



## The Keeper's Curse

*Diana Harrison*

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## **The Keeper's Curse** Diana Harrison

After fifteen-year-old Emmy Rathers unintentionally summons a strange glowing cloud during a break-in, her mother rips her from her home, her father, and her world, forever.

When she lands in the rustic, militant land of Methelwood, she is told she's a crafter - a person who can perform magic by conjuring souls of the dead. But starting life over normally in the midst of grieving for the life she has left behind, while at the same time attempting to fit in in her new war-obsessed school, becomes impossible when she begins to hear a voice in her head. Complicating the matter further is the fact that the voice belongs to a boy at school named Breckin, who just also happens to be the most powerful crafter in the world, and the future ruler of Methelwood.

But that's not the worst part - suddenly Breckin's most hostile adversary is coming out of the shadows and trying to kill her. With no other choice, Emmy must travel deeper into this bizarre, dark world she is so unfamiliar with to find out why this is happening to her, and more importantly, how to stay alive.

## **The Keeper's Curse Details**

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Author : Diana Harrison

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## From Reader Review The Keeper's Curse for online ebook

### Diana Harrison says

\*imagine me saying all this with an infomercial voice\*

Hello there, I am the author of this new book, which contains all sorts of awesome things. If you purchase this book, you will get some of this:

*Um, that's supposed to be fighting...*

Alongside:

*Action! Not bombs. Or tanks. Or whitehouses. Unfortunately.*

With a side of this:

*Magic!*

But wait! There's more!

*Enchanted forests*

And that's not all! Oh, no. With your package you will also get:

*Dancing*

And even a bit of:

*Romance!*

And comes with a free:

*Cute kiss scene!*

Wow! And you can get this - a fifty seven thousand dollar value (or whatever ...) all for just 0.99 cents!

\*thumbs up with corny smile\*

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### Purple Osprey says

I wanted to say it's cheap and shameless Harry Potter ripoff, but even that seems like a compliment.

The book is devastatingly bad and poorly written.

Here's the synopsis: winy, inconsiderate, manipulative and not very bright little girl ends up in some fantasy world, cries a lot, gets carried around, and for no good reason immediately becomes the center of the group of friends who tend to her every whim. I especially liked the part where she begged for guy's love. Writer's personality coming through? I could live with the ridiculous plot, but the writing itself is just so bad.

I had a hope it was intended as some sort of parody, but no, the author takes herself and her ramblings very seriously.

Where do all these good reviews come from? Is that the first book you've ever read, people?

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## Tom says

(I'd give this one 3.5 Stars, if only it were possible)

Diana Harrison's novel "The Keeper's Curse" creates a world so unusual, there's no way to describe it adequately in a review, but I shall endeavor to give you the short version.

\*deep breath\*

Emmy Rathers is fifteen-years-old, and thinks her parents are overprotective of her. So, she has to sneak out at night. One night, she gets back to her room without being busted. She goes downstairs for a drink of water, surprises a burglar, then the living-room goes all poltergeisty, with whirling winds and stuff flying around, chasing the burglar from the house. Emmy's mom comes downstairs, sees what's happening, and tells Emmy to pack, that they're leaving in five minutes, and that she'll never see this world or her father again.

Emmy packs her suitcase. Her mom leads her to a secret passage in the house. At the end is a sort of glowing snow-globe thing. Emmy and her mom grab it, and whoooooosh, they are sucked into the ball, and end up on an orb called "Methelwood." Emmy's mom scraps with some security goons, who throw her in jail. Emmy finds refuge with friends of her mom's, with whom her elder brother has been living the past five years. (Emmy's parents had told her her brother was away at boarding school, which isn't really that much of a lie, it turns out)

So there are dozens of these orbs, which share a common hub, called Ministerial. Each one is a little world unto itself. The kids at Emmy's school--Urquhart Institute--are trained in one or more supernatural skillsets--Superman-like speed and strength; flight; the ability to control people's wills, etc. There's one kid in school named Breckin, and he has all of the powers. When he comes of age, he'll basically be running all of the orbs. When he was 12, his mom performed a ritual where his soul was transferred to another person for safekeeping (since he's so powerful, bad sorts would be trying to kill him). As it happens, his soul ended up inside an 11-year-old girl who lived on Earth. Her name? Yup. Our Emmy.

Emmy makes friends at her new school, and grows closer to Breckin. There's a complete jerk named Cyril Crow, who is Breckin's sworn enemy. But...well, it's complicated.

One night, during a Methelwood dance, all sorts of hell breaks loose, and Emmy and her friends find themselves fighting for their lives.

"The Keeper's Curse" is a good book, full of unique mythologies fused with standard teenagers. In fact, the worlds and mythologies are so detailed, that it was hard sometimes to keep everything and everyone straight. There were some funny interactions between the teenaged characters, and a curious love triangle. Actually, if you consider all the factors, it could actually be a love rhombus, or a love pentagon, for that matter.

It's a complicated romantic ensnarement. We'll leave it there.

There are many complicated situations in "The Keeper's Curse." Indeed, if I had to find one fault with this book, it's that it feels like it overreaches, that it tries to do too much within the framework of a YA-Fantasy/YA-Paranormal novel. It sort of bogged down the story at times.

While I like this quirky world Diana Harrison created, I think the truest, most compelling parts of the story dealt with how Emmy finds herself caught between two boys who are enemies. Neither of them can understand how Emmy can tolerate the other. In a world where teenagers have spectacular powers, perhaps the most formidable power of all belongs to Emmy, as she negotiates that dual-boy minefield--not to mention the bruised egos and petty squabbles among her other friends.

Like everyone else, Emmy has her share of human faults. In the end, it is her normal, non-superpower-enriched human heart--her willingness to take a chance and love--that ultimately makes "The Keeper's Curse" such a satisfying read.

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### **Sarika says**

Wow. Oh, my. I really liked this book. I'm shocked at how much I liked it. First of all the plot was so shockingly unique and exciting I had a hard time putting the book down to get any real work done at school. Ms. Harrison, how did you come up with this amazing story. I loved it.

The characters (my favorite part of a book to analyze) were pretty freaking awesome. Emmy is actually an awesome female protagonist (which is great since the world of paranormal romance novels is seriously lacking in good female protagonist), she's brave and confident and I love how she plans things out before she does them. I was a little shaky about Breckin at first but the guy kinda grows on you. And Cyrus....I wish he showed up a little bit more. He was so funny with his sarcastic remarks.

"If a housekeeper or servant sees anything, I'll take him out to jump off the ridge to his death like I always do when they see things they shouldn't."

Hahaha! I love him. I really hope he and Emmy stay together for the next book, which I can't wait to read. I recommend this book to anybody just trying paranormal romance, it's a good book to start with, and basically every one else.

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### **Frida says**

This was better than I thought it would be.

Emmy made one stupid assumption that created unnecessary conflict but was otherwise a good main character.

Too have Emmy end up with Breckin would be the cliché thing to do, so I am rooting for Cyrus.

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## **Booknut says**

I'm speechless!

This was an amazing book. Unique and with enough magic to sweep you right off your feet, 'The Keeper's Curse' is quite literally a keeper - a must read for all bookworms!

Review to come :D

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## **Stephanie Redwine says**

I was very surprised at how much I enjoyed this book. I loved the setting and descriptions of Methelwood and I loved how quickly the book moved. "The Keeper's Curse" is one of those books where you sit down for an hour to read and then you look up 5 hours later not realizing how much time has passed. There was no downtime and everything moved at a quick pace leading up to the finale of the book. My favorite thing about the book was the fact that I wanted to be in the world with these characters. It is a world where everyone has the power to control magic and use "palewraiths" to perform it (using dead souls to defend yourself... how cool is that?). It was also interesting reading about Emmy trying to figure out what was going on with the voice she kept hearing in her head, and all of the situations she had to go through to learn a secret that had been kept from her since she was a young girl.

I really enjoyed the story line of "The Keeper's Curse" and the whole concept of the novel. I thought it was awesome how everyone within the story was connected in one way or another. Also, I enjoyed reading as the individual people came together to create a tightknit group of friends. There were times (although very few) where I felt the dialogue was a little cheesy, but overall I really enjoyed the story. There were some scenes that involved Emmy and her classmates having competitions where the last one standing wins. I loved those parts because you were able to see Emmy grow into her abilities and become more comfortable with herself, her friends, and her surroundings. I also enjoyed the different dynamics of Emmy and her friends, especially between Emmy, Cyrus, and Breckin.

"The Keeper's Curse" has a little bit of everything that will keep anyone interested: mystery, romance, action, suspense, and magic all in one nice, neat, little package.

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## **Morgan Sheppard says**

The Keeper's Curse was a brilliant book, with plenty of action, intrigue, and unique situations for our characters to endure and enjoy.

It starts with Emmy being taken away from all she knows, and being thrust into a new world, where the only person she knows is her brother who she hasn't seen for five years. Her mother is taken away and put in prison. Emmy is adrift, not really knowing what is going on, or what she is supposed to do. Add in the fact that she is hearing a voice in her head, and well, it's more than a fifteen-year-old can take.

This is a smoothly paced book that moves along at a swift pace. There are good guys, and bad guys, and bad guys who come good, and I'm waiting for the good guys who are bad! I know they're there, I'm just not 100% sure who they are right now.

There was one bit that I was unsure of - I really dislike love triangles! However, this one had a bit of a twist to it, it was really more of a love square! My heart did break for Emmy though at one point, and I completely understand why she broke the bond. Of course, now I'm very worried that she will end up hurting Cyrus! He was wonderful, and I really hope that things turn out good for him!

For a fresh, exciting, young adult fantasy, then I can definitely recommend this!

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## **Myra (Pieces of Whimsy) says**

Review first published on my blog, Pieces of Whimsy

**4.5/5**

I wasn't sure what to expect when I started reading this book but I have to say I was pleasantly surprised! From the first few sentences I was hooked, hungrily devouring the next few chapters and though life forced me to take a break, I was eagerly awaiting the next few lines.

The book starts in our world, the human world, but it quickly transports us into Methelwood, a magical town with people called 'crafters'. As soon as Emmy gets there she's reunited with the brother she hasn't seen in years, her mother is placed under arrest and Emmy agrees to a deal that could mean saving her mother, or trapping them all. It was all very hectic in the beginning, but I loved it!

As I mentioned before the book was engaging from the start, and I was immediately drawn into Emmy's life, wanting to know more. I loved learning about Methelwood and thought the aspect of the crafter's revering humans was very cool and not something I'd come across very often. I really liked how the crafter's were described and Emmy's immediate reaction to them was really human. She was confused and scared and a little repulsed by their appearance and I could really relate to that. She wasn't in awe or wondering at the magic around her. She had been thrust into this crazy, new environment full of people who were strange and different and I thought her reaction to it all was real: stunned, confused and a little afraid.

The romance was a little juvenile compared to what I've been reading recently, but seeing as the main character was only 15, I reckon it was spot on, at least in my experience. I loved that just because Emmy and Breckin shared a unique connection, they didn't just go and drop everything to be together.

I'm really intrigued to see if Emmy's father and/or Jesse (Emmy's best friend) make an appearance in the next book. Though I didn't get to see much of them, I did become fairly close to them and would love to see if they can somehow worm their way back into the story.

I am really looking forward to seeing how the character's grow and develop in the next book, especially Emmy's love life as she gets older! The Keeper's Curse was an amazing story, a few tiny editing errors but I can easily overlook them as it was such a great story.

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## **Isabella says**

I didn't have any expectations before starting to read this book and I only discovered it thanks to the author befriending me and I'm glad for it! It allowed me to just enjoy the book for what it is, which is a great YA Fantasy :) It had everything I want in a book: action, conflict, a real plot, a kickass heroine who isn't a Mary

Sue and of course romance. I greatly appreciated that the romance wasn't cheesy (which it has a tendency to be in many YA books I've read) and it's believable!

I won't reiterate what it's about since you've probably read the blurb already but I highly recommend it! Can't wait for the next book to come out :)

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## Becca says

Gah. So good! Where to start where to start....Read it??? Yeah that seems like a good place to start, stop reading this review because you should be reading the book! Silly billys! - its late and i should be doing homework so bear with me here people.

Okay I'm going to start with my feels on the plot, and what nots: Well Original thats for sure, I don't think that i have ever come across a story quite like this and that is nice. The fantasy genre does that for ya but sometimes you can hit ruts and you are reading the same fantasy story over and over again. Well don't worry we aren't travelling across middle earth to destroy a ring, and we aren't going on crazy adventures through 7 books at a magic school. Nope! We are going to be sucked, turned upside, and all around into an orb. What in the world is that you ask, well read the book - just kidding i will tell you. Sort of... This book takes place in a different place not Earth. So if you are looking to be submerged into a new world, well here you go! But if you don't want to learn a whole new language or two...unless you don't know French like me...stop and read this book. Anyways! I was slightly confused on human status in this book, it seemed like the crafters - as the people from this plane? world? orb? are called - act as if humans are these pinnacle beings, and should be valued above all others? But at the end it got a little shady... i was a bit confused on how they felt about humans. And it was, honestly, unexpected, usually humans are the weaklings, they are on the bottom of the food chain...so Diana Harrison you kept me guessing on more than just this humans are superior thing. So moving on from that rant and a half.....

Still on the plot here! Its really an adventure, if you are looking to be swept up into this great, epic romance, well calm down you will get there. The romance doesn't really start to emerge until the last half of the book, not that you really need it to get through the book at all. And let me tell you i was thrown all around up and down and turned around, and felt like i was being transported through an orb and if you read the book you will understand how that feels. Diana you are crafty lady and i was quite pleased for the most part. I was upset but certain people...because they're stupid....not going to say anything spoilers and all....so before i spill the beans lets move on to my rant about the characters!

So when i read the summary at first i was like...15 year old...ugh i don't think i want to do this... and that is a really poor reason i know but i've been 15 they are annoying and think the world revolves around them and quite frankly i have a hard time caring too much about 15 years problems...maybe thats just me but i try to avoid to young main characters if i can. But DO NOT LET HER AGE FOOL YOU! So begins my rant about Emmy.

Emmy: She is not what i remember being like when i was 15, honestly i had to remind myself that this girl was 15. She is beyond mature, a very intelligent and fantastic main character. She is torn away from everything she knows, everything she loves, and she is allowed a damn freak out! and she gets it! and again if you have read any of my other reviews you will know i say this a lot a lot, but here i go again, this grieving period that a lot of characters gloss over because of time makes me sad because i want to connect with these characters, i want them to feel real to me, and if i was taken from everything i knew, and found out my family was lying to me my entire life than yeah i would want a week or two to get my head around that. Her relationship with her brother started off strong, but alas a lot of times when having the sibling around they

tend to disappear later on, and it happened here, not entirely but enough that i was like hey brother i think i would like you to be in it just a slight more. I understood why brother could be easily excused out, really i do but still...he went through the same thing i would have thought they would be attached at the hip. Anyways this isn't suppose to be about brother Alex. This about Emmy who i loved to hate sometimes. She is young she will figure it out...its boys, its always boys that screw up everything! stupid boys...they have coodies i hope you know! anyways...i understand her connection with Breckin i do, but god i hated him a little bit...a lot...okay a ton. but that was for personal reasons. now...im going to review him!

Breckin: He had a horrible past, and i felt for him i really did. And if he didn't lead my girl (my girl being Emmy) on for just even a little bit i probably wouldn't hate him so much. As him being a character he had a very black and white view of the world which again i understand why. His first meeting with Emmy though had me confused as hell. i thought he would be totes in love with the girl thats how its suppose to be! but he has a girlfriend and he doesn't do what i expect him to do. In the end he knows when to let go. But he and Emmy have a connection that can't really be broken...easily....(i am truly sorry but if i go on more about him i might end up spilling things i don't want too so i am going to stop right there)

Cyrus: OMG (yes i just omg-ed you) I LOVED HIM. He is dark, handsome, dark and actually really awesome. He is witty, and silly smart. He is such a good guy really and i love love him! His character will surprise you and also be completely obvious at the same time. its a strange combo i know but it really works and its really interesting to read. Anyways... thats all i can say about him as well before i say something i shouldn't.

The ending not cliffhanger-y which is always a relief because unless you have the second one written and ready to go within a week of this one its just pure cruelty. There are left over things that still need to be addressed but hey doesn't end in the middle of an action scene leaving you wondering what will happen within the next five minutes. its resolved enough you can breathe, and left open enough that you want the next one as well.

So thats my review...fun wasn't it? if you enjoyed that you should check out my other rants and reviews on my blog-gie blog! hey i know you hate it when people do that, but hey i am doing it at the end, and i won't even be offended that you don't even think about checking it out but you should because if you are looking for another book to read i can lead you in the right direction. So anyways.... heres the link <http://theviolethourbookreviews.wordpress...>

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## Celeste says

This book was originally reviewed on The Book Hookup.

\*\*A copy was given to me, but that did not influence the review\*\*

First thoughts and the story: So, where to start? I love fantasies...where anything is possible and new worlds are created. And look at that cover, it's gorgeous!! The premise sounded interesting, and by the time I was able to get to the book I had forgotten what it was about. However, it was on my list so I jumped right in. Well, I wish I had reread the blurb because that might have helped me understand what was going on. The book starts with Emmy being ripped from her home in the human world and transported to a world far away: Methelwood. She is so confused when she arrives there, and to top it off her mother is taken away and sent to prison. Emmy is left living with virtual strangers and promises to attend a new type of school and take a test

in a short period of time. She soon starts to learn what powers she has, makes friends, enemies, and oh, she also hears a voice in her head. This is her journey of how she must fight to stay alive, and keep others alive too.

The MC: While Emmy said she was sad and depressed because she was removed from her home, it didn't really seem that way. She may have skipped a few meals, but before we knew it she had a job at the coffee shop with one of her new friends. She was an OK heroine, I think I would have liked her more in the human world, it was a little harder to connect with her in the orbs, but maybe she really was out of her element. When she was turned down by her counselor Willow to look into her dreams again, she thinks breaking and entering is the way to go. I kind of wanted to strangle her with the foolish and impulsive decisions. She did grow on me, as well as grow up and I liked her a lot more by the end.

The Rest of the Cast: The other characters were a mixed bag. None of them really stood out at first, but then Breckin finally did....and Emmy hated him but I couldn't understand why. It didn't add up for me, but she finally came around and saw that he really was a good guy. I also loved, loved, loved Cyrus. LOVED him. He was so real and totally my favorite. ;)

The Romance: It took a while but then I was like, "Ah! There it is!" It was pretty cool how Breckin and Emmy were the two complements to each other but yet they had other love interests. That was a great twist and made it quite interesting.

Surprises and the ending: There was so much suspicion as we knew Thoreoux had to have eyes in Methelwood. I was totally surprised by who it was! But in hindsight I should have totally seen it :) Oh, in case you didn't know I love to be surprised. The supposed assassin was definitely interesting. I had suspected he wasn't thrilled with his assignment from the beginning, but had no other choice I grew to like him more and more and more. The book ended in just the right way, all the loose ends tied up nicely.

Final thoughts: While the idea of the whole book was interesting and quite unique, the writing itself was a teensy bit one dimensional. I wanted to feel more of what I knew the characters should be feeling. It's one thing to write the words, but conveying the emotion is a much harder task. So, all in all the creativity was fantastic, but it was the execution that fell a little short for me. The last third of the book was the part I really enjoyed....the part before that was a lot of scene setting. For you fantasy lovers: if you are looking for something different this is a great book to add to your collection.

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## **ephrielle says**

So much of this book just didn't make sense. Like the characters would always jump to the most illogical solution. Obviously no one ever explained to them that the most direct and obvious is usually true. It was really hard to take them seriously when they were so far off in left field. I never could understand the importance they placed on everything. Why, was the question most on top of my mind. I also had a really hard time seeing Emmy as even remotely grown up. Is it any wonder no one else did when I couldn't even see it. For some reason she really has a very pre-teen sort of way of thinking. The cover definitely does not lead you to think this is some near child. The bad guy is pathetic. He has all these opportunities to kill Emmy and he just keeps hesitating. Maybe he doesn't even want to be himself but wishes someone would stop him and put him out of his misery.

On another note there are a bunch of convoluted sentences as well as plenty of missing words. It was quite distracting and frustrating trying to figure out what the author was trying to say.

The story is fairly average despite all the backwards thinking. The only real redeeming quality is Cyrus. There are some entertaining moments with him. But even he is really odd. Emmy clearly is trying to bite off more romance than she can chew. Trying to get all it is the end of the world that at fifteen he heart has been broken but don't worry I will dedicate myself to you. Like I mentioned earlier she doesn't seem old enough to be bothering with this stuff yet.

Content:

Violence: Moderate

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## Lex says

Also up in my blog: Ramblings of a YA Reader

I already admit this a lot of times now... First, I love the cover. That's the reason why I looked it up in the first place. I am a cover slut. So I mostly picked books based on pretty covers. Although I try not to judge the books by its cover. Second, I saw Diana's - the author herself - review about it. Since she put pretty pictures and what you will get if you read it, she had me at that.

I must say that this book is a page-turner. I wanted to know what would happen as soon as I read the next dialogue. I even cheated accidentally, I mean I was reading this part and then my eyes wandered to the next part where there's this interesting dialogues. LOL. So I hurried to finish the part I am reading so I could move onto the next one.

Just to be clear, I am not the type of reviewer that tackles about how it was written. I mostly review what I feel about it. It might be biased or something, but that what I am comfortable with. Anyway, I love how the story progress, how Emmy need to go to the Methelwood, try to blend in and go to school, then she still hear voices and then knowing it was Breckin Crawford. Then knowing what it's all about, knowing Cyrus Crow, and all that. It's a good plot, great execution of story.

I'm not a big fan of Emmy since sometimes she irritates me like that when she was first brought in Methelwood where she blamed her mother, hated her even. I mean, sure you feel angry about it cause your Mom keep a secret. But she didn't take her time to think about the WHY. Or maybe she did, but she let her anger and hate surfaced more as to being reasonable.

There's this bit of a love triangle. I don't like love triangle BUT I hated it when the female MC can't decide who she wants and the two guys both love her. In this book, it's not like that. From the first time Cyrus came in Methelwood and when he and Emmy was together, I like him more than Breckin. Maybe it's because Cyrus is a bit of a jerk and a bad boy reputation or something, but I definitely LOVE Cyrus. I want him to be with Emmy rather than Breckin. But who am I to say that they'll really end up together and not Breckin, anyway? LOL.

I love how it ends but I am craving for more. I want Emmy to explore more of the Methelwood and it's orbs and citezens and what ability does she have.

But regardless of that, I really liked it and I enjoyed reading it. I am excited to read the second book now! Omg. I hope Diana's doing the second installment now. Wonder when will it be published? :) Grab your copy now!

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## Hannah says

Review originally posted at Books Worth Remembering as part of The Keeper's Curse Blog Tour

I had never heard of The Keeper's Curse before this tour but I am pleased that I now have. After reading the story I was pleasantly surprised by the solid world building and enjoyable story line, which were my two favourite things about this novel.

I loved how quickly the storyline took off, getting straight into the action instead of rambling which happens frequently in books. I enjoyed being thrust into this unfamiliar place, in the same way as Emmy. The Keeper's Curse had a continued and consistent pace that never stopped being entertaining.

The setting was probably the thing that held this story together for me; with many different, unique parts that made this book stand out – such as the palewraiths, the spirits of the dead which crafters use to perform their magic and the dream downloader which allows you to watch your dreams – I mean who doesn't want to do that? I found that all of these aspects worked well together to create a world I would love to visit.

Another concept of this world that I found interesting was the crafters approach to humans. The crafters live in a series of interconnected orbs and the majority don't have contact with the human world and have a kind of a weird reserved sort of respect for them, seeing humans are better than themselves. I found this intriguing, as Emmy being introduced as half – human, would be seen as different in a good way instead of most fantasy world where half – humans would be seen as lesser or lacking.

The only thing I would love to have seen more of was Emmy's friendship with her new acquaintances Jade and Persephone and her relationship with her brother Alex. I feel like this was the one part sacrificed by the pace of the story. All of which I hope is looked at further in the next instalment in this series.

Overall The Keeper's Curse is an engaging fantasy story with a distinct and wonderful world I know many would enjoy.

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