



The Enchanter's Flame

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Strange things are happening all around Brinnswick. Things that remind me of a piece of my past I'd rather forget. Girls are being killed, drained of blood, and left with strange markings on their bodies. When I finally connect the cases together, a specialist is called in—though, what he's a specialist of is beyond me.

When the chief assigns him as my new partner for the case, I can't help but groan on the inside. Why of all people would I be assigned to Ailin Ellwood? The man is a disaster waiting to happen and a jerk to boot. A sexy jerk, but a jerk nonetheless.

What will Sebastian think when he discovers Ailin's specialty? Will he make a run for it or will he stick around and discover a world of magic hidden beneath the city's surface?

The Enchanter's Flame is the first book in the Ellwood Chronicles. It's a paranormal romance that contains explicit material and is intended for mature adults 18 and over.

The Enchanter's Flame Details

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From Reader Review The Enchanter's Flame for online ebook

Kathleen says

DNF 42%

That was some simplistic, unsophisticated writing, which minimized any potential enjoyment of the story. When a book becomes a chore to read, I move on.

Viz says

Usually I would give a five if the book can make me laugh but what can I say... Its a thriller! It's one of the books where you don't check how much of the book is left. The book is on Seb's POV who is ex- Special Force and currently a detective. Sadly the author has shown him scared of supers, which would be fine but it goes to the side of coward. Hopefully his personality improves in #2. The other MC is a witch (mind you not a warlock). Ailin has had a early start in his life as a supporter and is the strongest witch in the world (for his age). They work side by side to solve a case. I hate cliffhangers so let me say even it's one but the book end with HFN so cliffhanger-haters do try this book, won't be disappointed with the end.

~Volha~ says

I love magic! Anything from unicorns and necromancers to fae and witches! Every author always creates something new and unique and this time it's no exception. This book has a very good world-building, well-developed characters and isn't cluttered with sex. There is plenty UST and denying of one's feelings but it blends well into the book and enhances the characters. (Don't worry, lovers of smut, there are hot and bothering moments to tide you over until the next book) I like that this is not insta kind of book. The relationship or beginning thereof is a work in a progress. This book is filled with humor, sarcasm and cute little animals that become characters in their own right.

Sebastian is a war veteran who works as a police detective. He is a loner, an orphan that has no ties to anyone and he kind of prefers it that way except that his past is riddled with bad memories of those who left him either voluntary or through death and he feels unwanted. When strange murders come up on his radar he is partnered with mysterious Ailin, a goth looking arrogant brat, who tests his patience but elicits forbidden thoughts of desire and longing. Ailin is a wild card, not much is known about him in the beginning except for his bad attitude and strange things happening around and with him. Oh, lets not forget a ferocious kitten Sera and a friendly snake George and a cute rat Mathilda and the Scooby gang is complete. They banter non-stop and it's so hilarious, full of spirit and edged on subtle flirting. I loved the talks they had, how they got to each other. But what was even more precious were the tender moments and looks that Ailin gave Seb. They were golden. There was a glimpse of vulnerability behind all the arrogance and bravado.

In the end Ailin is not what he seems - he is so much more. I loved him and his bossy attitude. I loved how he cared for his family, how he cared for Seb. Seb is a little flighty, I might say, when it comes to his feelings to Ailin but when he finally accepts them there is no stopping him from caring and protecting Ailin. The murders are gruesome and a little bit scary but Ailin with the help of fellow witches finally catches up to the murderer and those who guide him and both men fight for their lives. The battle is epic, fearsome and full of

magical powers crackling in the air. I loved it.

The conclusion leaves so much for imagination and I anticipate an even better sequel. This new magical world just pulled me in and now I am hooked! Ms Notaro, please hurry and give us the next one before I expire from impatience and magical hangover!!! Highly enjoyed read and highly recommended!!!!

Rosebud says

Detective Sebastian Fitz, a recent transplant to the Central borough, is concerned about a new case he's been assigned to. An apparent ritualistic murder of a college girl ending with her body branded with a symbol and drained of blood. More concerning is that it isn't the first such case requiring Detective Fitz to report his finding to his superior, Chief Gillman.

This starts a chain of events that culminates in Sebastian gaining a new partner, Ailin Ellwood. Tall, dark, antisocial, and sexy, Goth guy Ailin apparently has experience in solving peculiar unorthodox cases though many feel he's too creepy to deal with on a personal level.

Sebastian & Ailin are total opposites forced to work together as the body count continues to rise with all leads pointing to a serial killer with paranormal ties. Things get real once Ailin discloses what's at stake if they don't solve the crime spree before the killer completes his goal.

Throw in the mix the fact that Sebastian begins to have unprofessional feelings for his partner though he's sworn never to mix business with pleasure again. Once burned and all that. Unfortunately, Ailin has an uncanny way of knowing what's on his mind, teasing Sebastian to act on those carnal fantasies which Sebastian won't do but it doesn't hurt to dream.

All bets are off when the two uncover the killer's real motives and discover that the killer's focus has now turned to Sebastian as the next and final victim.

* * * *

New to me author who has written a dick lit quality paranormal m/m romantic suspense. This tale has a definite masculine flavor with it's action, adventure, mystery, and suspense story line but doesn't get in-depth in the occult and/or dark slanted content. One criticism is that the author played out the romance in a slow burn fashion thus delaying my self gratification as a voyeuristic witness of the good stuff between Seb & Ailin. Throw in the fact that Ailin is a highly jealous/possessive/dominating sort of guy. Yum. Yum.

The world building features a contemporary time line in the urban fantasy spectrum of witches and familiars. For any pet lover - this story is chalk full of animals who serve as secondary characters in a delightful fashion. George, Sera, Zrak, & Matilda. Totally laugh out loud moments with these four. Other secondaries add to the depth of the story making the overall story shine. Emrys, from the prequel makes an appearance too.

This is a story that draws the reader in with the ever evolving mysterious crime case AND romance between Seb & Ailin. I will add that there is a blindside ending that I will make no comment about but did serve as the cherry on top element to cap off this story. Can't can't can't wait for the next installment.

Do check out this story if you're a fan of mystery-suspense in the paranormal urban fantasy m/m romantic genre. The entertainment value itself is worth the purchase price.

april says

What a great fantasy story!

If you like sarcastic wit, evil demons, sexy witches, and sexy humans all mixed up to make a explosive read this is the series for you!

It covers everything from fantasy to who done it, and a little romance . However it is all entertaining. I can't wait for the next installment!

Claudia says

[...but during the fight he is suddenly vulnerable ... (hide spoiler)]

Joyfully Jay says

A Joyfully Jay review.

3.25 stars

The Enchanter's Flame was a bit of a muddle. Some parts were intriguing and even enjoyable. And others sections had me wanting to bang my head against a wall. Even several days after finishing it, I'm not sure how I feel about it.

Sebastian and Ailin both have strong personalities that come through clearly. There isn't much backstory on either of them, but there's a prequel coming so at the very least Ailin's past will be more fully developed at some point. Theirs tends to be an antagonistic relationship with a lot of sniping and, at least on Ailin's part, a lot of evading or hiding of really important information. And this is my first issue with the book. Ailin often makes huge decisions that will affect Fitz, but doesn't bother talking him about them. He reads Fitz's mind without permission and never seems to consider this an issue. He also binds Fitz to him magically without asking first. These are life altering choices and Fitz has no input or way to defend himself. And Fitz puts up token arguments, but never really confronts Ailin on these issues in a meaningful way. These were huge private and personal violations that felt glossed over or even brushed aside.

Read Sue's review in its entirety here.

caroline wilson says

I received this book by the author and this is my honest opinion.

I loved this book. It started a little slow and a bit what, why, where but by heck it hit the ground running after that. This is fantasy, romance, and a touch of mystery.

Sebastian is part of the police force and tends to keep quiet especially about the mysterious cr*p that he tends to see out of the corner of his eye. When he spots a pattern of murders that hit scarily close to a foggy memory back in the days in the army he heads straight to his chief and thus he encounters Ailin.

Ailin is a poster of bad boy and cockiness which tends to rub Sebastian up the wrong way when they get partnered to solve this case but attraction soon develops. But when the supernatural starts turning there head in Sebastian direction it will be up to both of them to try and stay alive.

The author did a really good job at world building where I could easily imagine the fantastical creatures that inhabit this world. It's action packed and had that creepy factor where I was on tenterhooks as some scenes progressed. It had quite a bit of goryness but was tempered with banter between the two characters and humour. I also loved the bit of joviality with their pets.

A fine read which just read so easily that I just mowed through the book with ease and such a good story with characters that just went so well together. Magical and looking forward to the next especially after this ending.

"He filled his lungs with the long-lost scent, and his mouth lifted at the edges in a cruel smile, revealing his blood-soaked fangs. He would find the creature, and he would siphon that energy, suck it up, and use it for his own. Then he would consume its soul and slice the creature open bit by bit, piece by piece so he could eat its flesh and drink its blood. "

Ariel says

"How in the hell did I wind up in my car with an asshole, a cute kitten, and a creepy as fuck snake? That sounded like the beginnings of a bad joke."

I loved this! Full of snark, magic, danger, and a slow-burn romance, this book hit all my buttons. I really loved the characters, Sebastian especially, and the 1st person narration worked perfectly to keep the audience in the dark about magic and supernatural creatures. Seb's narration allows the reader to make discoveries along with him as he learns about magic and everything Ailin shows him.

Seb was my favorite character and I really enjoyed being in his head. His insecurities were heartbreaking to read but I loved that insight into his character.

The banter between Ailin and Seb is hilarious and I really enjoyed their dynamic as they begin their new partnership. Car rides with them were so entertaining to read, especially when you add Sera and George!

This was a great new series from Michele Notaro and I can't wait for the next book to come out so we can learn more about the reveals at the end of this book!

5 Stars

Aelfwina says

Not sure what this author has more trouble with: grammar ("he kneeled down and pet the cat"), world-

building (it's modern-day US, but it's named something else), concept of magic (Ailin can apparently do anything), or definition of mystery (as in there should be one). The second MC is a bit of a blank oaf as well (never questions if Ailin is actually reading his mind, never seems to wonder what happened to his parents - at least not in the first 50% that I sort of got through).

There was nothing there to keep me reading. Nothing.

Jenni Lea says

Though the storyline was fascinating, it read a little too YA for my tastes. The narrator made the MC a bit too whiny, though that could have been due to the writing. Not sure I'll be continuing on with the series.

Bookreader87(Amanda) says

Interesting start

Sebastian is a detective working for the BCA. He is assigned to a new partner on a case where numerous bodies of young females keep popping up. Each case seems to have a distinct trade mark making Sebastian believe it is a serial murder, however, his new partner has other ideas. Ailin Ellwood is a specialist that is about to open Sebastian's eyes to whole new world he never knew existed.

The second half of this book was much better than the first. If you can get passed the fact the MC, who is a 35 year old detective, sounds and thinks like a teenage girl you'll be alright.

This seems like a promising series and I hope the stories improve as they move along.

Alex says

Wow.

Magic, Witches, Vampire, Werewolf, Soulmates.... What's not to love!!!

Well, the fact that now I have to wait for what's next... That's what!

So this is told from Sebastian PoV.

Sebastian is human (or is he?...) He works as a cop. Dead bodies are piling in and he starts to see a pattern so he decides to talk to his boss... And then enters Ailin... 'Consultant' for all strange cases. Sebastian doesn't really know him but he heard about him and when he finally see him... Well...

He's very confuse about everything and very arouse about his new partner...

Nothing makes sense but he goes with the flow until finally Ailin tell him the big secret... He's a witch, the most powerful witch and every creature you read about are real... Oh and by the way, our killer is a demon...

I really love Ailin and Sebastian together. I was so surprise. I didn't expect to like it so much... I feel a long series with a lot of books to come but I don't care. I'm all in!!!

Ilv says

Rating: 5 stars

I really loved this book and the start to the Ellwood Chronicles. I loved both of the MCs. I loved their banter and thought they had great chemistry together. I really liked that their relationship developed over time and while there was instant attraction, it wasn't an inst-love situation. I thought all the side characters were great, especially the members of Ailin's coven. Add in a wonderful little kitten, a snake named George and Matilda the rat and it was a wonderful cast of characters.

I thought the story to be good. It got me interested from the start. It was pretty dark and gory in places so be prepared if that sort of thing bothers you. All in all, a wonderful start to this new world the author has created and I can't wait for the next one in the series.

Achim says

One of those books that leave me undecided, unsure if I like it or not and if I ever come to liking it I'm not entirely sure why. Oh, it's a big festival of bickering and some banter, even a little snark thrown into and that counts, that counts a lot and there is one of my favorite themes showing a hidden world of magic and paranormal creatures parallel to the human one and I enjoyed the writing style which kept me reading and reading and reading but then there is Sebastian ... nice guy, really, but I just don't get him ... like at all. I don't see him as a detective (takes ages until he starts to realize that Ailin is reading his mind and then he's trusting nearly everyone because of gut feelings) nor as an emphatic being (has to be reminded that a mutilated guy was found in his bed) and I can't help it: I don't believe in the romance between him and Ailin. There is supposed to be so much big emotions - not only between him and Ailin - but I couldn't feel one. In the end it all came back to the bickering and banter and to a kitten named Serafina and a snake named George.
