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T.J. Bennett

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The more time Catherine spends in the castle, the more her curiosity rises where her fiercely handsome new "master," Gerard, is concerned. As she begins to investigate, though, her discoveries only bring more questions. It seems Gerard isn't the only one on the island keeping secrets...

The small town is full of strange mysteries and townspeople who know more than they should about her. And when a hulking beast that stalks the nearby hills and valleys catches up to her, Catherine must figure out what's going on before it's too late.

Dark Angel Details

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From Reader Review Dark Angel for online ebook

Rachel Hollis says

I'm totally shocked that it doesn't have more reviews since it's such a great book!

The quick explanation would be that this is a re-imagined Beauty and the Beast and since I'm a sucker for a fairytale I jumped in. I loved the author's writing style, loved the heroine who's strong and brave and full of heart. I loved the hero who's flawed and untamed and heartbreaking. I think what I most liked was that this isn't a typically historical in that all the drama is based around something that could be cleared up with a few conversations. I liked that you knew where they were emotionally and you understood why they both felt tortured about whether or not they could be together. The love story was passionate and volatile and flew right off the page.

The ending took an unexpected turn which wasn't bad, but also wasn't really what I was anticipating... sort of like two fairytales mashed together. I wished it would have just focused on the main one, but I still loved it and totally recommend to my other HR readers.

SaturNalia says

3.5 Catherine is a widow and war nurse, trying to get back home to England when her ship is caught in a storm and sinks. She washes up on a secluded island ruled by mysterious and magical Gerard. This is a spin on Beauty and the Beast, my favorite! Gerard is never seen during the day and a black beast stalks the island. Gerard is lonely and vulnerable, he wants Catherine for himself. Catherine wants to go back to England to continue her charitable works. I liked the set up and the characters, but they spent too much time apart. Katherine was wondering around the island meeting the inhabitants and learning it's secrets by herself. I wanted Gerard and Catherine to be together more. Gerard was very greedy for Catherine and couldn't control himself around her.

Alisa says

Find a longer, more detailed and awesome review at <http://www.thereadingobsession.blogspot...>

Three-point-five Stars Rounded Up to Four

I received this ARC from Entangled Publishing. There were no gifts, favors, or discounts in exchange for this review.

I absolutely love Gothic romances. Especially those set on a mysterious island, with mysterious people, and a mysterious atmosphere. So, the basic equation for things like this is: This Book + Me = Instant Love. Simple as that. Sadly, the literary world is filled with unpredictability, and over 50% of the time, this isn't the case. But, because of all the good karma I racked up in the past few weeks, the universe decided to do me a huge favor and make this book likeable.

Dark Angel was actually pretty good. The library description alone was enough to give it three stars. There was enough character development to make it seem real, the atmosphere was suspenseful, and even secondary characters seemed interesting. This was a well written retelling of Beauty and the Beast, and I will definitely be reading more of Bennett's work.

Tina says

This is a really good story. I did have a hard time getting into it, but after a few chapters it grabbed my attention and held on until the end.

Catherine Briton is a young widow traveling back home to London when a storm destroyed the boat she was on. She is the only survivor to wash up on the shore of the island that no one ever claims to see while out on the ocean. She knows she has injuries, but after the stranger who found her took her to his castle and checks her for injuries, all the pain in her body eases. She starts to notice strange things that are happening on the island, but when she asks questions she never seems to get an honest answer.

Gerard is the 'master' of the island. He has the most secrets out of everyone she's met, and Catherine is determined to uncover as many as possible. As she and Gerard spend time together they start to become closer, and she hopes that will cause him to open up to her. What's more unnerving is how everyone on the island seems to know quite a bit about her when she hasn't told anyone about herself. There are more and more mysteries as the days pass, and no one will explain the beast that seems to be following her whenever she is out during the day. Will Catherine ever return to London, or will she be stuck on the strange island forever?

I received a copy of this book for free from the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Alicia says

Alright for retelling Beauty and the Beast with lovely prose in a Gothic atmosphere!

I really enjoyed *Dark Angel*. So much so that I can't even write much about it right now. I keep replaying scenes in my head though, and each time I remember how Catherine handled 'things,' it brings a smile to my face. She is going down as one of my favorite leading ladies.

I think what's holding me back is the abrupt ending. I could have used another 15 pages. I have lots of questions and this one isn't a series...

Tanya Vought says

Catherine and others are on a boat and while on this life boat she sees something. The captain tells her that she sees nothing and neither does he... for if you do see something you NEVER return! Next thing she knows she is trying to survive from drowning. She sees something- A man is there and helps her. The gentleman is mysterious and authoritative, but she won't allow any man to dominate her! She calls him Gerard and wants

to know his secrets that he is hiding. Caring/friendship is established but can he return her affection or will the beast get her 1st?

Gerad finds Catherine at the edge of the water on his Island. He allows Catherine to call him Gerad rather than Master as others do. He is dominating and bossy but is really enjoys Cat's personality, attitude, looks, spunk and more! He asks for time for her to let him open up and learn to tell her things... but can he ever tell her his true feelings before lies and beasts get her?

This was a unique storyline. I was intrigued from the 1st page to the very end!! I finished this book all in one setting and couldn't put it down! It was a breath of fresh air with beasts, boats, people's perceptions, dominant males, strong willed women, deception and more!

If you love fairy tales, sexy men, beasts/animals, strong women, love, friendships and more then you will love this story!

I loved this book and would definitely read another book by this fabulous author! Well done!

** I received a copy of this book by Entangled Publishing for an honest review**

The Lit Bitch says

This book is an adult retelling of the classic fairy tale Beauty and the Beast with a bit of a gothic twist. Being extremely familiar with the original fairy tale, I figured that I would find the book more or less predictable, which was true but overall I didn't find the book boring at all.

I liked the time suspension angle and the 'magic' curse of the island. I thought it was a different take on the original. The dark moodiness of the plot and setting worked well together. I felt like both Gerard and Catherine struggled with their own skeletons and I thought it added to the tragedy and tension in their relationship.

I was a little bothered by the conventional-ism of the romance though. Most romance novels follow the same formula and I felt like this novel was going against the grain with the dark, gothic feel of the story and I felt like the author might go with a little more of an edgy unconventional approach to the romance as well. I would have liked to have seen that angle worked a little more to the author's advantage.

Overall though the novel was a fast, compelling read. I loved the concept and the setting. It was a well written adult fairy tale with a gothic twist...just what it promises.

[See my full review here](#)

Didi says

3.5 STARS

I'm kind of surprised there aren't more ratings for this book. It was really good. Well, it was mainly good, easily earning at least 4 stars+, save for the final 15% which lowered my rating a little. I'll get into that but first I'll mention what was cool about this book.

If you love gothic romance, then you'll like this. It was full of nail-biting suspense, a thick air of mystery, a reclusive sort of hero that hides a grave secret, a near forgotten island that the world has chosen to forget and a heroine who wouldn't stop trying to solve that mystery. The book also had a fairytale-like vibe to it, no surprises there since it's very Beauty and The Beast.

The enigmatic hero, Gerard, was verra sexxy. He had an air of dangerous mystery about him I couldn't resist. Even suspecting his secret early on, it didn't affect how much I liked this book. Catherine, the heroine thrust into a world full of strange occurrences, was also likable for the most part. A few times I felt like slapping her because she was so damn back and forth. The will they or won't they frayed my nerves a little and it was solely Catherine's hesitation that irritated me.

luckily, once she did get her head screwed on right she stopped fighting the inevitable. The other reason I didn't rate this book higher was for the lack of polish towards the end. It ended abruptly and left me wondering about the various loose ends that needed some desperate resolution. And these weren't minor issues needing to be solved, but strong ones that made up the plot. Had this ended with an epilogue, lest an explanation of how the books events were resolved, I would have rated it higher. The good thing was at least Gerard and Catherine found their way back to each other.

Farrah says

Delightfully creepy, dark, and romantic, Dark Angel was a wonderful Gothic romance. It was deep, dark, intense, and I enjoyed every bit of it. Loved this book!

Catherine was a strong heroine. She has had a tough time, but has made the best of it. Not only that, but she turned a tragedy into something good-a home for abandoned children. She's very devoted to her work and a force to be reckoned with when she was determined to have her way. I really liked her. She was strong, clever, and selfless. Occasionally, her stubbornness was frustrating. But, otherwise, I thought she was a great character.

Gerard was a puzzle. He's the master of the island, but we don't really know much about him at first. Then, as we find out more, he gets even more puzzling, right up until the full truth is revealed. He definitely had a lot of secrets. After a few of them were given up, I started to suspect what was really going on, but it most of it still took me by surprise. But, beyond the enigma he presented, he was wonderful. He was very sweet and devoted to his people and to Catherine. I thought he was perfect and I adored him.

The romance was intense. When Catherine and Gerard fell in love, they fell hard. And all the secrets made the whole thing even more tumultuous. These two were very sweet together. Despite all the secrets, their feelings for each other were always constant. And, they weren't afraid to act on them, with all the chemistry going on between them. There was definitely some steaminess going on there. I thought they were a lovely couple.

The plot was fast paced. I was hooked the entire way though. The mystery of what was going on had me on the edge of my seat, and I was taken by surprise when I finally found out. I really enjoyed the story and I

thought the ending was perfect.

Dark Angel was a brilliant read! It was dark, creepy, and romantic. In other words, a perfect Gothic romance. I loved every bit of this book. Romance lovers, if you want something different that will have you hooked, then you definitely need to read this.

*I received a free copy in exchange for an honest review

Kagama-the Literaturevixen says

When young widow Catherine Briton is washed ashore, the sole survivor of a violent shipwreck, all she wants is to go home to London. But injured as she is, she can't escape when a shadowy stranger rescues her and takes her to his castle—where she's healed with suspicious, almost magical speed.

The more time Catherine spends in the castle, the more her curiosity rises where her fiercely handsome new "master," Gerard, is concerned. As she begins to investigate, though, her discoveries only bring more questions. It seems Gerard isn't the only one on the island keeping secrets...

The small town is full of strange mysteries and townspeople who know more than they should about her. And when a hulking beast that stalks the nearby hills and valleys catches up to her, Catherine must figure out what's going on before it's too late.

Young widow Catherine Briton is on her way home when the ship she is traveling on is shipwrecked and she and the other survivors are cast adrift in a lifeboat. She tells the sailor in charge that she can see land but he refuses to believe her but betrays himself when he says would never go ashore on the threat of his life

The lifeboat overturns spilling the passengers into the ocean and just as she has conciled herself with her death she is washed ashore and rescued by a dark mysterious man who appears to be the master of the island.

She is taken to his mansion to recover but is disbelieving when the Master tells her there is no way to leave the island. Impossible! She has to get back to her own life, there are people depending on her. But the Master, who says his name is Gerard maintains that her new life is on Ynos Nos...the dark island.

She can't really complain too much about her new situation since she is given every courtesy but that doesn't change her determination to get back to the real world

Gerard, the master is fascinated by her stubbornness and refusal to treat him with deference like the rest of the inhabitants of the island and soon that fascination turns to passion which has Catherine anxious since events in her past and her being a proper and prim Victorian woman won't allow her to give in to her feelings. But she

cant help herself from time to time.

The writing style has these little touches and a way of conveying the strangeness and at times creepiness of Ynos Nos I could go into more detail but then I would spoil the book. Lets just say it like this it is a very peculiar place but but the people living on the island has more or less come with terms with the strangeness even if some things are harder to get used to than others.

Gerard and the island has a lot of secrets but so does Catherine and we slowly find out some of them.

If I have some complaints its these.

I felt at times Catherine was abit back and forth about her feelings. One moment she is happily kissing Gerard only to in the next be overcome by guilt and reject his advances because she feels some guilt Or she judges him for events that happened way before they even met .Shes a bit what you would call a tease. It was a bit tiresome but judging by some instances in the book where there is references to the bible I cant help wonder if these decisions regarding Catherines choices in the book has some thing to do with the author having strong beliefs. But I didnt feel the message was violently hammered into the narrative like some inspirational/christian authors tend to do. It was just present.And I felt it should be mentioned.

The ending felt very surreal and a rushed, but it was kind of keeping with the running theme in the book but I can see some readers be put off by it,I know I was a bit puzzled by it and I love the weird. But when I think back on it yes the ending could have been better but as the saying goes the whole is greater than the sum of its parts."

And there were many good parts

I hope my complaint doesnt keep people from picking up this book since it I love the Beauty and the beast fairytale and this is a very original take on it and the gothic genre.

Jennifer McCoy, YA Sisterhood says

Dark Angel: A Dark Faerie Tale by TJ Bennett
eARC received from Entangled Edge via Netgalley
Available Oct 22
Reviewed by: Middle Sis Jenn
The Sisters Say: Long winded and disappointing

I really wanted to like this one, so much so that I pushed through it even though I found myself disinterested around the 25% mark. I kept reading hoping it would get better, that the characters would really start to suck me in, that the romance would sweep me off my feet. However, sadly, that time never came; and now I just find myself bitterly disappointed.

I love gothic stories—the mysterious and morose setting, the Byronic heroes, the never-ending mystery. While there are elements of all these things in this novel, none of them really stood out and made a lasting impression. Each one was, for lack of a better word, just “okay.” The setting was interesting—an island that

disappears and reappears at the whim of some unknown power. I really liked this idea, but I wanted to see more of the island. We got brief descriptions of it here and there, but it was mainly just a bunch of fog. I wanted to see the mesmerizing cliffs, hear the dangerous call of the sea; but it was never really given to me.

I somewhat enjoyed our dark hero, Gerard. But again, he didn't really capture me the way so many other gothic characters have. He was gorgeous, full of secrets, and sexily domineering; but I wanted to see more of his and Elizabeth's relationship. One minute it was angry words, the next minute they were kissing against a wall; but there was no feeling to the scenes. It wasn't so sexy or powerful that it stole my breath away or that I wanted to read it again. There was so much potential for a great and steamy love story, and I'm sad that we didn't see it.

I think the thing that bugged me the most was the overwhelming amount of details. I hate to say this, but there were times when I would skip 5-6 pages on my kindle and not miss a single thing!!! That's when you know there is too much description. I got so frustrated with it because I wanted more suspense, more romance, more danger.

I think fans of historical romance will find parts of this story fun and mesmerizing; however, those who like a good dose of romance mingled with the history will be sorely disappointed.

Angie says

I received an ARC through NetGalley.

I had to read *Dark Angel* as soon as I got it, because it sounded like it would be a great, dark retelling of Beauty and the Beast. And it was for the most part. Catherine is washed ashore of an island that supposedly is unreachable, and only the dead or dying can even see it. She's brought to the castle where "the master" Gerard resides, being magically healed by him. Gerard uses her near death experience as an excuse to keep her confined to her room, or only allowed out for short times in the company of multiple footman. In reality, he has a dark secret that he feels he cannot let Catherine know for fear of her rejection. However, Catherine is not one to sit about idly, and she knows something strange is going on with Gerard, and she's set to find out.

I loved the set up of *Dark Angel*. The island is "somewhere in the Irish sea" and completely cut off from the rest of civilization, but it hasn't always been that way. It's also suspended in time, so its inhabitants have barely aged in their 100 years of isolation. They're also inexplicably immortal, although they can still be injured and feel pain. Do these same rules apply to Catherine? No one knows, since no one has landed on the island in all that time, so maybe the magic only works on natives. There are also other odd happenings about the island, which I won't mention, since they lead up to a spoiler, but they are interesting.

The romance is where I became conflicted about *Dark Angel*. There's no denying that Catherine and Gerard have an insane amount of sexual chemistry. Some of this is explained by what Gerard is, since he's super attractive to all of the women, not just Catherine. But for the most part, it's all Gerard and Catherine! They have several run ins with steamy make out sessions, but Catherine refuses to go further without being married. She's strong willed and stubborn, so while I wanted them to get together, I also wanted her to stand her ground. I certainly don't mind a lot of sexual tension and build up before the big finale! Unfortunately, Gerard becomes quite domineering and forceful, going as far as telling Catherine what she really wants and demanding that she give in to her desires (and his). Which she does. I like a dominant hero, but in specific

contexts. This was not it.

Dark Angel was still a good, gothic twist on my favorite fairy tale, despite my disappointments in some aspects of the romance. In addition to the awesome, magical island, I also loved how the beast was incorporated into the story. Usually, the hero is ugly or has some kind of deformity, but that isn't the case here. It's another one of those strange happenings that I mentioned earlier. The ending was a little weird and info-dumpy, but it was an interesting twist. So while not perfect, *Dark Angel* was still an enjoyable read.

Read more of my reviews at [Pinkindle Reads & Reviews](#).

Angie says

5+ stars

"You see," he whispered, "I have done my duty to you. I have warned you for the last time, and now you have no excuse. I vowed to protect you, but I am not strong enough to protect you from me."

This was such an understated and truly AMAZING novel!!! I actually happened upon this novel by accident. I was looking for another title on my tablet when I came across this hidden gem. I usually can remember *something* about every novel I have on my tablet--whether it be about the author, the title, or the series to which it belongs. However, when I came across *Dark Angel*, nothing came to mind, and that immediately piqued my interest.

So I started reading. And I am sooo glad that I did.

I guess this can be classified as a "Beauty and the Beast"-esque novel, but it was also so much more than that genre usually suggests. The story and the *way* Bennett wrote the history and mystery of the Beast and how Catherine came upon his isolated life was so uniquely brilliant. The mystery and all of the secrets surrounding the Beast, the island and its magic, and the people who inhabited *Ynys Nos* was simply fascinating and kept me enthralled the entire time.

For me, there was never truly a dull or boring moment. Was I restless, anxious, and so bursting with anticipation that I couldn't read fast enough at times? Absolutely. But the story and the Beast himself were so alluring and intriguing that I could not stop reading if I had wished [as if Gerard would have permitted it either]. Catherine was also a great heroine to follow along with because she did not submit or cower beneath Gerard easily, which was something we both admired. She held onto her independence tightly (sometimes to the frustration of both myself and Gerard), but we nevertheless admired her greatly for it.

Overall, I cannot praise this novel enough. It was a breath of fresh air for me that I was not expecting to encounter, and I cannot recommend it enough. I do wish there was an epilogue that tells us a little more of what happened to our beloved characters after what happens at the end of the novel, but I am satisfied that my imagination has already produced a worthy ending of eternal happiness and love. **Definitely give this novel a chance; you will not be disappointed!**

My Gerard: dark, mysterious, and lonely but as soft and vulnerable and as wanting of love as Catherine :)

Favorite Gerard quote: *"Damn my efficient minions to a fiery and everlasting hell."*

Stephanie Ziegler says

After their ship sank somewhere in the Irish Sea, Catherine Briton tried telling the Captain of her lifeboat that she saw land. The Captain denied her claims, saying, "[o]nly the dead or dying see that island." After the lifeboat capsized, Catherine felt someone pull her to the beach of the island. When she opened her eyes she saw "a sleek, powerful beast, it's fur black as midnight." When she heard a commotion, Catherine tried calling for help.

"How the bloody hell are you here?" [A] deep voice above [Catherine] sounded utterly perplexed. 'How the devil did you accomplish it?'" Catherine soon finds out that she is the only survivor who washed up on the shore of Ynys Nos, Welsh for the Dark Island. She learns that "all the inhabitants of this [island] have been suspended in time and have ceased to age[.]" Catherine was "the real first contact [they] have had with the outside world in many years." A hundred years in fact.

"No one ever leaves the Dark Island." Catherine is stuck on a mysterious island under the supervision of a man the residents called Master.

I GIVE THIS BOOK: 5 Stars

An extremely talented author pens an intriguing and captivating story.

Ynys Nos may not exist but this author brought it to fruition. To me, the Dark Island existed. Well placed detail, that did not distract from the story, created a real yet mystical image. I could feel the fog closing in around me and the terror of the inability to see past the nose on my face. The fog is a character in itself but you do not realize it.

The two main characters, Gerald and Catherine, are hot tempered and full of passion in the sense of what they believe and who and what they stand for. Two stubborn people so concerned about their own agenda to realize what is right in front of them.

The author stuck true to the era of each character: Catherine in the mid 1800s and the inhabitants of the island in the 1700s. The idea Catherine gave the resident gynecologist had me in fits of laughter. And the ending of this book shocked me. An end that I never saw coming.

I hope this is the beginning of a series. The author could take this story and build so much on it.

Until next time, live life one page at a time!

Lori says

Find this review and more at [Lusty Penguin Reviews!](#)

Dark Angel—A Gothic Fairy Tale, by TJ Bennett, perfectly blends a Victorian historical romance and a

mystery with bone-chilling paranormal elements that completely draw the reader into this page-turning novel. Vividly revealing the details of Ynys Nos, the Dark Island, and those that reside on the island, Bennett has a graceful writing style that shines throughout making readers feel like they are on the island too. Using first person voice, Bennett beautifully tells this story through the eyes of Catherine Briton.

Recently widowed, Catherine focuses her life on helping society's disadvantaged children. Fate has other plans for Catherine's future when she is the sole survivor of a shipwreck and trapped on Ynys Nos. Gerard, the master of the island, informs Catherine that there is no way to leave the island, and she is now a permanent resident. Not letting Gerard's words to deter her, Catherine remains stubbornly determined to return to London and get back to helping the children, which I loved about her. Gerard captures the imagination as a charismatic protagonist with a mysterious edge about him. In Gerard, Bennett masterfully creates a strong, dominant, and arrogant character who is also a passionate lover, making him a delicious alpha male. Strong-willed, Catherine is the perfect partner for him since she will not put up with his attitude and stands up for herself, which I just adored. Sparks fly between the two and they verbally lock horns as Catherine adjusts to being on the mysterious island. Completely captivated by the reoccurring fog and the fearsome predator within it, I needed to find a blanket to stay safe and warm.

Entertaining characters, intriguing paranormal creatures, and plenty of plot twists lead to the dramatic conclusion that I didn't see coming but absolutely loved! With hints of *Beauty and the Beast*, *Dark Angel*—A Gothic Fairy Tale is an emotional and gripping novel.

I received an eBook copy of the book for the purpose of an honest review. I was not compensated for this review, and all conclusions are my own responsibility.
