



The Red Rider

Billy Wong

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Action-packed fantasy adventure loosely inspired by the Red Riding Hood legend, featuring one tough female warrior. After killing the werewolf that took her grandmother's life, a young girl is outcast from her village over the perceived taint from contact with the lycanthrope. A decade later she is the famous Red Rider, slayer of hundreds of werewolves. When she learns of a new breed of more intelligent lupines, her skills are put to the ultimate test, and even the help of other warriors such as overweight knight Herbert and cage fighting champion Evie may not be enough to overcome the rising threat. A full length novel.

The Red Rider Details

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From Reader Review The Red Rider for online ebook

Maggiemay1992 says

The Red Rider was a well-written book with excellent social commentary, but I could not get into the story. It was an interesting premise, but the story itself needed some work.

April says

Werewolves, Werewolves and then some. This read is about red riding hood. The after story. After grandma is dead and she is considered cursed what she did and where she went. Revenge is the name of this game as she travels everywhere to destroy the things that took her life as she knew it. They took her grandmother, her mother and then her father and everything she knew. She learned to fight them, destroy them and make them run. What happens when you see a new perspective to an old way? What happens when fighting is no longer enough? how do you start over without stopping and live without dying? This is a very long read but it comes with a lot of detailed action and then some. There is no wonder in this book it is very detailed almost too detailed leaves little for the imagination. This woman has the strength of men but must always be a woman in finding her way. Then everything she knew changes again when others become involved in her very quite, abandoned and lonely wandering life. People did not get involved they overlooked her and never got too close but now they are closing in and shes not sure what she is supposed to feel about it. would recommend to ages 14 and up only due to graphic violence!!

Karli says

Really good book

Ana says

I was given a copy in exchange for an honest review

The Red Rider is a story based off of the tale of Little Red Riding Hood. Red was attacked by a werewolf after finding it killing her grandmother. Her village casts her away thinking she's cursed and she dedicates her life to hunting and killing werewolves. Overall this book was good, I didn't hate it, but I didn't love it. I just simply liked it.

There were many things that I liked about its book. I loved how Red was an independent girl who proved that she didn't need anyone, but at the same time accepted help. The descriptions were perfect, I can easily visualize everything. There was also lots of action. The author was careful to add small details that made the story more interesting (such as the purpose of the red hood). The entire plot was creative and action packed which is why I liked it.

Now onto what I didn't like so much. Even though the descriptions were amazing, the writing wasn't the best. The transitions in this story were extremely choppy. At one point in the story the author was describing a particular situation and then jumps to another situation only using 'and then' or 'a few days later' as a

transition. Which brings me to my next point, time goes by so fast in this book. I would constantly see 'a few days later' or 'the next week' or 'after a couple of months' and it really made me lose track of how much time had passed. Not only does the author fast forward through time, but he also slows down on action scenes. Don't get me wrong, the fight scenes were the best, however they felt a little drawn out. A fight would last two to five pages, but other parts of the story would go by much quicker. To me, it felt that the author was rushing to each fight scene. It seems like the author was just trying to put the characters in a situation that would result in a fight. The characters were kind of flat, although readers knew most of their backstories it felt as though you were missing something. The dialogue between the characters seemed stiff, at times they spoke in the way most people speak nowadays and other times they spoke very formally. It was very confusing. Lastly, I had a huge problem with Red's reputation. The Red Rider was supposedly a tough werewolf hunter that wins every fight with no problem, however almost every fight she gets in she barely wins or doesn't win at all.

Although there were a few flaws with this book, I think that it is an enjoyable short read. It is creative and action packed and once you get passed the flaws it's really enjoyable.

Sophie David says

The Red Rider was an interesting book. I enjoyed the rivalry and grudging respect with Red and Leviatha throughout the book. There were a lot of Werewolves and if I have a criticism then it would be that the many battles did feel a bit same-y after a while but I liked how Red stuck up for herself. I must say that I rather like Wolves and even though they would be terrifying, I liked the Warofs and I would love to see them on TV or films. Some bits I thought were a little unnecessary and didn't fit into what my idea of a fantasy book is but I liked the book as a whole and would like to read more. I did think it ended a little suddenly though but a good overall book.

Meg says

Disclosure: This book was given to me for free as a giveaway.

Despite my best efforts, I am not a fan. There were some good things in the book - every chapter was jam packed with action and adventure. Okay. That was the only good thing. Unfortunately, the dialogue was spastic - parts were overtly formal and stilted and then, within the very same discussion, the talk would all of a sudden turn into teenager-slang. The story itself could have been split into three short stories and had some issues with a consistent storyline from beginning to end. We started one grand adventure and when it finishes in 2 chapters, we move on to the next grand adventure. Finally, for a girl who makes her living fighting - she sure does get beaten to a pulp more often than not. And what's the the random "Gee, I really wish I was Betty-Homemaker with a nice man to take care of me" in the middle of the fight scenes??

Angie ~aka Reading Machine~ says

Red was attacked as young girl by werewolf only to cast out of her home and family. Red with her silver veined faced determined to rid the world of werewolves. Red is truly a loner without friends. Red befriends Knight of Folds the unlikely duo forge friendship. Red didn't realize how alone she'd been until then. Can Red really rid the world of werewolves? Your answers await you in The Red Rider.

I loved this twist on the tale of Red Riding Hood. I also loved that nothing ever came easy to Red throughout the whole book. I personally love a good strong female character. The characters and story were well written and creative too. I will continue reading more of this author's work in the future.

Christie says

I won a copy of "The Red Rider" by Billy Wong from www.librarything.com. I was actually given a copy of this book back on March 28, 2014. However, with all the book review requests, I haven't been able to read this book until this past weekend. I honestly regretted not getting to this book until now. I love re-write of fairy tales.

I classified this book into Fairy Tales and Fiction. I'm certain that this book may fall into other genres but for this review, these are the classifications that I'm sticking with.

In "The Red Rider" we find Red a decade after the brutal death of her beloved grandmother. She has been deemed as cursed for what has happened to her and her grandmother. She has had to leave her village due to the beliefs of her father and neighbors. Now she is after one thing only and she will exterminate all the werewolves!

Red travels the wilderness and has become basically a bounty hunter for hire. She travels to destinations that have suffered attacks and seeks out those werewolves that have done harm. Having learned how to prevent from being turned by a scratch or a bite, Red consumes a small amount of silver powder with each minor or severe wound. This tactic is to prevent her turning however it comes with consequences. She has developed silvery veins across her face and body. Consequently, during her travels, she keeps up the hood of her red cloak to hide her face from wandering eyes.

Known to take down 3 or more werewolves all by herself, she garnishes a name for herself among the towns she travels through. It's through one village she encounters her most impregnable opponent. Having run into guards that forcibly take money from some traveling villagers, Red starts to battle with the guards. It's when this extremely tall, armored guard approaches, does Red know that she is now in for a fight. Once the battle is over, Leviatha, AKA Fourslayer, reveals that she is the ruler of the land that Red is traveling through. Not knowing if she can actually trust this new woman who indicates she too is wanting to rid her kingdom of werewolves, Red takes what help she can gather from this woman and keeps her basically at arm's length.

Red has learned that she can only trust a few people in her life. Those that she does grow close to end up dying at the hands of werewolves in some manner or another. So, for her to make friends and trust someone to watch her back is very rare. It's when she befriends an overweight Knight, Herbert, Knight of the Fold, does Red start to find that there are few that she can trust. Herbert once was a great knight that held much honor and esteem. However, one mistake cost him everything he knew. He stopped taking care of himself and gained a grossly amount of weight. He lost the pride in himself that he once was very proud of. It's with his friendship with Red that the two become strong friends whose friendship and loyalty will become tested.

When Red learns that the Leviatha is making a deal with the king of the werewolves that Red has no other option but to ask for help from the one person that she doesn't want to seek out. Headed to a fighting arena in Veid, Herbert watches in awe as he witnesses a female in the ring with a hulking man and holding her own in basically an open knuckle, knock down fight. Amazed to see this woman win, Herbert learns that Evie, is actually Red's sister.

With Evie's money and capabilities to pull some men together, Red and Herbert are on course to obliterate the werewolves that are forming in the lands ran by Leviatha. With the battle looming, Red learns that there is more to life than just killing werewolves. Maybe there is an opportunity to save those who have been turned, but have yet to kill in their animal form.

With battles against werewolves, other humans, betrayal and broken hearts, Red seeks the truth behind the werewolves. Now if she can convince others that "maybe" their loved ones can be restored back to their human form. Only problem is, the one that holds that secret may just take it with him to the grave.

I honestly enjoyed this story. I love how people rewrite a classic fairy tale and spin it into a whole new story. With "The Red Rider" we get to learn how Red struggles with the direction humanity is turning. We witness the heartbreak she endures from the loss of her family and friends throughout the book. With the fairy tale we never did get to learn the entire story. However, with "The Red Rider" we learn that this girl is going to right the wrongs.

You have strong female characters throughout this story. With Red, Evia, Leviatha and many others, it's nice to not see the female as such the weaker gender. Men fear these women and know that their presence carries justice of some sort.

I hated that it took me so long to get to this story. However, I did finally get it read and will say...it is well worth the read for those who love a twist to the traditional fairy tales we were brought up hearing.

-RadioactiveBookworm- says

Goodreads Synopsis: Action-packed fantasy adventure loosely inspired by the Red Riding Hood legend, featuring one tough female warrior.

After killing the werewolf that took her grandmother's life, a young girl is outcast from her village over the perceived taint from contact with the lycanthrope. A decade later she is the famous Red Rider, slayer of hundreds of werewolves. When she learns of a new breed of more intelligent lupines, her skills are put to the ultimate test, and even the help of other warriors such as overweight knight Herbert and cage fighting champion Evie may not be enough to overcome the rising threat.

My Review: I really liked this book. The characters were exciting. I didn't know what was going to happen next. Especially at the beginning of the book. It was crazy. I'd think that she was going to do something, and then she totally did the opposite. It was really crazy. I started the book and couldn't put it down. The story was fun to read. I didn't put it down once I started it. Really, the only reason I put it at four stars is the cover. It's really not something I'd associate the book with. I mean sure there's a girl holding a knife, but that could be anyone. Anyways. Check it out! Thanks for reading.

PS. My first review was better.

(Radioactivebookreviews.wordpress.com)

Melissa says

I was given this book in exchange for an honest review.

This is an action packed book with some violence (but not overly done). The author has created a strong female character that is well-developed. I couldn't put the book down - was a LATE night but worth the loss of sleep. At the end you want more. This author has quickly become a favorite of mine with his ability to build a strong leading female character and his amazing style of writing! I look forward to many more books from him.

Georgiann Hennelly says

The Red Rider is loosely based on the Red Riding Hood story. Red is a fearless strong warrior. Her Grandmother was killed by a Werewolf and ever since she has been on a mission to kill any Werewolf she finds. Along the way she makes friends. Herbert a Knight is one of them. There is also many enemies and obstacles she must defeat. I loved the Red Character she is a tiny but fierce mighty warrior. She gives each challenge her all using all her strength, she has no fears, she is one tough Warrior. Herbert isn't your usual Knight he is over weight and i just loved his disposition. He isn't your usual side kick type. I look forward to reading more books by Billy Wong

Lara says

[as there aren't large veins

Mel (Reviews In A Pinch) says

Full Disclosure: I received a copy of this book from the author, via LibraryThing, in exchange for an honest review.

My Thoughts: I'm absolutely crazy about fairy tales and love it when I read a new spin on a familiar tale. Sometimes it's a bit darker and sometimes it's just more realistic or modern. In the end, I usually just gobble them up like they're cookies and I'm the Cookie Monster.

The Red Rider is a much darker and bloodier take on an older Red Riding Hood. Frankly, she's much scarier and more of a bad ass than I've ever read in another version of this fairy tale. To be honest, I always thought Red Riding Hood was a bit of a wimp, but Billy Wong's take on it leaves no question to who would win in a fight, the Red Rider or a werewolf?

The writing was pretty good. There were a few grammatical errors, but they really didn't take anything away from the story. While the story itself was pretty interesting. There were parts that were slow, especially right after a heart-pumping action sequence (there are a few to look forward to). Parts of the plot just seemed convoluted and thrown in at the last-minute to make The Red Rider longer. I wasn't happy with the pace throughout most of The Red Rider. I thought some parts that were introduced and wrapped up very quickly should have been drawn out a little more. There were other parts that could have and should have been

wrapped up much sooner than they actually were.

The characters weren't actually memorable. The Red Rider, herself, wasn't relatable and seemed less than human throughout. Herbert seemed okay, but wasn't really developed so I just thought of him as a bit boring. No one else really stuck around long enough to get developed into anything more than a passing character.

In the end, I think the intention behind the book was better than the book itself. I liked it, but I would only recommend The Red Rider if you're obsessed with fairy tale re-writes or werewolves.

For more reviews, check out Reviews in a Pinch today!

Tabby Shiflett says

3.5 Stars

A more violent reinterpretation of the story of Red Riding Hood, or more accurately, what happened after. The fight scenes are detailed very well but the story seems better described as a collection of several smaller adventures instead of one huge one. I wouldn't mind seeing this work as a graphic novel. Would work well as a serial story in a Sci-Fi magazine too. I bumped up the star rating by a 1/4 star just because the butt-kicking heroine shares my name :)

LT Member Giveaway

Sheri says

The Red Rider by Billy Wong

The Red Rider is loosely based on the red riding hood story. Red Rider is a strong fearless warrior. A werewolf killed her grandmother and ever since she has been on a mission to destroy(kill) any werewolf she can find. She makes some friends along the way one being a Knight named Herbert. She also had many obstacles and enemies she must defeat.

I really liked "Red". She is a tiny but mighty warrior and even if she may lose a challenge she hits it head on with all of her strength. She is one of the toughest warriors, and she has no fears. I also really liked Herbert, over weight and not the usual sidekick one would expect, he had a disposition I just could not help but loving. Next on my to read list by Billy Wong will be Lost from Legend.
