



The Witch & the Cathedral

C. Dale Brittain

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Love and magic don't mix, and neither do wizardry and the church. But that doesn't stop Daimbert, the royal wizard of Yurt. When Daimbert discovers that the woman he's loved for years is marrying someone else, he decides to leave Yurt for Caelrhon. But no one wants him there and he senses hidden sinister plots at work.

The Witch & the Cathedral Details

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From Reader Review The Witch & the Cathedral for online ebook

Nick Nielsen says

The introduction of Theodora breathed some new excitement into Daimbert's adventures. I very much enjoyed this book. Daimbert's interactions with Joachim (now the Bishop) continue to develop both characters and I thought the plot was fun.

Izilen says

My favourite yet in this series. I loved the titular witch! I also loved Joachim's arc in this (much of 'the Cathedral').

Angela says

This story of Daimbert moves the series in a new direction, moving almost 20 years in the future. The queen, who Daimbert has loved in silence since he first took up his position, is remarrying. Paul, the young prince, is about to be declared king. Daimbert has even just finished a sojourn at the wizard's school, teaching improvisational magic. Much is changing for him and he has to find a way to cope and to go forward. Into this uncertain time two things appear: a new love for him and a major threat to the nearby cathedral city which his old friend, the former chaplain of Yurt, Joachim, has asked him to investigate. Daimbert is a unique wizard, not as powerful as many but creative, improvisational, and able to think on his feet. As usual, our suspicions are thrown across a broad group of people and reasons for the many conspiracies that seem to be going on. I have to say that, even though I figured out one of the major players easily, I was very surprised by some of the twists, revelations, and reasons behind it all. I am left very excited to see where the series goes from here. It has moved beyond a young and bumbling figure of humor to a wizard with a greater influence and wisdom and moving on to a new cast of players and new vistas to explore.

Mike says

4.5 stars

We're getting to the point in this series where I'm no longer sure it's even worth it to write a review. I mean, this is book four. Either you've been reading the series in order - in which case I hardly think you need my help deciding whether to keep going - or you haven't, in which case you probably ought to head over to the page for book one and start there.

But, since I'm here...

A Bad Spell in Yurt, and to some extent, The Wood Nymph and the Cranky Saint (book two), are a bit like a skeleton. They started the framework for the series. Entertaining, if a bit superficial. In Mage Quest (book three) and now this one, it's like the author has taken her sketch and colored it in, and it's becoming clear that

this lady is a real artist. The characters have deepened. The plots have started to feel more sinister. And I realize how much I've come to care about Yurt and its inhabitants.

So maybe it's good that I decided to write a review after all - it gives me the chance to speak to those who read book one, and maybe book two, and are skipping ahead to see whether the series is worth continuing. My opinion? It just keeps getting better and better.

Joel Flank says

Another entertaining Royal Wizard of Yurt novel. This time, Daimbert needs to deal with new types of magic, matters of the heart, and the passing of time...as well as dragons, wild magic, fanged gorgoi, and more. Brittain does a great job showing Daimbert's power growing, while still maintaining the charming quality of being in over his head, despite being comfortable with his powers and having had 20 years of practice. My only disappointment is that there are only a few books left in this series, and that Brittain doesn't have a more prolific output.

Ashley Lambert-Maberly says

I really think these books are the rice pudding of fantasy series, if we imagine all series to have their culinary counterparts. Some are teppanyaki restaurants, full of flash and sizzle, some are vegetarian heart-healthy brunch places, earnest and good for you, and then there's Yurt, and it's just so very comforting.

This was not my favourite of the series, mostly because I'm not enthusiastic about the introduction of a plausible (i.e. not the Queen) love interest in a series that has survived nicely without one.

That said, these books are little treats for me, and I shall keep devouring them, especially when I'm in the mood for some comfort (I began the series when my dog died unexpectedly, and it's remarkable how helpful these kind-hearted gentle stories were in getting me through the first weeks!)
