

Rise of The Witch

Rebecca Ethington

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Phoenix Shifters are rare. They also hold the key to eternal life. No wonder the Dragon King wants the last one on earth for himself.

My entire life has been spent tucked away in a traveling circus, concealed by the powerful spell of an old witch. It would be just my luck that a streak of rebellion would land me in the hands of three sexy dragon shifters.

I am in so much trouble.

Dragons aren't supposed to know I exist, let alone make me feel this... warm.

Turns out that these three might be the only ones who can protect me from the Dragon King.

We are playing a dangerous game, and if we don't get our act together and defeat the tyrant who is hunting me I am going to lose more than the three Dragon Gods that have claimed my heart, and my soul.

Rise of The Witch is a full-length Shifter Story, full of action, adventure, three sexy shifter men and all the slow burn romance to make your insides squirm.

At 98k words, this paranormal romance ready to be devoured.

Rise of The Witch Details


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Author : Rebecca Ethington

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Genre : Polyamorous, Reverse Harem, Fairies, Fae, Romance, Paranormal Romance, Paranormal, Shapeshifters

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From Reader Review Rise of The Witch for online ebook

Lillian says

I received an eARC of this book from the author. This does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of this review.

Rise of the Witch by Rebecca Ethington is the first book in her new series Phoenix's Ashes about shifters. But not just any shifters, DRAGON shifters. DRAGONS!!! Have I ever mentioned how much I LOVE dragons?! Surely at some point this has been mentioned, but in case not....I LOVE DRAGONS!!!! Y'all this book is fan-freaking-tastic! If you enjoy urban fantasy and don't mind (or really love) reverse harems, you've got to read this book.

A Phoenix and Her Dragons

Rise of the Witch opens with a vivid scene of Elliot, Ellie for short, and a cliff. This swan dive leaves Ellie open to those that hunt her. You see, Ellie's shifter is unique. She's a phoenix, the only one of her kind. Her entire life Ellie has been forced to hide. Hide herself. Hide her phoenix. Hide her true nature. Why? Because some want her blood, which if legend is true, holds the key to immortality. Just shy of 18, Ellie is becoming frustrated with her guardian and friend. She wants a little freedom. She thinks she knows what she needs to know about the shifter world, yet she couldn't be more wrong. And she finds this out the morning after her swan dive.

In less than 24 hours, Ellie meets not one, not two, but three dragon shifters after spending her entire life hiding from them. Killian, Jarron, and Drake are brothers who could not be more different from each other. Killian is the eldest, heir to the Dragon King, and on the outside seems merciless and cold. Jarron is the middle brother, beautiful, and a smooth talker. Drake is the youngest and shyest of the three, yet more relatable to Ellie than his elder brothers. Personally I couldn't choose a favorite if I tried. At first I really liked Drake, then towards the middle I fell for Jarron, and in the end my heart broke for Killian. Luckily I don't have to choose ?

The Circus, a Dragon King, and Mates

A majority of the book is set in a circus. This circus has been Ellie's home her entire life. Suvi, a witch, is the owner of the circus and Ellie's guardian. I loved this setting. I've always enjoyed the performers and sideshows. Ellie herself performs on the silks and reading this through her eyes it's like you are flying. The circus provides ample protection from the outside world and keeps Ellie moving so she never settles in one place. Important for someone in hiding.

Who is she hiding from? The Dragon King, Ceres. Ceres is responsible for the death of her father and thousands of fae. He is cruel and wants to rule forever. His main focus is to find the phoenix and drink her blood, becoming immortal himself. However fate has provided Ellie with not one, but three mates who will protect her at all costs.

I've never been a big fan of reverse harems. I'm a one man kind of girl. However it works in this urban fantasy setting, especially with how Suvi settles the dragons who are ready to fight for Ellie. Suvi says that she needs all three of them if they are to defeat Ceres which happens to be everyone's goal. The chemistry among Ellie and her dragons will heat your cheeks, however with Ellie still being under 18, not much happens except for some steamy kissing. That being said I do expect Ethington to ramp up the heat in the coming books, as she's warned her readers on her social media.

Melting Point

Overall I loved *Rise of the Witch*! This is the first new series Rebecca Ethington has released in several years and I was ecstatic to get my hands on it. It was well worth the wait. These dragons are hot! Ellie's struggle with having three mates, the dragons' struggle with protecting her and defeating their father culminate in an explosive ending. I'm SO thankful book 2 comes out in just a few weeks. I'm not sure I could handle waiting longer. If you enjoy urban fantasy, reverse harems with a slow burn romance, I highly recommend you grab a copy of this one ASAP. It does not disappoint!

Andrea Cloyd says

The dragons have finally come!!! :) I LOVE this book! While I was skeptical at first as it was my first Reverse Harlem – I didn't even know this was a genre until I looked it up after signing up to help with this book- I knew I loved the author. I was pleasantly surprised while reading the book. The author has amazing imagery throughout the story and i love Ellie's phoenix!!! The story flows really well and the characters are fantastic. I love how each of the males affects the Ellie in different ways and throughout the story you can feel her confusion and passion for the men. You will have your favorites of the men (at least I did) but the all have their pros and cons and all bring something special and unique to the story. And the ending..... O.M.G!!! I can't wait for the next book to come out!!!

Faswop says

What am I missing?

Um... I guess I missed something because at no point was I laughing. This is a DNF for me at 70% read. It was a very laborious read and it just couldn't keep my attention any further. The premise was awesome but nothing came together for me. I wholeheartedly dislike every character. The pacing of the story is just far to slow and yet nothing seems to happen, ever. But the biggest bust for me was the lack of humor. I was promised pants-pissing humor in the description and all I got was a preview of what fantasies look from inside the head of a PNR obsessed prepubescent child. The elements are there for a fantastic story, albeit with a lot of reworking of the characters and story progression.

Holly Bargo says

Great story desperately needs an editor

This story grabbed me from the word GO and held my attention, no matter how confusing it got. The reader experiences Elliot's confusion right along with her. What prevents this book from being a 5-star read are the myriad punctuation errors, the incorrect or missing words, and the incorrect use of pronouns. Inconsistencies add further confusion and sloppy formatting to the annoyance. A competent editor and professional formatting could propel this book to a 5-star read.

Agata J?drzejewska says

The word “love” is not enough to describe how much I liked this book. Rebecca Ethington’s pen is never disappointing. Over 800 pages did simply fly by, no matter that I didn’t get much sleep last night, I couldn’t put this book down. What to love so much about this book? Well, at first as for sure a phoenix shifter, never read a story about one before and she is amazing, daring and brave. There is not one total hunk guy to drool over, but three. And not any three.. three dragons. Goody. The plot is excellent. Language marvelous, every description put us more into magical world of this book, you can feel simply in the middle of the action yourself. There is some humour, there is love and attraction (even passion), magic, danger, destinies, Fae, protectiveness, possessiveness and one new wonderful world opening its pages for us.. in one sentence: you need to read it.. now!

Lola says

I DNF'd this one at 45%

I really liked the first few chapters, the writing was good and I enjoyed the story for the most part. But the possessiveness of the three males she bonded with bothered me and I didn't feel the romance at all. It just wasn't the type of book/ romance I was in the mood for and when I started skimming and rolling my eyes whenever they talked about the bond I knew it was better to just put this one aside for now. I might get back to it later when I am in a different reading mood as there were parts I did like.

I did like the overall story so far. And I liked how the main character was a phoenix shifter. She acted a bit immature at times, but I felt that was in character. She has been in hiding in the circus her whole life and the ones protecting her never explained anything to her. I think that if she knew what she was dealing with she would've been more careful. By the time I stopped reading it seems they were finally going to explain some things.

I didn't care about the three males at all, they all acted violent, could barely control themselves and were possessive in a creepy way. Oh and they are respectively 100, 200 and 300 years old. They sure didn't act like that. The age difference combined with how the female main character still acted pretty much like a teenager also made me a bit uncomfortable. I usually don't mind age differences in books, but here I felt their life experience and state of life were so different, it just felt off to me. And the way they kept hugging her like she was a possession was just creepy instead of romantic. Part of the character reactions and behavior also felt a bit much and over the top and it just didn't quite work for me.

I did like the unique twist on the shifters the author gave, the way their eyes changed color if their shifter was close and from what was hinted at they also had some unique variations with not all dragons having the same power for example. I did like that part and that the main character was a phoenix shifter as I think this is one of the first books I read that had that. The circus setting was also nicely done and I was curious to learn more about the world.

If you're looking for a reverse harem shifter paranormal romance with an unique twist on shifters and don't mind it if the males act a bit possessive this one might work for you.

Veevee says

A surprisingly enjoyable book. This is a reverse harem book with one Oh-so-special phoenix shifter and three royal dragon shifters, which means it isn't for everyone. I enjoyed the characters (mostly) and I liked that the reverse harem element wasn't smooth sailing. Lots of reverse harem books like to emphasize how calm and non-jealous all of the guys are... which is fine (although a tad unrealistic if you know what I am saying), but it was nice to see that the guys in this book were so not into the harem thing... ah conflict. One thing I really disliked though is how the main girl Ellie is constantly treated like a child, she isn't told anything about herself or dragons and is not invited to help plan the rebellion. I understand that she doesn't act very mature, but she isn't really encouraged to act otherwise and essentially doesn't do anything the whole book except run away from things and circus practice.

Coco.V says

? FREE on Amazon today (12/23/2018)! ?

Tiera McMillian says

Enjoyable fast paced read, slow burn so far but a lot of needy angst...I mean a lot lol. This was a really good first in the series. Though we have the fated mates thing happening nobody wants to share, and everyone is an enemy so there is definitely plenty of adversity to spice things up. I was instantly immersed in the world and the story.

Our FMC Elliot, is a phoenix shifter who has been hiding her whole life in the circus to escape an evil dragon king whose main goal is to kill her to drain her blood so that he may live forever like a phoenix. I did like Elliot and I could not help but be frustrated both with her and for her, for her because no one will tell her or explain why she is in the danger she is and with her because her lack of understanding causes her to make immature, irrational decisions like she does not care how they affect others which is not really the case but it makes it seem that way. She is found after one of these decisions by our 3 dragon Brothers, who just so happen to be sons of the king tho not all in good standing. All the males have different personalities and even different circumstances, and some have even committed almost unforgivable acts to others and even to Elliot. I will say there is definitely alot going on in this story but for me it kept it lively and entertaining.

This is not a book you want to start if you hate cliffhangers that's for sure lol. Might as well grab both book one and two because your going to need it. Cant wait to see whats next!

Anne says

Just not for me I guess

At first, I did like the heroine. During that very introduction wherein she jumped off that cliff, she seemed so free and confident and courageous that I thought she's actually a full-grown woman. The comical way she went looking for clothes after that only to meet these supposedly hot men. Unfortunately, that cool image was shattered before me as I went through a couple more chapters. Even more unfortunately, I kind of didn't enjoy the read anymore.

1.) The heroine...turned out to be a 17-yr-old girl going 5. I understand her frustrations with Suvi and Zoe. But on the other hand, all the things these two women sacrificed for her, all the few things they asked of her...she disregarded and threw tantrums instead. Was that really too hard a concept to understand why those two women didn't trust her, esp from herself? smh. Wasn't it only rational she earned their trust just like how mature people do?

2.) It felt like every decision this heroine made was a product of ill temper and selfishness and immaturity. Every other teen out there made a lot of mistakes, mythical creature or not. Heck, adults and experienced people still made a lot of mistakes. However, it's just plain stupid to repeat the same mistake and not learn from it. And that's basically the character growth of the heroine in a nutshell. Prime example: I don't get why she can't just jump off cliffs that weren't for public. Then she'd wonder why she'd end up in local newspapers. UGH. Another one: she keeps asking for the truth but when the others did share infos and histories and the very same plain old truth she was asking for, she would run or would hate the messenger. I'm peeved with people like that. Speaking of running, third example: running away from responsibilities, every freaking gd time. Running to scenarios where she's either going to hurt herself (because she couldn't actually handle it!!!) or going to hurt others (because, again, bad decisions!!!).

Sidenote: I think this girl should really just accept her being teen. There's nothing wrong being young and inexperienced and not knowing better. What's wrong is if you would stay in that stagnant place. Yes, grow up. But it won't be over a day either.

3.) Although there were few povs from the heroes...even if for the majority of the story they (or one of them) were with the heroine, I still didn't connect to the heroes. I learned of their current predicaments, of their pasts, but I still felt like they were just there for the sake of having romantic interests for the heroine. And though they were centuries older...meh, they still didn't seem like the complex characters they should/could have been.

Arceli says

I just fell in love again with reverse harem. This genre keeps on getting better with awesome authors you find and Ethington is one of them. She has created such an amazing world of vampires. I really loved how hot and alpha they were. It really made me want my own vampire. In addition, there were such an awesome heroine. I really liked the spunk and spirit she had. I loved, loved her sarcasm and all the funny moments in the book. My most favorite part of the novel was the amazing fight scenes and romance. I liked how Ethington had such an awesome slow-burn. The characters got to know each other and it was refreshing to see not too much lust. In addition, the fight scenes were super realistic. I liked how dirty and fast paced they were. All in all, I highly recommend this novel for RH lovers. Go one-click the book and make your day awesome.

Nerdy Housewifey says

Okay start

This book was okay, a little angsty maybe? Which is common with ya. I love but also dislike the covers too. The Mc is supposed to have gold skin and tomato red (they describe it a lot) red hair, and the covers all have a pale freckly ginger, I know covers aren't necessarily indicative of what is inside, it just made it difficult for my brain to picture anything else.

I'm definitely going to keep reading... buuuuuuuut I'm also a little hesitant because there's going to be 5 books (so far, not sure if that's the end) and I'm just not sure if I can stay invested for that long. I love long series don't get me wrong, I just don't know if the story can support all that without it feeling like it's being stretched. You know? We've all read those series that really could have and should have wrapped up in fewer books, instead of tacking on more 'oh no now this happened' moments.

So over all an okay read, a little angsty which the fmc is 17 so it fits (the males definitely don't give off the 'been around for hundreds of years' vibe'), a few issues with wrong names, but definitely in for book 2 and as long as it doesn't get drug out unnecessarily most probably finish the series.

Stephanie Walton says

I like story

I was 1/3 of way through this book. I liked story but was taking forever to get to the point. Lots of back and forth from heroine. It would seem shed come to a decision then go back and forth again. I decided to continue reading. About half way through felt like finally getting somewhere, only to discover another setback. Decided to finish book and she finally took a stand. I will go to nxt book as i know sometimes 1st is fast and loose when trying to introduce its world. Hoping it will move forward at good pace.

Monica Partida says

A little disappointed

I usually LOVE Rebecca Ethington's work. Usually. But this book was disappointing to say the least. First, I wasn't too thrilled with the vulgar language. Big turn off. She didn't use it in other books so I'm wondering why she did in this series. Secondly, the majority of the book was a redundant explanation of the sexual tension the main characters felt. Like a book on repeat. Over. And over. And over. And over. And over. And...well you get it. Lastly, when she finally managed to put some actual storyline on the pages, the book was done! Disappointed. And I'm not even sure I want to continue reading this series if it's gunna be a repeat of the first. I'll have to check the sample to see if it's worth purchasing.

T'Ericka Perry says

The main character is a child who refuses to grow up

I'm only 20% into the story and I hate the main character. She deliberately called attention to herself by stripping naked and jumping off a cliff while asking someone to take her picture and then gets mad and irrational when the people protecting her tell her they can't reveal secrets to her because she's acting like a child. At this point I just want the evil king to rip her soul out and kill her. Because clearly she has a death wish
