



The Future Falls

Tanya Huff

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When Auntie Catherine warns the family of an approaching asteroid, the Gales scramble to keep humans from going the way of the dinosaurs. Fortunately for the world, they're wielding a guitar and a dragon.

The Gale family can change the world with the charms they cast, which has caused some supernaturally complicated family shenanigans in the past. So when NASA and Domsday Dan confirm Auntie Catherine's dire prediction, Charlotte "Charlie" Gale turns to the family for help.

But Allie is unavailable because the universe seems determined to have her produce the seventh son of a seventh son of a seventh son of a Gale. And the Aunties can't help because they're tied to the earth – although they are happy to provide their delicious, trademark pies. And in the end, all Charlie has is a guitar...

...and Jack. The Dragon Prince, and a Sorcerer.

But Charlie might like Jack just a little too much, and Jack might like Charlie a little too much in return. Actually, between Allie's hormones, the Aunties trying to force her and Jack into ritual, the Courts having way too much fun at the end of days, and Jack's sudden desire to sacrifice himself for the good of the many, Charlie's fairly certain that the asteroid is the least of her problems.

The Gales are going to need more than pie to save the world from an incoming asteroid. But together there isn't anything they can't deal with – except possibly each other.

The Future Falls Details

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From Reader Review The Future Falls for online ebook

Elizabeth says

I had an extremely difficult time rating The Future Falls. As painfully as I got wrapped up in the Jack/Charlie angst, I still loved probably the first 90% of the book. That's a lot of book to love. But I'm also susceptible to the ending ruining everything I previously loved when I'm that emotionally invested.

I didn't mind the resolution to the story's antagonist, if you will. Sure, it was kind of an info dump at the last minute, but that wasn't what the book was about anyway. It was Charlie & Jack's story (and, no, the star-crossed love thing didn't squick me out. It's already been established in the previous books that SPOILERS SPOILERS the Gales are only partially human and Jack's barely human at all. So, different rules END SPOILERS). Anyway, being Charlie and Jack's story, I expected some sort of resolution and basically got a Sopranos series finale. I waded through too much heartache and angst to not get a payoff, especially since, this being the last book of the trilogy, we won't see them again. Whiny of me? Probably. But I realized that's how I felt when it came time to write this review.

Craig says

This is the third book in the Gale Women urban fantasy series and, like the previous two, is a fun and light read, though it didn't hold my interest quite as well. The dialog is fun, as Huff's always is, with fast and clever wittiness. There was a little too much angst about the forbidden and frustrated romance between the thirty-year-old witch and the teenaged dragon-prince. I couldn't buy that an incestuous and poly-amorous band of witches would really be too hung up on the age rule. There was a very interesting scientist character who worked at JPL whose character could have been developed a lot more fully with a lot less of the romance discussion because, as was proved in the previous volume, we know that all problems can be solved with time travel.

Lisa says

I loved everything about this book. If I thought the first book was weird, this one took the weird up to 11, especially at the end. Loved it.

Lila Allen says

Ah, well.

Of course, the writing was superb. The slang, the subtle word play, the allusions to sex without the graphic detail, the melding of "real world" and Gale world - all classic Tanya Huff.

But if you're like me, you read the Keeper Trilogy - and the final book was the jewel. So, I expected the same of Future Falls. I couldn't put the book down, naturally. And there were some elegant moves I did NOT see coming, but...

some spoilerish *****

Oh, the angst! The torture! The emotional trauma of it all.

I don't imagine there was any other way to do it, considering the rules she had already created, but there was a bit more angst in this book than I was prepared for. Especially from Charlie.

***** end spoilerish

So, if you're like me, you'll want to read the book. Heck, you probably already have. But you're not as admiring of the Gale world as you were when you finished the 1st & 2nd book.

Shandare says

A nice ending to a series that has worked it's rough edges away. Snark, dragons, pies, music and a solid HEA. What more could you want?

Sidsel Pedersen says

It's about Canada, music, magic and an extinction event... now that's not your typical urban fantasy

A few quotes to illustrate why this book is awesome:

“And we're screwed either way. Twenty-one months, big hunk of rock, bam, extinction event.” “Bam?”
“Scientifically speaking.” LOL

"Life isn't a Michael Bay movie." “Usually, that's a good thing.”

This is one of my favourite urban fantasy series because of it's themes of family and because of the fact that is just so darn well written. Huff has written some of the first urban fantasy books that is clearly recognizable as such, the Vicki Nelson books. This last installment of is really wonderful. It is rare that I rate books 5 stars but this is one of those. This is something as rare in urban fantasy as a family saga. And it has awesome music, a dragon, family, friends and did I mention a extermination event. And we find out that life isn't a Michael Bay movie – normally that is a good thing, but what do you do when a giant rock is bound to hit earth pretty darn soon? Did I mention dragon? Ok I did, now why are you not reading it? I read it pretty much in one sitting – I was unable to put it down.

Lea Setegn says

I LOVE the Gale family and I LOVE Tanya Huff's urban fantasy. That said, there was something that didn't work for me with this novel. To be vague and spoiler-free, there was a lot of drawn-out angst with a resolution that was too quick after all the build up. And the ending especially didn't work for me from a character perspective. Plot-wise it was freaking brilliant. But it didn't serve the characters. I'm glad she writes trilogies (with the exception of the Vicky Nelson novels), because I think she's finished what she can do with the Gales. Which makes me just as sad as when I reached the end of the Blood series, the Keeper trilogy and the Smoke series.

Bruce says

Another fantastic Gale Girls/ Enchantment Emporium novel. Like most of Tanya Huffs books, I found it impossible to put down, being held back only by the need to go to work. The characters are as always charming and quirky, and the plot moves at a rapid pace. I rather like the mix of fantasy creatures that show up, and the storyline offers a great save the world experience. If you like elves, dragons, brownies, leprechauns, asteroids, or just plain good writing, this book is for you. Looking forward to seeing what she comes up with next, although it's going to be hard to top this one.

Darcy says

With this one things got tough for the Gale family, but especially for Charlie and Jack. I felt for both of them, that due to the "family rules" they couldn't act on their attraction, but was also sort of glad as the ages of them sort of grossed me out.

I loved all the people that were able to help explain things to Charlie, they were interesting characters!

The solution that worked sort of made my head hurt. You had to really pay attention to who was doing what, when. That sounds easy, but not really when you add in time travel, it got messy.

Andrea Rittschof says

I really liked this book so much that I dived deep into the day after I got it and then spent three hours on Saturday to finish it. Got it on Thursday. I love the characters and it just makes you jump in and forget about

the world outside while you are reading it. It was all about Charlie and Jack this time and I liked the element of attraction, caring between the characters and whether they get together or not. The best part, the author, Tanya Huff, does not break the rules of her earlier books to shove them together and I like that. My only comment otherwise, is that I wish there had been more on the solution to the danger, it all wraps up very quickly at the end. It's not that the characters don't have to fight for it but still seemed very quick. Still, I loved the book and if this is the end to the series, it was a good wrap up. Of course, loving Huff's books, I'd love more of the world as always!

Robin says

If anyone has any kind of advance copy of this, I will read it and review for you.
I will smile while doing it.

#crossmyheart.
#notabovebribery

Li says

I finished this a while back, but hadn't quite figured out how to talk about it. Partly because it's one of her Gale Girls books, which is her kind-of-dubcon/incestuous-if-you-squint-at-it fantasy series, what with family and magic and interfering aunties pairing up cousins left, right, and centre. But also because... that ending.

Right, I did like TFF – okay, I really liked it – but I suspect a lot of it was because I read it with my romance hat on and therefore totally wallowed in Charlie and Jack's star-crossed lovers situation all the way through. I didn't completely get Charlie in the previous book, but was surprised with how much I bonded with her in this one. I loved the older woman-younger man dynamic as well (and Jack in his Dragon Prince guise was just plain adorable).

But the ending – I had to read the final chapters several times because I had no idea what happened the first time round (was that just me?). However, the fact I took the trouble to re-read the ending should tell you how much I enjoyed the story. Because I really wanted to get it. And I did figure it out eventually... (view spoiler)

Now you see why I haven't written about it before, right?

A version originally published on my blog: <https://bookdaze.wordpress.com/2014/1...>

Katyana says

It took me a long time to pick this book up off my shelf, because I suspected I wouldn't like it. And I loved the first book in this series so much, I just really didn't want to read a book I wouldn't like.

Well, I was correct... I didn't like it. Because, frankly, I seriously dislike Charlie (the heroine).

A flaw throughout the series is the lack of actual world-building when it came to magic. I didn't understand what they could do, what they couldn't do, what the limits were... of both Gales and Wild powers. The only thing I was sure of was that being a Wild power was pretty equivalent to being a selfish, narcissistic asshole.

That was underscored in this book. Charlie is condescending, selfish, shitty, entitled, and is constantly throwing this whole "I'm Wild, deal with it" shit in everyone's face. She is exactly like Catherine: they treat everyone in the world - including people they claim to love - as if they are pawns on their own personal chessboard. And they feel like everyone should just suck it up because they claim to be doing it to save the world. Okay asshole. But in book 1, NO ONE KNOWS whether Allie and David would have chosen to do this stuff (rather than being manipulated into it) if someone had just explained what was going on. Why couldn't you begin by talking to them like adults and letting them choose? Further, no one knows whether they could have found a solution of their own, that didn't require the sacrifices they were forced to make by asshole Wild members of the family, who demand that everyone accept their shitty behavior because "I'm Wild, deal with it."

That's all equally true for book 2. In fact, book 2 underscores how fallible the Wild powers actually are, because Catherine was again engaged in dramatic manipulation... which proved to be utterly unnecessary, as Jack found a different solution.

You'd think that would give these Wild assholes pause, make them actually reassess their narcissistic view of the world ... their constant bullshit "only I can handle this situation, and so you all have to suck up my shitty actions and ask me no questions, because I'm Wild, deal with it!"

But no.

This book is entirely full of that same thing. Charlie, the amazingly undefined Wild power, who decides that no one gets to know what she knows, that she's just going to make all the decisions and force everyone into all the slots she lays out for them... and with some really bizarre hand-waving (view spoiler) - everything sort of works out.

Frankly, I hope that Allie and Graham (view spoiler)

It's too bad, because I really love the first book in this series, and I would have loved to flesh out more of the actual structure of magic in this world. And it's also too bad, because generally I love Tanya Huff... but this book feels so far beneath her that it is stunning to me.

1.5

Sylvia McIvers says

It's the End of the World. With Teddy Bears.

A huge rock is falling out of the sky. NASA can't fix it. The Gale girls, witches to the bone, can't fix it because it is Not Of This Earth. Charlie, musician-magician extraordinaire, can't fix it, because sound doesn't travel through space. The Gales got a heads-up, though, because they have a Seer in the family. Also, Crazy Dave talked about it on the internet. Well, there's a sure and certain omen.

While Charlie the Bard is chasing down some music, she misses some other family news and rescues some Teddy Bears. Because I trust Tanya Huff not to put superfluous cutsey stuff in her books, I expect the Teddy Bears (or the Teddybears, the space is important) to show up in some significant way. Also because this is Tanya Huff and not some hack writer, they will show up in a totally unexpected way. (yup. they do.)

In other news, Allie the Mom is preggers again. This is a fairly serious plot point, and also leads to a running gag about Seventh Sons. (Gag is the right word. Funny once, hair pulling bad the seventh time.) It also makes Charlie wonder where she is on the Maiden Mother Crone cycle, since an awful lot of Gale Girls don't stop off at Mother and flip straight from sort-of-Maiden to ... um, we don't use that word around the Gale Aunties. Well, they flip straight from First Circle to Third Circle without stopping off at Second. But Charlie is in love...

Did anyone pick up on Charlie being in love with the significantly younger Jack the Dragon Prince/Sorcerer in previous books? I thought she just wanted to rescue him from the Aunties. And sure, Jack had a crush on her, but that's because she's awesome and older than him, which means un-attainable. Gale Girls never, ever, hook up with someone more than Seven years older or younger than them. It's too open to abuse, and while the Gales are happy to rearrange the rest of the world to suit themselves, they won't break this rule. Never.

Older woman, younger man - but they're both Wild Powers, doesn't that change the dynamics? Not enough, it seems. Oh, the angst. OH THE ANGST. Not what I expected from Tanya Huff. Not at all.

Fairies. We love to hate them, but will they help?

Time Travel. Can you see the back of your own head? Some really excellent tricks, some tricks that I've seen before with Lessa in *The Dragonflight* by Anne McAffery... written in 1968. I guess everything old is new again.

Then, Charlie saves the day. Jack helps. That seven son trick? Well, that went in unexpected directions. The Teddy Bears? That was hilarious.

A very fun read, but not the magnificent conclusion to the fun Gale Girls series I had expected.

Cupof Tea says

I was happy to find a 3rd instalment of the Gale Women series, which continues Charlie's struggle in a double life between the comforts of domesticity at home with Ally and the babies and her adventures as she travels through the Wood and grows ever more Wild and like her crazy Auntie Catherine, the Seer. Music is her magic, but can it save the family, or more importantly, the world from an apocalyptic event such as an asteroid strike?

I loved Jack's POV the best in this book, a dragon prince grown into a 17-year old Gale boy. There is a lot of angsty tension between Charlie and Jack that I rather enjoy in a story, despite the major age gap between them. The nice part about it was mainly that they resolve and deal by talking about things like mature adults.

Very enjoyable, the plot was woven tightly together and the ending nice and neat the way I like it.
