



Teen Witch: Wicca for a New Generation

Silver RavenWolf

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Teenagers and young adults comprise a growing market for books on Witchcraft and magick, yet there has never been a book written specifically for the teen seeker. Now, Silver RavenWolf, one of the most well-known Wiccans today and the mother of four young Witches, gives teens their own handbook on what it takes and what it means to be a Witch. Humorous and compassionate, *Teen Witch* gives practical advice for dealing with everyday life in a magickal way.

Teen Witch: Wicca for a New Generation Details

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Author : Silver RavenWolf

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From Reader Review Teen Witch: Wicca for a New Generation for online ebook

Jo M says

This book can be the worst thing you could taint your mind with when it comes to introducing yourself to Wicca or Paganism as a whole. Not only does Ravenwolf encourage teenagers to lie to their parents in this book, but she also uses FALSE historical "facts" to fuel her anti-Christian agenda.

I wouldn't recommend this book for my cat, let alone someone searching out a new faith system.

kendermouse says

A bit fluffy, but not horrible like some people say.

The thing so many people don't seem to get about this is that it's mostly geared toward younger readers who are coming into their curiosity about wicca from christianity, and that a lot of the other 'beginner' books have things in them that they naturally assume everyone would know, but someone coming from a fundamentalist christian type home might never have even heard of, or been told about. It fills that niche nicely.

Do I recommend that this be the ONLY book a younger person (from that type of situation, or otherwise,) read while learning about wicca or paganism? Of course not. That would be incredibly silly. There are very few (if any) subjects in this world that you only need one book to learn all about it. Even christians use more than just the bible for study. (And no, I'm not saying this is a 'bible for wicca'. If anything, it's more like those study guides christians use to understand the bible better, by putting key items into language they can better understand.)

So yeah, it's a bit fluffy, but it helps those who have been 'sheltered' from anything but fundamentalism some of the basics they might otherwise be struggling to understand.

If you're coming from a home where you were raised wiccan or pagan, or otherwise can openly ask someone for help understanding some of the stuff in other books, without fear of reprisal, then yeah, give this a miss. But for those who are the target audience I described, go for it. Get this, and another book, like True Magick, by Amber K, or one of the other beginner books. Teen Witch will get you through some of the concepts in the other one that may not make sense to you.

Oh, and regarding some of the major complaints I've seen:

- 1) For those complaining about the way it represents christians... yes, I've known good christians, who are tolerant, loving, etc. But I've also known the type who would mistreat someone for practicing, or being different in any way they don't approve of. It's not uncommon, and they shouldn't be lied to, and told it is.
- 2) For those saying it's too simple/it's insulting/it talks down to the audience- then obviously, it's not the book for you.
- 3) For those raising objections about her saying what a 'real' witch is and does, and how she cuts out several other paths/religions... valid, to some degree. But again, this book likely isn't for you. She's trying to explain the falsehoods behind some of the boogeyman theories that fundamentalists toss around about witchcraft and paganism, and I think she does that nicely. and really, if you're a scared kid questioning your faith for the

first time, and wondering about what the right religion is for you, the things she covers are reassuring.

Eliot says

I would freely admit that when I was a teenager, this book helped reassure me. I do not come from a particularly occult-friendly family, so it was nice to be told by a respectable adult that I wasn't a bad person for what I believed. I would definitely hand this book over to any teenager who is going through something similar to that. Most of the book is about getting over that hump - being able to accept yourself for who you are, and as a teenager, that's a pretty big hump.

Adults, especially those who know even the tiniest bit about Wicca, will not benefit from this book, likely not at all. It is the most basic information you can get on the subject, presented in a way that is very friendly and easy to understand. The author uses examples from her life, and even includes some information for parents. Is it a thorough manual for becoming Wiccan? No. Is it a timeless grimoire? No. The spells are very plain, generally easy to do, no tons of memorization, and geared toward teenagers. There's nothing wrong with that. Some authors can be very dry, and very few authors write for kids.

For a young person who has had no prior exposure to Wicca and witchcraft, it is perfect and recommended, but if you intend on giving it to someone, make sure you follow up with them and give them supplemental information and books.

Zoe says

I read this book when I was fourteen and it really did not give me a clear idea of what Wicca actually **was.** To RavenWolf's credit, she insists that readers take the time to read her few chapters on Wiccan spirituality before "jumping ahead" to the spells (aka: the "cool" part). At the same time, the book seemed to assume that any teenager picking up a book on Wicca was picking it up for the spells and the spells alone. The portion on religion did not really impress upon me how special and significant some Pagans find relationships with deities to be. Instead, they had a kind of "eat your vegetables before you get a piece of cake (book of spells)" feel to them. Some teenagers actually are interested in religion for religion's sake. That's not to say that a teenager who is more interested in witchcraft in general (without religion) is a "bad" person or anything, but there's no need to assume that a fourteen-year-old seeker cannot be sincere in his/her search for spirituality.

I read through the book patiently and found myself ill-prepared to do actual ritual. RavenWolf said that after a few practices, some people could literally see angels in their rooms. When a person knows **nothing** about magic whatsoever, it can be daunting enough to attempt a ritual without expecting something that's unlikely to occur (at least without a great deal of experience). Additionally, I found that most of the spells focused on helping teens do things that they could do themselves without magic. Most of them involved a lot of tools and items that a lot of teens probably don't easily have at their disposal. Also, can someone tell me if that invisibility spell has ever worked for anyone? I'm curious.

Conure Hermary says

Like her other books, she needs to be taken with a grain of salt. However, most of her work I find

entertaining, although she does tend to talk down to people and there's the whole habaloo about the 'new bus driver spell' that makes people's teeth curl (One person described it as they feel it was written to make a bad driver get fired). Personally, as a practicing pagan for 20 years, I found this book quite engaging and it gave me a basic understanding of how magic works. I wouldn't give this book to someone who was brand new to Wicca, but wait until the person had some practice and experience under their belt.

Hanaa says

Let first start off my saying, I will use the word 'patronized' a lot in this review. So be prepared!

This is my first Silver Ravenwolf book, and although she's not seen in the best light, I decided to give it a try because my opinion may not coincide with others'; however, I pretty much agree with most reviews on here. Ravenwolf is an awfully patronizing person whose knowledge on the subject and even knowledge on what teens like is pretty atrocious. I don't have a huge breadth of knowledge on Wicca and Witchcraft, but seriously, bro? Even I could sniff out this shit. She speaks to teens like they are just newly born; dumbing down information and prodviding 'Teen Speak' where she thought necessary. I'm pretty sure teens are intelligent individuals who don't need to have something dumbed down to them. Just sayin'

Also, I must talk about her hilarious choice of spells. Oh boy, it made me laugh. She called the chapter 'spells just for you' and the majority of them are love and beauty spells. Yes, because ALL teen are superficial and only want love and beauty. Sure, it's pretty much the necessity of most teens, but if she provided something more that made teens seem less needy and her less patronizing, then I wouldn't be hating on homegirl so much.

Throughout the book she talks about what REAL witches do and don't do. I love her definition of real witches, because, you know, she knows everything.

Anyways, if you want to read this book, do it but prepare to be underwhelmed and maybe even a little offended.

Jaqui says

I read this book as a teenager, more than 15 years ago. Looking back, I can see that it marked an important change for me and my life. Buying and reading this was one of the most courageous things I ever did, taking the risk of my very Catholic family's wrath to begin my personal exploration of alternative religions and spirituality. Since then I've canvased everything from nihilistic philosophy and hedonism to the different branches of Buddhism, and eventually come all the way back to Paganism and witchcraft.

With much more experience under my belt, I know that this book is basically the pre-Internet version of clickbait. It offers only the barest skimming of the surface of Wicca and doesn't delve into the the deeper and more meaningful aspects of Paganism. I think that is particularly dangerous given the target audience. However, I'm thankful it was available to me at time when so few other options were, and I know it's been a door-opener for other youths looking for a path to satisfy their religious needs. So, 4 stars.

Aitziber Conesa says

Uno de esos libros que no valen lo que cuestan y que te hacen plantearte seriamente si merece la pena la tala de bosques por su culpa.

El material aprovechable, con sentido, lógico y bien informado es.... mínimo. La mayor parte de sus datos están falseados o son directamente mentira.

Eso por no contar que la mayor parte del volumen que ocupa el libro son recetas y más recetas para diversos tipos de hechizos que no tienen nada que ver con la religión Wicca, e incluso que a veces vulneran algunas de las normas morales de la misma.

Tampoco se salva por su lenguaje en principio claro y accesible. Es infantil y está escrito en una clave maternalista. Basa su reputación como buen libro en la popularidad de la autora, y no profundiza en ninguno de los aspectos básicos de cualquier religión.

Es gruesito, así que puede servir para calzar mesas que estén muy tocadas.

Thomas says

BOO! Silver's book is like Taco Bell for the soul (i.e. not good for you and gives you gas).

I bought this for my daughter, based solely on the HUGE recommendations amongst the community. I found it shallow and just awful (as did my daughter, who knew more about Wicca from us and participating in ritual on occasion than this book could ever reveal).

This is just a mass market "fluff" approach to Wicca, and really seems to have no faith in teens ability to grasp higher concepts of Neopagan Philosophies.

Not recommended at all, there are plenty of actual beginner Wicca books that treat teens as normal humans and don't feel the need to translate everything into "kewl-speak" to be understood. Silver is NOT "kewl" so her efforts come across as someone TRYING to be "kewl" and failing miserably. No actual Teen Witch I have known has ANY respect for this book, which is generally laughed at in pagan circles with knowing sighs.

Christie says

This book has nothing to do with REAL Paganism or Wicca. What it is is a bunch of psycho babble from a woman who repeatedly refers to HERSELF as an insanely famous and well-thought of Pagan authority (*snort*). She writes this book both to appeal to teenagers, but also to convince their Christian parents that Paganism and Christianity aren't that different, the the point of referring to the Gods and Goddesses or Spirits as just "God", singular.

It's a HORRIBLE book that no one should take factually from an author with a superiority complex.

Savannah Foley says

Researching Witchcraft in an effort to grow as a Fantasy writer... This book had a simple overview and lots of 'spells' but not much about what magic */is/*, and come to think of it, very little about what Witches actually worship.

20 pages in I started feeling weird about the author's writing style... She definitely seemed to have an agenda, and contradicted herself a few times. This website pretty much summarizes what's wrong with this book: <http://wicca.cnbeyer.com/ravenwolf.shtml>

Ailyn says

I read Ravenwolf's "To Ride A Silver Broomstick" first, and while at the time I thought it was decent, in retrospect it was pretty horrible. But this load of tosh takes the cake, idiotically written and condescending, lacking moral and ethical teachings (I mean, encouraging kids to lie about their spirituality from "spiritual teacher" is disgusting!), I just can't believe anyone would recommend it. Coming from a very devoted Christian family, I can firmly say that there are better ways to coexist than through lies and deceit. How about just not bringing up the subject? This is the book that really caused me to look at Wicca subjectively, and subsequently wander down a different Pagan path. Booo Ravenwolf!

María says

Un libro con mucho trabajo detrás, información sobre Wicca, correspondencias mágicas, hechizos... Entonces, ¿por qué dos estrellas? Bueno, resulta que todo está inmerso en un tono paternalista y condescendiente. Yo ya no soy una adolescente, pero os aseguro que si hubiese leído este libro con 15 años me habrían rechinado los dientes.

Querida "Mamá Silver" como dices que te llaman, no es muy justo que escribas capítulos enteros sobre la ética y la moral en la brujería mientras conviertes tu libro en una oda para tu ego. Siendo así, no es de extrañar que muchos miembros de la comunidad pagana no recomiendan tus libros. ¿Qué diría mi querida Tiffany Dolorido si te leyese? Sí, vale, ya sé que es una pequeña bruja de ficción, pero sinceramente, la adoro. En su primera aventura, Tiffany Dolorido es una joven bruja, y al ser una niña, encuentra varios personajes adultos que la tratan con condescendencia. Como aquí:

"-Zoología, ¿eh? Es una palabra muy grande, ¿no?"

–Pues no, la verdad es que no. Condescendiente sí es una palabra grande. Zoología es bastante corta, en realidad. El profesor entrecerró los ojos; los niños como Tiffany sólo daban problemas". (Los pequeños hombres libres)

Da igual a quién te dirijas o su edad. No importa si son niños o adolescentes (aunque en el capítulo dedicado a los padres también te gastas una condescendencia de aúpa). Ni los niños ni los adolescentes son tontos ni necesitan tu paternalismo y condescendencia. No recomiendo este libro para iniciarse en Wicca, y no porque la información sea mala o incorrecta. Para nada, sino porque dudo que podáis leer más de dos páginas sin

querer dar cabezazos contra la pared.

Ay, si la Tiffany te viera...

Aiyokysama says

There are soooo many reason this one is on my Bad Book list.

1) It's not Wicca. Silver herself is no Wiccan so the idea that she can write about Wicca (which is an othropraxic religion that requires initiation to experience/know the Mysteries) is laughable.

2) Advising kids the lie to their parents. No. Just no. If a kid is in a situation where studying paganism would get them into trouble--kicked out of the house or worse--then put DOWN the books, put away your athame and work on your grades at school. Get a job. Then, when you have moved out of your parents house and are paying your own way, the gods will still be there and you can study/practice to your little heart's content.

3) The spells. Thankfully she doesn't go into how to POWER the spells she hands out in her book. So if people try it, it's likely to fizzle. But the kind of spells she hands out... Calling on frost giants? Are you serious?! This is a prime example of why cherry picking aspects of cultures you know nothing about is a BAD IDEA. The jotan (giants) don't like humans. If called they would cheerfully squish you. And she's telling emotionally distraught teens that frost giants are their "friends" and will help them! Give me a break!

There is more (so much more) that could be said about this book and why it should be avoided, but those three are the biggest issues in my mind.

If you read this book, do so with a HUGE grain of salt and a bottle of aspirin on hand.

Connor says

This book, like almost all Llewellyn Press books, is total crap. It's a dumbed down version of a religion that Allister Crowley thought up over the course of a very drunk weekend.

If you want to read something about real pagan religions, take an anthropology course.

If you want to be a magician, turn towards Peter Caroll and Robert Anton Wilson.

If you want to piss off your parents, start getting good grades.
