



Seduced by Moonlight

Laurell K. Hamilton

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To some I am Meredith Gentry, P.I. To others I am Princess Merry, heir to the throne of Faerie. And there are those who whisper that I am both of these and more.

My aunt, the Queen of Air and Darkness, no long distracted by her sadistic pastimes, now focusses unwaveringly on me. I spend each night with my immortal guards, but still no child has come of our decadent pleasures. But something IS happening to me. I appear to have awakened a force that's lain dormant for thousands of years and I haven't the damndest idea how or why...

It all began with the chalice. I dreamed it, and there it was - cool and hard - when I awoke. My guards know this ancient relic well - its disappearance so many ages ago stripped them of their vital powers. And here it is with us now. My touch resonates with its force. A strange, dazzling magic now courses through my half-mortal half-Sidhe body. But while my guards cherish me for this unexpected gift, there are those who loathe me for it and would rather the Unseelie court suffer than have it ruled over by me, a mongrel queen. My enemies grow in number every day. If only they knew what I am capable of. But come to that, if only I did too.

This is the world of Meredith Gentry, a twilight world of gods, shapeshifters and immortal souls, a world full of sensuality, wild magic, treacherous deceits and latent powers about to be unleashed...

Seduced by Moonlight Details

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From Reader Review Seduced by Moonlight for online ebook

Megan says

I still have no fucking clue what's going on.. after 3 books I'm still at a loss. I understand the basics. But for the most part I'm just like wtf just happened. All the characters are moody AF. Also Merry explains every single thing she does in way too much detail.

Meh

Rabbit {Paint me like one of your 19th century gothic heroines!} says

I do find the actual plot interesting, when there is no sex, and it has to do with the Fae's politics.

The porn is both boring and squicky (for some at least. I mean Merry makes out with her Aunt Anadais, but LKH states over and over that the Faes sexual taboos are different than humans'. There are also lots of different humanoid creature sex).

There was also some gay-for-play f/f, but there was too much male gaze before and after for my liking. YKINMK and I'm okay with it, but I like my femmeslash without male gaze, or as little as possible. Since Merry and the other woman are straight this will not go on the glbt bookshelf.

All Merry's harem are pretty similar and have all the same penis size (huge). It's amusing to me.

It's not that I have a problem with sex and/or porn in general, I just don't like copy and paste porn. It gets boring. Porn should never get boring.

Merry keeps developing more powers for herself, her harem, and a few special people. I keep wondering when Merry will level up and evolve. /Pokemon reference

Also the development of these powers are connected to sex and/or rough kinky acts.

Queen Anadais continues to be badass, evil, twisted, and a BAMF. I think I am developing a fictional character crush. I need to find fanfic. Lol

Tina says

Sex...filler...sex...filler...sex...DUEL...sex...end.

This was a let down from the other two stories in the series. In the two previous books there was actual plot. This one is just a lot of explaining about the laws of the Faerie Kind and then lots of sex but nothing else. I kept turning the pages waiting for forward story movement. And there was nothing. And Merry's life arc is

coming perilously close to Anita's as she takes more people under her wing each book and gains bright new and shiny powers each book.

Fine we know the Fey are very open about sex. I don't care about sex. Let everyone have sex! Just also let there be some kind of story that makes it worth my while. Where's Cel? Isn't Merry a detective? Why doesn't she solve cases? There was so much good set up in the previous books that this one sadly wastes.

Jessica says

I have to say, I love my Faerie Porn. These books aren't good books, we're not talking high literature here. But I enjoy the characters, I enjoy the settings and the sex is good.

I think what I really enjoy is that it's rare to find erotica (especially multiple-partner erotica) that puts the woman in a position of power. Not only is Merry in power over her men, she feels a responsibility for them equal to her elevated status. Oh, there's plenty of using going on. Sex for magic, sex for allies, sex for power, sex for safety. But, ultimately, no one is *used*.

I'm looking forward to getting a hold of the next book, I've only read this far in the series before.

Robyn says

3.5! I love how those books follow approximately a day in the life of Merry, and she manages to bed many different men, slay her enemies, and advance the plot by just a trickle.....

Nicole says

Still entertaining, but the series is beginning to suffer from writing that is okay but not great. Hamilton has odd pacing, and perhaps an odd sense of the passage of time as conversations unfold. She keeps us constantly dialed in for what seems to be about 12 hours of of nearly straight action (or sometimes semi-action that you wonder if it's really that important to witness), then suddenly jumps forward, glossing over a few hours that do seem like they might have been important. I also have this lurking feeling that she has consistency issues with the timeline of the backstory. I hope that somewhere, she has a big chart to keep track of it all, but after three books, I don't feel like she does. The last thing that bothers me is the imbalance growing between the main character, Merry, and everyone else. I can't help but feel there is something wrong and kind of annoying when the literally thousands of years of collective wisdom and life experience of, on average, 7 immortal characters are constantly being bested by just one 30 year old woman. Girl power is fine by me, but to this extent, it just seems silly. Maybe Merry is the savior of her people, but I don't much like to think that no one has any value beyond their military prowess anymore.

Kathy says

Mary Has Graduated From Graciously Lying on Her Back to Joyously Bobbing on Her Knees.....

I was enjoying this book until about page 130, when Merry had the great transformation. I simply do not get it. Does Laurell not like Merry's character? Why on earth would she make Merry THE PRINCESS, soon to be queen a huge sperm bank? At one point, Merry is so upset of being deprived the opportunity of swallowing seed, instead of all the men's seed always being used to try and get her pregnant. For goddess sake, it was almost like Merry was swishing it around in her mouth like fine wine.

If Merry is the one to be worshiped, especially now that she is a goddess; then why aren't the men worshipping her? The guards are not kings, why aren't they on their knees and putting out to Merry? Why is the princess doing all the menial labor with such shameless eagerness, like the men are doing her a favor by letting her taste? Perhaps if Merry were at least on equal footing between her and her men sexually, I wouldn't be this disgusted. Don't get me wrong, I love reading demented books as much as the next gal but having Merry anxious to please everyone like a love starved puppy is demeaning.

Relationships are give and take. Just because someone is eager to be used as a Hoover vacuum doesn't make it right. I've never been so conflicted with a series. The fantasy in this series is phenomenal and like no other. The last 100 pages of this book were so good; I was riveted to each word. However, the sex is just goddess awful and they last for pages upon pages; it's not easy to just skip them. I'm so disgusted with Merry's sex life but I love Merry's character when she isn't draped or drowning in men (and women).

I hate myself for saying this but I will read the next book in this series, Stroke of Midnight because sadly enough, I can't wait to see what happens next with the fantasy portion of this series.

I also recommend:

Succubus Blues (Georgina Kincaid, Book 1)

Personal Demons

Full Moon Rising (Riley Jensen, Guardian, Book 1)

Seduced by Magic (Magic Series, Book 2)

Night Huntress (Sisters of the Moon, Book 5)

****Addendum 12/28/09- After giving it much thought, I don't think I can continue reading this series. In fact, I don't think I'll be reading anything from Laurell again in the future. I can no longer respect Merry's character; I feel she is being humiliated by having her sleep with anyone and everyone who crosses her path. I read books mostly for entertainment purposes and seeing the demeaned and abused treatment of Merry's character, the story stops being enjoyable and fun to me.

Laura says

3.5

I have a relationship with these books like I have with Marmite, I am not entirely sure if I like them, they are getting better but.....

Ok what I love the characters are amazing with so many different sides, also considering there is a fair few the author lets you get to know each and everyone and writes them beautifully, I also have to point out that Merry Gentry and Anita Blake are some of the best female characters I have read, both by this Author.

the descriptions of places people interactions and responses are so beautiful and believable.

When we do get the magic I love it!

What I didn't love... The barely there plot, this book is not by any means a quickie but all that happened is, Merry again mirror talks with Goblin king, frets about upcoming visit to the seelie court, has sex and visits her aunt where she and her aunt are both nearly assassinated. The rest of the book is filled with a lot of ways to try and lie without actually lying and strike deals.... I was so confused by the end of what member of the court has taken what bodily fluid from what sidhe and who owes what?

Also I don't like how the sex feels mechanical and is later dissected and pulled apart and discussed.....

I will carry on as the parts I liked I loved...

Like I said, this is a marmite book..... I keep eating out of pure curiosity too see if i actually like it or not....

Colleen says

Oh God, every time I read one of these I want to hit myself for the first chapter or three. "Why, Colleen?

smack Why are you spending time on trashy supernatural romance? It's not even that well-written!

smack There's no real thought to plot pacing... They just paused during sex to have 5 pages of exposition, and they just paused in their murder investigation to have four chapters of sex!" *smacksmack SMACK*

And then I succeed in turning my brain off and drink in a guilty mix of Mary Sue-esque magic, romance novel, and mongrel mythology.

I can't really tell you what happens in this book. The climax of it is a bunch of court scenes where Psycho Aunt/Queen to the protagonist goes on a gore-spree for a chapter and then they enact some revenge porn on the Court immediately thereafter. One of the bodyguards nearly dies. The gradual handing-out of gee-whiz powers progresses. It kind of reminds me of Pokemon for Game Boy, actually. There's the occasional gym battles, but in between it's lots of 'you found this random item!' and 'your sexy green guy evolved to sexy green guy with wings/godlike powers/sparklier eyes!'

All of this is by rambling way of explanation for why I'm rereading these things...

Danielle (Danniegurl) says

I'm a bit annoyed by this book. The ending of this one didn't leave me satisfied there are way too many things left to do. A couple are cementing the alliance with a couple of the different groups, through sex of course. Then there is having to go to the feast, ball or what have you for light and illusion. This should have been accomplished in this book as it was part of this plot line, but no sounds like it's going to be its own book which would lead me to believe that there will be problems there.

This one was crazy, but I've noticed quite a few similarities between Anita's books and Merry's it could be because LKH is the author, so I'm sure that's the reason. There is a part where Merry talks about going down

on a man, and if any of you have read Anita you know exactly what I mean because she mentions it about Jean Claude quite a bit. Well turns out Merry likes that too so in turn I have now learned that perhaps it is LKH's kick too. I mean it's mentioned enough. Anyways that kind of is annoying because while the characters may have similarities they do have different voices. Still it's difficult not to compare and expect their tastes to be completely different and that's why I am annoyed by this as well.

In the overall story though LKH she likes to rehash for paragraphs upon paragraphs and pages upon pages. She likes to remind us of things that we were reminded of earlier in the book that we don't really need to be reminded of. I have learned that during these parts we need to skim, or skip. I also find myself wanting WAYYYY more dialogue in this series. There is far more dialogue in Anita, but in Merry due to the politics there is less, and I'm not a huge fan of internalizing, description and such I want interaction. I want to see where this is going. I thought I was going to take a break after this book, but due to the events not coming through completely I must go onto the next one.

Buckle up cause this book is CRAZY! Also I'm soooooo not a fan of (view spoiler)

Isabelle says

still waiting for Doyle to surprise me...

Dinjolina says

This book bored me.I stopped reading it a month ago and ...blah.
Will go back to it somedaaaaaaaay....

Somedaaaaaaaay I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far
Behind me.
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me.

Somewheeeeeeeere over the rainbow.....

Yeah,this is how much that volume keeps me focused.

Denisa says

3.5 (still not 4 though).

I really like this series, I really really do! But I still can't give it more than 3stars... There are some inconsistencies, some stuff I don't really understand and some reactions that are a bit out of place. But I like that she's a badass, I love how she protects her people, but most of all I like that the story keeps me hooked up. So continue the series, it's a really nice book!

Kathy Davie says

Third in the Meredith Gentry urban fantasy series revolving around an American faerie princess juggling a harem of men against the evil machinations of the vicious Unseelie queen.

My Take

This story takes half the fun out of being a faerie princess, although that harem of hers puts a lot of fun back in! Still, very little of it is *fun* and games. It's mostly all games. Games of politics and manipulation as Merry and her Merry Men attempt to placate paparazzi, Queen Andais, the goblins, the demi-fey, and even her hostess as they hunt for the traitors amongst them.

They're all still living in Maeve Reed's home, and although Gordon has died, he will live on as a result of events in *A Caress of Twilight*, 2.

There's a great deal more on the weirdings and their effects on fae power, and why some fae chose to come to America instead of buy a house in a European suburb.

The Story

It's all a show: for the paparazzi, for Kurag, and for the Unseelie Court.

Merry and her men need peace from the paparazzi while Merry needs a longer alliance with Kurag. The real test, however, will be the Yule season, and Merry must attend the Unseelie queen and counter the Seelie king.

It's too bad that so few are feeling the joy of this holiday season with one assassin after another. Nor are they all directed at Merry.

The Characters

Princess Meredith NicEssus, Princess of flesh and blood, is coheir to the throne of the Unseelie Court—heir if she becomes pregnant before her insane cousin. She's also part human and part brownie, a mix the pure fae despise. Her father, an Unseelie brother to Andais, **Prince Essus**, was murdered years ago; her mother, **Besaba**, is Seelie Court; you'll understand how she hates her daughter when you realize that Seelie fae refer to Merry as Besaba's Bane.

Merry's Merry Men include:

Doyle is/was the Queen's Darkness, her assassin for the past 1,000 years. Now he belongs to Merry, the captain of her guards, and he carries Báinidhe Dub, Black Madness, along with the daggers, Snick and Snack. The one-eyed **Rhys** was a major death god, the Lord of Death, as well as the *gwynfor*, the white lord, before he lost so much in that last great weirding magic and was tossed out of the Seelie Court. **Frost**, the Killing Frost, is cold in manner, defrosting only in bed. **Kitto** is a snake goblin---full sidhe now---and a symbol of the alliance Merry has with Kurag. **Galen**, the politically naive Green Man, is the fae Merry grew up with, her first love. **Nicca** is so gentle with his butterfly tattoo.

Maeve Reed, a major film star, is a fae exiled from the Seelie Court for daring to tell Taranis the truth. Only her tremendous desire for a child brought her out of hiding to contact Merry.

Queen Andais, the Queen of Air and Darkness, the dark goddess of battle, is Merry's aunt, reigning monarch of the Unseelie Court with its reputation for bad. She wields **Mortal Dread**, a sword that can bring true death to any sidhe. **Owain** was the queen's one true love. **Eamon** is her current consort. The Hall of Mortality is where **Ezekiel** the torturer works. **Mistral** is her new captain of the guard; **Whisper** is his second. **Prince Cel** is her insanely psychopathic son currently enduring a six-month prison sentence for his deeds in *A Kiss of Shadows*, 1. **Madeline Phelps** is the publicist for the Court. **Fflur** is the queen's healer. **Tyler** is the queen's current human toy.

Barinthus is a former sea god and had been Prince Essus' best friend and chief adviser. He's cared about Merry since her birth and is her friend.

Guards whom Andais sends to Merry include plant or vegetable deities:

Abeloec, a drunken addict, was once the greatest libertine of the Seelie Court. **Carrow** was one of the great hunters, and he taught Merry the ways of bird and beast. **Amatheon**'s presence makes Merry truly unhappy as he was one of those who tortured Merry as a child. He still hates her mongrel blood, but was tortured into accepting. **Onilwyn** is another of Cel's bootlicking toadies. **Usna** is grace personified thanks to his cat heritage. **Ivi**, **Hawthorne**, **Adair** who resisted longest, and **Briac** are also sent.

Nuline was one of Cel's royal guards. **Afagdu**; **Nerys**; **Miniver**; **Maelgwyn** is the wolf lord, able to change shape into a wolf; and, **Ruarc** are the heads of their own houses.

King Taranis is the King of Light and Illusion of the Seelie Court. The humans don't realize how very bad it is.

Kurag is king of the Goblins; **Creeda** is his nasty Goblin Queen. *What a piece of work she is!* **Holly** and **Ash** are half-breed Goblin-sidhe twins; feared among the Goblins. Ash wants more power while Holly wants nothing to do with it. **Siun** is another sidhe-fae, truly disgusting in appearance and mind. She was Kitto's "protector" for centuries. Nor does Rhys have fond memories. **Jonty** leads the Red Caps, shock troops for the goblins; **Kongar** is one of the Red Caps who loses control.

Queen Niceven rules the demi-fey, Queen Andais' spies. Now she is also allied with Merry through **Sage**.

Sholto is King of the Sluagh, Lord of That Which Passes Between, Lord of Shadows, and merits a throne of his own in the Unseelie Court. He's half-sidhe and half-nightflyer and desperately wants to make love with a sidhe.

Major Walters is the fae liaison between the Courts and the police. **Barry Jenkins** is the journalist who has hounded Merry from the time of her father's death.

Trullups are goblin half-breeds who cannot protect themselves and have no other skills to offer. The **sithen** is the faerie mounds, the hollow hills where the fae live.

The Cover

The cover is tinted in green as Merry clasps the shoulder of one of her guards, his shirt open and exposing his chest, a quarter moon charm piercing his nipple.

The title is all about the glow of Merry's body during sex, and her men are *Seduced by Moonlight*.

Bunnycore says

Okay so I was bumping between 4.5 stars and 5 stars.

I love the way Merry insists on keeping "her" men safe. Even ones who all but betrayed her. This makes me love her in so many ways. This book wasn't confusing there were some parts that irritated me. The circle talking got on my nerves at points but in the end it was a good book. It tugged at the heart strings and of course her harem grew more. I am hoping she riddles it down a bit soon. I like reverse Harems but I can't stand when they get to big to the point of obscene. I know Doyal will stay with Killing Frost that makes me happy. I wonder who her end harem is going to be. I am not a big fan of Nicca's he seems not of the same mindset as the others. Rhy's is fun, Galen tends to be too sweet. I like how Kitto is gaining confidence. That is something to behold.

Minstrel now I just can't wait for his story and I quickly fell in love with Adair. When he needed her she was there. I love how the men looked out for each other. Yes there is jealousies but that to me fae or not that is to be expected. They rally each other when needed tho and that I think is what Merry needs to look strong.
