Again another book I loved. I think I even liked this book more than the other 2 in the series, probably because I felt there was a real sense of threat. This time the story is based around Rapunzel which is in my opinion a much better story to retell as it is one that doesn't immediately spring to mind. It is not a story which has been done and redone past the point of recognition.

The main characters ivy and Adonis are put in the fairy tale of Rapunzel with ivy being Rapunzel. Ivy tries to be independent and strong woman however having no experience of life outside her tower struggles with even the smallest concept of disagreeing with dame Grothel (the woman who raised her). Adonis is the cocky alpha male player, who as an incubus struggles with the idea of feeding his hunger for sexual power and being monogamous. They are the kind of couple who you root for from the very beginning although they it takes them a while to hit their stride. At first it doesn't seem as though these two can be together however as you see both characters grow you begin to realise they are perfect for each other. Their slightly hesitant relationship makes them fall even harder in love than usual giving us a hot and steamy romance.

The secondary characters play a slightly bigger part in this book in comparison to the others; firstly mother Grothel does actually pose a real threat to the lovers. Then there is the budding bromance between Adonis and Kirill which I absolutely love. I do like and have enjoyed the other princes getting involved in each other's romantic lives.

The story pacing is good, fast paced keeping me hooked the whole way through the book turning me into the one more chapter monster.

The story line was great, it was genuinely a fantastic adaptation from the storyline we all know and love. I also loved that it wasn't an adaptation on a fairy tale that has been done numerous times.

Maureen Hoar says

Gotta love an incubus!!

Adonis I think is my favorite prince so far. He is cocky and confident. Yet he has a propensity for love and romance. Ivy is by no means a damsel in distress yet she is innocent and naive. She has been locked away in a tower by her mother. The two meet by happenstance and the sparks flew. It was a lovely journey to true love and discovering your truth. I really am enjoying this series.

Diane Guest says

Even though the book started of a little slow, by the 3rd chapter i couldn't put it down,the way he showed his love for Ivy and went about it slowly was in the end rewarded by gaining her love in return. Carne wait for

the next.

Celestine says

Beyond Rapunzel

I enjoyed this twist on the Rapunzel tale with an incubus who falls naked into her iconic tower. The demon isn't nearly as malevolent as he seems, and is in fact outdone by the witchy "mother." I downgraded my rating on this story because the intro was confusing, as were some sequences throughout the novella. The author cannot assume people have read the previous, narrowly connected tales, or if we have read them that it was yesterday. 3.5 rounded to 4 stars.

Douglas Meeks says

New cover looks really nice :)

I loved the story, Adonis was the least likeable of the 5 Princes and I was hopeful but not optimistic that his story could be turned into a good one but I am pleased to report that this was a great story based on the Rapunzel fable that you heard as a child, but this is NOT that children's tale.

Adonis and Ivy were such a seeming mismatch at the start but the author wove an excellent story with an innocent girl and a hedonistic prince without it being turned into an erotic tale of sex. This is more of a story of self control for a much greater prize. I love it and i believe almost all readers will also since all of these stories seem to be a basic tale of a good woman making a bad boy into a honorable man to some extent.

Just for the record her "mother" is pretty evil in this story even though you don't get to see her that much (just enough to let you really hate her).

I can hardly wait to see what the next novel in this series will be like. 4.5 Stars rounded to 5

Laurie Hopkins says

Ivy and Adonis

Another wonderful story, containing all the elements of the fairy tale with interesting twists. Also an interesting way for the prince's to form alliances, into friendship.

Theresa says

3.5 Stars... The third book in the "Blood Prince" series focuses on the incubus demon, Adonis, and his fated female, Ivy; a retelling of the classic fairytale, Rapunzel, Adonis finds himself inexplicably drawn to the fair maiden locked away in the hidden tower only to discover that this maiden is feisty, fierce, and extremely sensual... I enjoyed the chemistry between these two characters as they fight for their HEA battling an evil

witch, discovering Ivy's true nature, and facing Adonis' many "needs"... Another fun, enjoyable read in this series that has me looking forward to the next prince's journey to his HEA:)

Crystal says

I received a copy of this book from LoP in place of an honest review.

Ivy feels that she is selfish when all she wants to be is out in the world not locked up in a lonely tower every day of her life. She knows that her mom needs to golden power that is in her hair. Ivy knows what she is she just doesn't want to admit it.

Adonis is a demon and he has to get his power from sex because he is an incubus. He knows that he could never be faithful and that is including Ivy. There is just something about her that makes him come back again and again. You all know what happens when her mom finds out.

I know the ending and I know what happens but I won't give it away. I have really enjoyed this series and I want to read more books by this author. You really need to get this whole series to find out what happens.

Olivia says

"I look forward to the day I can repay my debt to each of you," Kirill straightened and braced his arms behind his back. His voice lowered to a mere whisper. "Know that I am just as serious in repaying my allies as I am in punishing my enemies. You gave me your help when I needed it, before you had any reason to help me." He lifted his chin, staring up at the World Tree. "Until I can make the proper repayment of your kindness, I intend for this... sharing of information, to be a step in that direction. But..." He slanted hard eyes on the werewolf. "I will not apologize for my pragmatism." He sighed. Heavily. "And for pity's sake, didn't we agree that you would leave some clothes here, Etienne?"

The unexpected joke shattered the tension. Adonis, Patricio, and Saamal chuckled and Etienne flushed as if he'd only just noticed his nudity. "I left in a hurry." Etienne scratched the stubble at his face and neck before threading a hand through his shaggy brown hair.

Kirill raised an eyebrow and pulled a small knapsack from the dark folds of his thick forest green cloak.

Eurydice leaned forward and sniffed like it would help her figure out just what else Kirill might have hidden in that cloak. Weapons, certainly, but how on earth did the vampire keep the lines of his clothes so smooth and unassuming? Surely there should have been a lump where he'd hidden that sack.

Etienne caught the knapsack as Kirill tossed it across the clearing.

Adonis crowed with laughter as the werewolf prince opened it to find a pair of plain, brown leather breeches. "No shirt for the werewolf, eh, Kirill?" Adonis snickered.

The corner of the vampire's mouth quirked. "Adonis, even a prince as wealthy as myself could not afford to supply our lycan friend here with a complete outfit every time he shows up skyclad."

Etienne snorted and shook his head, but raised a hand in a begrudging half-wave. "Thanks."

-Kirill, Adonis, Etienne.

A defensive female was no one's friend. It was always best to start with a laugh.-Adonis' thoughts.

Your condemnation bothers me, because it's symbolic of an ugliness that doesn't suit you. Hatred leaves a mark, anger leaves a mark." He took her hands in his, pleased when she didn't fight him. He almost smiled when he saw the paint under her fingernails, the smudges that never really came off the hands of an artist.

“Don’t paint yourself with those colors if you don’t have to.”

-Adonis to Ivy

“For the love of Perun, what happened to you?”

Adonis cried out with relief. He struggled to get an arm under his body to push himself up, wincing when he toppled over on the first attempt. It took another two attempts before he managed to prop himself up on his forearms and raise his face to the spot Kirill’s voice was coming from.

A hiss of breath told him Kirill had noticed his eyes.

“I met the mother,” Adonis joked feebly.

“Wonderful,” Kirill muttered, disgust thick in his voice.

-Kirill and Adonis.

“So you want to see me?” Adonis prodded.

The light in Ivy’s eyes dimmed, but only slightly. Part of Adonis waited for her to brush him off, to pretend she didn’t care one way or another. Surely she couldn’t really be as open as she seemed?

She met his eyes with a surprising calm. “If I did, would you come?”

Where? Back to her? Heat flared inside him as he remembered the feel of her body against his, the taste of her mouth, her skin. More than that, he remembered the wonder she’d greeted the astral plane with and the debilitating fear that had twisted the dream of his home world into a nightmare. For a moment he’d had the overwhelming urge to banish that terror, to hold her hand and show her the world, all of it. Her mother had tattooed the world with darkness, but Adonis knew he could change that. He could show her all the wonders that existed outside her tower and then they could paint together, capturing all the— And that’s why he’d had to leave. Foolish urges like those would only hurt them both. He couldn’t see her again.

“Of course I would come.”

Right, so I’ve lost my wits completely then. Good to know.

-Adonis and Ivy.

“I went to see a wizard today,” Adonis added. “And a necromancer. I don’t know why, the idea just came into my head this morning and I went. Asked perfect strangers if they could help me—help me not have to need sex—and told them about a situation that was none of their business.” He crossed his arms. “I’ll bet Kirill is twitching somewhere in Dacia and he has no idea why.”

- Adonis to Ivy.

“Um, Adonis, what...what are you doing here?” she asked.

“Well, apparently, when I tried to use the magic of the painting world to give us a more appropriate setting, the magic responded a little more enthusiastically than I’d anticipated.”

“You thought my bedroom was an ‘appropriate setting?’” Kirill dead-panned.

Adonis shrugged. “I wasn’t exactly putting a lot of thought into it. I was concentrating on something else at the time. I just used the first image that came to my mind.”

“Charming. Will you be leaving for your own bedroom soon or should I tell the servants there will be two more for dinner?”

“Is he being sarcastic?” Ivy whispered.

“I think so. It’s hard to tell. He’s not the most expressive person at the best of times.” Adonis eyed Kirill, glancing from him to Irina, who seemed to be trying not to laugh.

“Thank you for your generous offer,” he said finally. “But I think we’ll take our leave.” Ivy shifted beneath him and arousal crackled to life along Adonis’ skin. He cleared his throat, fighting to keep his voice steady.

“Unless you’d like to give us a little more time...?”

Kirill’s face darkened. “Irina, tell Isai we need an exorcism.”

-Irina, Adonis, Kirill, Ivy.

As all incubi inevitably do, he’d fallen in love—and in the grand tradition of demons everywhere, he’d done it in the most inconvenient way possible.

-Adonis' thoughts.

Cally says

So far I'm really not liking this book, I'm only continuing to read this because I enjoyed the first two and would like to finish the series.

I'm on pg 136 and just...ugh. In order to read romance you kind of have to be at least semi okay with big manwhores, but that is never an aspect I've enjoyed and as such I've always avoided books with Incubi. So I'm trying hard not to let that factor into my review of the book, but it's honestly not something I can really seem to look past. I've never enjoyed books where they continue to sleep with other people after meeting. This of course is only him, she (obviously) is a virgin.

My one MAIN problem with this book however, is that he gets awfully huffy about being accused of rape. Sweetie, you can't use your powers to seduce someone and then claim total innocence. Just because someone desires you and is aroused by you, doesn't mean that is an automatic yes.

Also she sculpted a statue of herself from "mid-thigh to mid-neck" that he wasn't supposed to see and while she protests he's rubbing his hands all over it while he stares at her. Creepy and gross.

Cindy says

Despite all the excitement finishing book 2, One Bite, I was wondering what fairy tale the author would choose for book 3. I mean, she'd already hit the two biggest – Cinderella and Snow White – so what would come next?

The Golden Stair does not disappoint, it's Rapunzel as you've never seen it before. The prince is more smokin' hot than charming – not to mention skilled – and the heroine is still innocent but without being stupid.

Adonis is an incubus who lives on the sexual energy released by his frequent carnal encounters. He seems to really enjoy playing the bad boy, but readers of the previous two books have suspected there's a heart buried inside... This story takes him from player to devoted, and the reader is lucky enough to be along for the ride.

Ivy, like children everywhere, wants to believe the best of her Mum. Even when not everything seems to add up. Even when Mum keeps her locked in a tower 'for her own good.' Even when Ivy had to destroy her...

I love the snarky banter in this book. (Hey, it's Adonis, snark is his signature.) The scene where Kirill (vampire prince from book 2) finds Adonis and Ivy in his bed:

"What are you doing here, Kirill?" Adonis asked warily.

Kirill sighed and pinched the bridge of his nose. "This is my bedroom, Adonis. Wouldn't the more pertinent question be, what are you doing here?"

or when he goes up against the Necromancer:

"Zombies? Isn't that a bit cliché?" he chastised.

"I prefer to think of them as classics," the necromancer sneered.

Of course we get a further look at the series story arc in the prologue and epilogue chapters. With such a

strongly defined story arc, as well as the interweaving of all the characters, make sure you read this series in order.

I can't wait for the next of them!

Blood Prince series

Before Midnight (Blood Prince, #1)

One Bite (Blood Prince, #2)

Golden Stair (Blood Prince, #3)

I received a free copy from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Gigi says

Very confused on the ending - too sudden.
