



## Wild Rose, Silent Snow

*Angel Martinez*

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## **Wild Rose, Silent Snow** Angel Martinez

*A huge bear at the door, a handsome, naked stranger in the snow, magic fish, enchanted beards – and Rowan thought his life was odd before.*

Content with the quiet isolation of their lake house, Snowden and Rowan Hadley survive on summer jobs and winter hunting, unable to move on since their parents died. Their peace is shattered by a strange, human-acclimated bear who insists on following Rowan like a giant hunting dog and then again by the discovery of a naked, surly stranger in the snow.

Both bear and man lead the Hadley brothers into a strange, surreal world where sorcery and RPG software intertwine. Curses and magical traps lie in wait around every turn. Rowan and Snowden will need to adjust their view of how the world works, and quickly, if they want to live through the process of rescuing their enchanted princes.

*Publisher's Note: This book has been previously released elsewhere. It has been revised and re-edited for re-release with Pride Publishing.*

## **Wild Rose, Silent Snow Details**

Date : Published December 27th 2016 by Pride Publishing (first published November 18th 2012)

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Author : Angel Martinez

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# From Reader Review Wild Rose, Silent Snow for online ebook

## Serena Yates says

A modern-day version of the fairy tale "Snow White and Rose Red", this book succeeds in taking the original story and turning it into an updated version of greed turned wild and of curses overcome. Much of the original plot remains, yet the story feels fresh and firmly set in modern life. Corporate shenanigans are as much a part of it as ancient magic, and I think the combination of both is a successful merging of two genres that had me fascinated and curious as to what would happen next.

Rowan and his twin Snow have a tough life. Their parents died, their inheritance is in probate, and they live on their own, far away from civilization, in the lake house their parents left them. Winter is the hardest time for them, but Rowan is determined they will survive. He is the outspoken one of the two brothers, and very protective of Snow. He also has a big heart, and whether it is a bear or a human stranger who need this help, he doesn't hesitate to do the right thing. The idea of magic actually existing may throw him for a little while, but, presented with enough evidence. He adjusts and moves on. All he wants is the feeling of being a family, and he'll do anything to get that.

Cade has been cursed and now lives as a bear. He has a temper, and even during the three nights a month when he turns human, he is quite growly. Cade is the one who needs to learn to control himself better if he wants to free his brother, and himself, from the cruel curses placed on them. Meeting Rowan is a stroke of luck for Cade, since he is pretty much the only man who seems to be able to handle his moods. Even though he is gruff and short-tempered, he means well and I was rooting for him from the start.

If you like fairy tales retold with a slight twist and set in today's world, if you enjoy reading about cursed men and the lovers who need to free them, and if you're looking for a hot read with interesting characters who have a bit of learning to do before they reach true happiness, then you will probably like this book.

NOTE: This book was provided by Amber Allure for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

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## Achim says

### 3.5

First I need to say: I love the cover. Cover art is not often enough appreciated in reviews but here I have to make an exception. It captures the first part of the book quite fine where the story is still more fairytale with an urban touch, where Ms. Martinez doesn't need much words to show the life of Rowan and Snowdon on their island somewhere in a lake in Minnesota. We get the details why the orphaned twins are living such a secluded life sometime during the story, so the fairytale setting isn't disturbed by too much explanation. It's much more important to get their character, their silent communication and when the bear shows up it isn't much of a surprise that he's soon a nightly guest in their home and Rowan can't do much else than sleeping snuggled against him and miss him even when suddenly one night he finds a naked, unconscious men in the forest and brings him home.

Of course we know that the bear and the men are one and the same but the twins don't because it's not that kind of fairytale where magic is a given and the next morning the men, Cade, is gone anyway. The tone of the story is changing when Cade is back the next month and we get his point of view. Now the fairytale is changing into urban fantasy, now there are explanations necessary and the story takes a faster pace, there's even some moderate steam but mostly still everything's character-driven. Rowan's interaction with Cade is awesome regardless if he's in his human form or a bear.

Only their enemy seems to be oblivious to the script change and still acts like a cartoon Rumpelstilz which is a pity compared to the other characters and while I have no problem believing the relation between Rowan and Cade the one between Snow and Griffin was only sweet and unbelievable fast and if it wasn't for the end I would have rounded the 3.5 up not down.

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### **Shin Mon Thway says**

**Surprisingly original considering this is a fairytale retelling. ? Only Angel Martinez will be able to pull off a seamless combination between sci-fi and magic, RPGs and magical spells. ? I thoroughly enjoyed it. ? I loved Rowan the gentle soul and Cade the grumpy bear. ? And the sex was very VERY yummy. ? Just another lovely book from one of my favorite authors. ?**

### **4.5 Rowan thinks man-fur is super sexy stars**

?????????

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### **Ann says**

Wild Rose, Silent Snow is a retelling of Snow White and Rose Red which I was not familiar with before reading, but I googled right after I finished and it made me appreciate the author's version all the more. I love that she picked a somewhat lesser known tale and built Snowden and Rowan's story up from there.

The MC's in Wild Rose, Silent Snow ticked off every single one of my boxes and I fell hard for them and their stories from the get-go. Snowden and Rowan are fraternal twin brothers who live alone in the woods on the family property. Their existence is a struggle and from the beginning the reader can't help but wonder why they don't just up and leave. It's slowly revealed throughout the tale why they stay together and why they need one another so much. It's something you really have to read to appreciate, and I will only say, read it, the author did a stellar job of making the lives of Snowden and Rowan completely believable.

The story follows the fairy tale pretty well and the tweaks the author made to accommodate the modern setting fit with the environment the two lived in. The characters are far from perfect and that's what makes them so good. I loved Rowan's connection with his bear and the balance with Snowden's reluctance to let a bear stay in their cabin made the improbable believable.

The personalities and selflessness of the MC's is what makes this story so good. Snowden and Rowan are as good as they come. I loved their quiet life and how they put the other first because that's what a good brother and a gentleman does. The way they communicate with so few words said more than pages worth of dialog ever could. Reading Arcadius' progression from a bear to a man worthy of Rowan made me swoon. It wasn't

easy, but the two of them together just made sense.

The only thing I would have liked was more of Snowden and Griffin. It's not like anything was missing by any stretch, Snow just made me swoon with his quiet conviction and I selfishly would have loved to have read more of he and Griffin together.

Wild Rose, Silent Snow is everything I love about fairy tale retellings. The story is character driven and the fantastical pieces aren't overdone so there is just enough mystery to let the reader feel the revelations along with the characters. Getting the balance just so can't be easy but the author got it spot on for me in this one.

*\*\*a copy of this story was provided for an honest review\*\**

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## **Ami says**

### **3.5 stars**

Rowan and Snowden are brothers who live in quiet and isolated island. Both had encephalitis when they were four years old and as an outcome, Rowan has agraphia while his older brother Snowden has Broca's aphasia. Then one day, bear tracks coming near their house ...

**Wild Rose, Silent Snow** takes inspiration from Grimm's " *Snow White and Rose-Red* ". I am not familiar with the fairy tale -- though that is what Wikipedia comes in to help (laugh) -- but I thought Ms. Martinez has written a sweet version out of it, complete with magic curses and all.

I admit that the magic part was both the good and bad thing for me. I had no problem with Cade being cursed into a bear -- I found his bear form was sometimes more charming than his human form \*laugh\* ... but other surreal things, like the sudden appearance of the magic fish felt a little off for me. Maybe I was having a bit of difficulty to switch between common paranormal/shifter idea to magic/fairy tale concept. I mean, I was somehow picturing Cade as a bear in a shifter setting instead of magic setting, you know?

However, I thought the relationship was lovely, and I loved both brothers, as well as Cade and his own brother, Griffin. I kind of wish that Griffin and Snowden get their own story but since this was released three years ago and no update since then, I assume that I have to be satisfied with their romance being a secondary plot in this one.

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## **Serena.. Sery-ously? says**

Non so sinceramente da dove iniziare per esprimere il mio disappunto.

Forse dal "Oh guarda, c'è un grizzly che mi segue nel bosco e pur io abitando in mezzo al NULLA lo invito dentro casa perché, ehi, sembra possedere un'intelligenza umana e sembra capirmi!" (WTF Rowan?)

O forse il "Ma sì, mettiamocela una coincidenza, o due, o MILLE.. che vuoi che siano?". Cioè dai, due coppie di fratelli, tutti e 4 gay?? Ed è solo uno dei "Angel Martinez ma mi stai prendendo in giro o che?"

.. O forse sì, è la storia d'ammore dirompente tra Rowan e Cade, anche se si sono visti in forma umana DUE GIORNI, visto che per un mese Cade era orso. (Detta così sembra addirittura peggiore di quanto non sia stato.. In realtà l'autrice riprende la favola dei fratelli Grimm che nemmeno i fratelli Grimm sapevano di aver scritto, quella di Biancaneve poraccia: Biancaneve e Rosarossa).

Insomma, il nonsense ha regnato sovrano, quanta idiozia in un unico romanzo!

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### **Kathleen says**

Not a review...

I first read this back in 2013, when I only rated books and did not review them. I four-starred it, so apparently quite liked it. I read it again early in 2018 and still liked it four-stars worth. I'm a big fan of author Angel Martinez.

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### **Dumbledore11214 says**

"There was once a poor widow who lived in a lonely cottage. In front of the cottage there was a garden wherein stood two rose-trees, one of which bore white and the other red roses. She had two children who were like two rose-trees, and one was called Snow-white, and the other Rose-red"

This is not that story..."

I always enjoy Angel Martinez' works. I liked her scifi stories, but I also always enjoyed gay romance retellings of the fairy tales and when I saw the beginning of this story my heart started beating faster. I always loved the fairy tales of old when I was a kid and still love them when I am an adult, but the tale which this book is based on is one of the few I have a huge sentimental attachment to. I remember my father showing us the slide film of this one on the old slide projector and me demanding to see it and hear it over and over and over again.

I loved Angel Martinez' interpretation. You definitely see original fairy tale here, but you also see wonderful lovely characters of two twin brothers, whose solitary life is made believable enough for this reader. And then the bear appears and it all begins.

I loved this one. Highly recommended.

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### **Lily says**

3.7 stars. This has been such a lovely and well written fairytale inspired story. The characters were all adorable to me and I enjoyed reading about their journey together and as evolving individuals. It was a great piece read at the perfectly suitable time for my frame of mind.

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## Vio says

### 3.75 stars

I know, I know it's going to be too adorable for some but hey its cute and sweet and it works, a perfect fit and the timing was right for me. Who cares if it's a magical fairytale, I'm a romantic and I can dream of a knight coming to the rescue for a teeny tiny moment. Rowan and Snowden are brothers who have speech and writing impairments, living in freezing wintery conditions and barely having enough food to make it through each day, deep down lonely and scared. A Bear arrives out of the blue and sort of adopts Rowan, visiting each day and bringing presents which are a bit mangled but who's complaining food is food and it's still edible.

To repay the favour Snow and Row share their delights with Mr Bear who is very content with this arrangement. All three are comfy together and Bear is even sleeping in at night, with Row snuggled up by his side its so adorable. There is magic at work here curses and sorcery and more to Mr Bear than you think, he is smart for good reasons. Good fun with Cade, Rowan and Snowden figuring out how to defeat Mr Langbart and his evil beard, while rescuing Griff Cade's brother. Looking forward to Griff and Snow's story next.

"Christ on toast, Mr. Bear! You scared the hell out of me!"

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## Mandy\*reads obsessively\* says

3.8\*

Cute fairytaleish kind of story.

Rowan and Snowdon are fraternal twins living off the land, since their inheritance is still in probate.

The have speech/writing issues that make it hard for them to function in normal school/job settings.

Anyways....a big ol' bear shows up and sort of becomes their houseguest for a while until he isn't a bear (well a literal one anyway) for a few days..then he sort of is again, I don't want to give too much away, but it is a light cute story, with very little sex, but a grumpy bear who is trying to reform his grumpy ways and save his brother, a little bit of magic, a pitiful yet evil bad guy and another HEA for the siblings.

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## Steph ?? says

\*\*\*3.88 stars (rounded-up)\*\*\*

If you find yourself with time and in need of reading a cute fairytale with a modern-day twist, then this book is up your alley. I honestly did not know the story of Snow White and Rose Red until I actually looked it up and read the short little fairytale online. Seriously it really is short. How the author built upon such a short story was amazing within itself.

In his rendition, there are two brothers who happen to suffer from a different a type neurological disorder, due to a childhood illness. As you can tell, life for them hasn't always been easy. Yet they continue to survive and thrive despite: their disabilities, losing their parents, greedy family members, the weather, job problems, and lack of friends.

It takes a bear coming into their lives for things to change. Yes, you heard me correctly a bear. This is no ordinary bear. In fact, said bear is a human that's been cursed by a wizard. The same wizard has the bears' bother bound to him. The wizard does has a reason, but a reason I will not disclose. Seriously, I don't like giving spoilers if it can be helped.

As time passes and information revealed, the brothers decide to help the bear and his brother to get their lives back. In the end, everyone gets their HEA and the villain gets the help he needs unlike death in the original fairytale (thank goodness!).

I am one of many reviewers at Gay Book Reviews and can be found here:  
<http://gaybook.reviews/author/steph/>

I received an ARC of this book in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Chris, the Dalek King says**

Snowden and Rowan Hadley have been surviving, barely, since their parents both died in an accident a few years ago. Living out in the wilds of Montana, the two brothers get by on what they can hunt in the woods around their home, the proceeds of their mother's honey farm, and the kindness of a few neighbors. Life isn't exactly thrilling, and it is usually pretty tough, but both Snow and Ro are intent on making their way thru the winter, even if it is by the skin of their teeth.

When Snow notices that there are bear tracks circling the house, they call in the Rangers, but there isn't much that they can do when there is no bear actually there for them to deal with. Then Ro gets rather up close and personal with the bear...and things take a turn for the weird. Not only is the bear oddly docile, but he seems to take to human commands a lot better than the average bear. And Ro...well he seems to take to the bear a lot more than the average human (at least those ones not with a death wish).

Neither Snow nor Ro were expecting to find a naked man in the woods a few weeks later. And neither Ro nor Snow were expecting to find that friendly bears were only the tip of this weirdly magical iceberg. It is a good thing that neither one of the brothers is all that normal either.

Once I decided to just enjoy the story, and not worry overmuch about the practically (or reality) of some parts of this book, I found I enjoyed it quite a bit. It was a quick, easy read, and I really enjoyed Ro's voice in this story—we do get a bit from Cade's perspective, but not all that much. I liked the isolated aspects of this setting as well, as it reflected nicely on just how insular these brothers are, and how they have to rely on themselves for almost everything.

I did have a hard time at first understanding the why exactly Snow spoke as he did, but once I got that it was because of something in his head, and not just a weird speaking pattern, things were a bit easier. I think I would have enjoyed seeing Snow's (and Griffin's) bits of the story, but their bits of it blended nicely with Ro and Cade.

And Cade the Bear was just awesome. Loved the whole bear-shifter/curse aspect, and I really saw a lot of human-Cade in bear-Cade...which is probably good since Cade spends a good deal of the book in fur and claws instead of skin and clothes. And while I am kinda sure (in fact I am absolutely sure) that you shouldn't be bringing random bears into your home, no matter how tame they seem, it did a lot to show the growing



interest between Ro and the bear—just not in any *untoward* way, if you know what I mean. Ro saves that for when Cade has (slightly) less fur.

I did feel that the whole relationship thing between Ro and Cade (and Snow and Griffin) happened a bit fast. I mean, two-thirds of the time Cade was a bear. There isn't exactly a lot of relationship building going on when every conversation involves growling and pushing around letter-magnets. And Snow and Griffin barely said more than a handful of words to each other, and yet they seem to be madly in love by the end of the book. Suspension of reality, and all that jazz, can handle some of this, but it was really starting to push it a bit.

But this was a cute story, and I did really enjoy it. If it didn't make me sound even freakier than I normally come across as, I would say that I would have like for Cade the bear to stick around all the time. He was just too cute. But then again, not a lot of relationships flourish when one of the participants is an animal. Would love to see a story from Snow and Griffin's povs, though. It would be a lot of fun.

*This book was provided free in exchange for a fair and honest review for Love Bytes. Go there to check out other reviews, author interviews, and all those awesome giveaways. Click below.*

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### **Merissa (Archaeolibrarian) says**

Wild Rose, Silent Snow is roughly based upon Grimm's Rose-Red and Snow-White. In this though, we have Rowan and Snowden, both of whom are simply adorable. They both have similar but different special needs which makes it difficult for them to get a 'normal' job. Their parents have recently died, but the money hasn't been released due to other relatives laying a claim on it. So basically, things are tough for these two. However, they both have hearts of gold, and not having much doesn't stop them from wanting to help others. In this case, a big ole bear!!

I won't rehash the story, there's no need and I definitely wouldn't be as good as Angel Martinez is at telling a tale. However, I will say that this is the perfect read for a cold winter's night, where you can spend your time with romance and magic - always a winner for me. Exceedingly well written, with no editing or grammatical errors to disrupt the reading flow, this is a gentle romance, with pockets of steam, plenty of humour, and oodles of feel-good factor. Definitely recommended by me.

\* A copy of this book was provided to me with no requirements for a review. I voluntarily read this book, and my comments here are my honest opinion. \*

Merissa  
Archaeolibrarian - I Dig Good Books!

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### **Serena Yates says**

A modern-day version of the fairy tale "Snow White and Rose Red", this book succeeds in taking the original story and turning it into an updated version of greed turned wild and of curses overcome. Much of

the original plot remains, yet the story feels fresh and firmly set in modern life. Corporate shenanigans are as much a part of it as ancient magic, and I think the combination of both is a successful merging of two genres that had me fascinated and curious as to what would happen next.

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