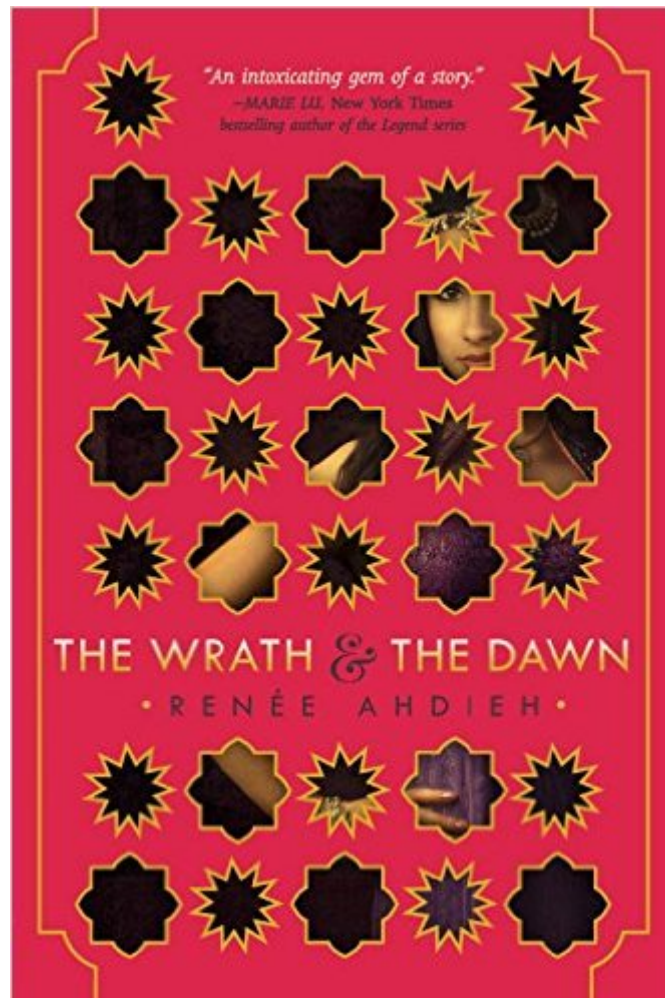


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The Wrath And The Dawn



Synopsis

#1 New York Times Bestseller A sumptuous and epically told love story inspired by A Thousand and One Nights Every dawn brings horror to a different family in a land ruled by a killer. Khalid, the eighteen-year-old Caliph of Khorasan, takes a new bride each night only to have her executed at sunrise. So it is a suspicious surprise when sixteen-year-old Shahrzad volunteers to marry Khalid. But she does so with a clever plan to stay alive and exact revenge on the Caliph for the murder of her best friend and countless other girls. Shaziâ€™s wit and will, indeed, get her through to the dawn that no others have seen, but with a catch . . . sheâ€™s falling in love with the very boy who killed her dearest friend. She discovers that the murderous boy-king is not all that he seems and neither are the deaths of so many girls. Shazi is determined to uncover the reason for the murders and to break the cycle once and for all.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: HL690L (What's this?)

Series: The Wrath and the Dawn

Hardcover: 416 pages

Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers (May 12, 2015)

Language: English

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ISBN-13: 978-0399171611

Product Dimensions: 5.8 x 1.1 x 8.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (461 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #10,270 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in Â Books > Children's Books >

Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Ancient Civilizations #4 in Â Books > Teens > Historical

Fiction > Ancient #15 in Â Books > Teens > Romance > Historical

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Note to the universe in general: Donâ€™t hate me for not liking this book. Please. I beg you all. Letâ€™s get one thing clear: I didnâ€™t hate this book. I didnâ€™t love it, but I didnâ€™t particularly hate it either. If weâ€™re talking specifics, lets just say that from the 30% mark to the 70% mark I merely tolerated this book. It wasnâ€™t bad or awful or unbearable or anything of the

sort, not at all. It was merely cold. The Wrath and The Dawn begins with a nail-biting scene. It's kind of a risky opening, considering that the reader goes into the story virtually blind and the prologue may give away a little too much right in the beginning, but the author made it work. Somehow. And thereafter begins the story of Shahrzad, who volunteers to be Caliph Khalid's bride "Khalid who marries and then kills each of his brides every dawn" in order to avenge the murder of her best friend Shiva at the hands of the boy-king. Little does she know that not everything is as it seems and Khalid is not everything he shows himself to be. Shahrzad (Shazi) was a force to be reckoned with. With her wit and her sheer charm and her give-it-like-it-is attitude, she manages to leave Khalid with no choice but to keep her alive. But her every breath comes with a price a price that the King must pay. I loved that Shazi was strong and level-headed and more interesting to me than Khalid ever could be. But in all honesty, apart from these facts, I really didn't care about her much. She was cold. There comes that word again. But it's true. Shazi (like every other character in the book) lacked emotion. Sure her character was smart and self-dependant but to read her inner monologue was, in a word, agonising.

God I wanted to love this book. Wanted to love, love, love this book. Non-western setting, retelling of a great classic, so much potential for a great main character, for an awesome setting we don't get to see often, for intense and authentic conflict and tension and I was ALL OVER IT. The setting stuff played out for the most part. That was good. However: Prologue: Gave away the big reveal. RIGHT THERE. Explained why the Big Bad was doing Big Bad Things. And it wasn't Just Because, but because of this Other Big Bad Thing. So, right away exonerates the bad guy, you know he's not really a bad guy after all, and that he will make the perfect love interest to be Saved and Redeemed. Not, you know, the one that you believe is really bad all along and that belief will drive the conflict and heighten the emotional stakes and keep you on the edge of your seat as the main character fights both the Big Bad Things he's doing and a growing attraction to him. THANKS A LOT FOR RUINING IT BEFORE CHAPTER ONE! So, chapters start. I can see why, for pacing and tension, there needed to be an early and then frequent changes of POV characters, but it made it hard to get to know or connect with any one character. Though this could have been a good thing since it therefore took longer for me to start to hate them all. Every POV character but the main character felt completely unnecessary and ridiculous.

The Wrath & The Dawn by Renée Ahdieh A reimagining of Scheherazade and the 1,001 nights, except there are way fewer nights and way less substance. One neat thing the kindle does is allow

me to read a sample of a book before I decide to buy it. Usually I forget about this feature and just jump in; this time, however, I read the sample. The book opens with a prologue that is meant to be cryptic and vague. I was annoyed but the writing was pretty so I went on. I was excited to find the first chapter is titled "Meditations on Gossamer and Gold". I was intrigued and ready to meet our protagonist. Shahrzad is a young woman who is off to become the newest wife of the King of Kings, who kills his wives at each sunrise. Shahrzad's best friend was taken from her in this way, and Shahrzad has made a bunch of plans, sending her family away to safety while she goes to kill the Caliph. She seems a patient, intelligent, passionate person and so at the end of the sample I debated. Debated because there were no real meditations on gossamer nor gold. Debated because this book--so, so confusingly and without style--hinted at things and then hid them. I bought the book, and it was one of the most frustrating reads I have ever forced myself through. Shahrzad conveys herself to the reader as someone who has the skills and the intelligence and the planning to pull this off; however, she is baffled by obstacles that she should have long foreseen: "How am I to find any weakness in Khalid Ibn al-Rashid with his spies all around me, watching my every move? She exhaled protractedly. I might have a serious problem. Yes, you might."

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