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Every Witch Way But Wicked (Wicked Witches Of The Midwest Book 2)



Synopsis

Where there's a witch, there's a way! Where there's a whole family of them, there's trouble. Bay Winchester, editor of Hemlock Cove's small weekly newspaper, thinks her small hamlet's upcoming murder mystery weekend is going to be all about fun, food and frolicking. Instead, when another dead body is discovered in Hemlock Cove, things turn into murder, mayhem and migraines (the latter is mostly thanks to her family, of course). The body belongs to the town drunk -- and no one can figure out who would want to kill him, or why. Bay's investigation is stymied by her new boss, Brian Kelly, and her old flirtation, FBI agent Landon Michaels, both of whom seem to have more than interviews on their mind. When you couple that with her cousin Thistle's obsession with making their Great-Aunt Tillie pay for the curse she recently put on them (you don't want to know) and her cousin Clove's conviction that she is not -- no matter what the rest of the family says -- a blabbermouth, Bay has her hands full. When the murder investigation takes a turn, though, a long-held Hemlock Cove secret is bound to be exposed. If it is, Bay may find herself in trouble -- again -- and this is the kind of trouble that she may not be able to find a way out of -- even with Aunt Tillie's help. Note: These books are full of sarcasm and are a little bit snarky -- so read only if you like to laugh and you aren't easily offended. This is the second book in the Wicked Witches of the Midwest mystery series.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I finished up Amanda Lee's first book in the Witches of the Midwest series and was entertained enough to pick up the second one (wouldn't have bought it, to be clear... it was free on Kindle Unlimited, so why not?). I'm about a third of the way through this second in the series, and I gotta say, I'm giving up. Why, oh why, do women modern/urban fantasy writers think that they can attract women readers by throwing in chapter after chapter about the characters' juvenile obsessions with men like their still in high school? I've read worse examples than Amanda Lee's writing, but the thing about this series is there's absolutely no likable characters in her books. What's worse, every single woman in the Winchester family is EXACTLY THE SAME PERSON. You could pretty much take dialogue from any of the mothers, put it in the mouths of any of the daughters, and it wouldn't be out of character. Likewise, the only character with a modicum of uniqueness, the crotchety Aunt Tillie, only stands out because she says slightly nastier things.... and nothing else. Not a damn nice thing to say to anyone, so rather than being mostly bland and unlikeable like her nieces and grand-nieces she's just entirely unlikeable. Let me give you a picture of what more than half the book is like: Female character one: "You think he's hot." Female character two: "No I don't," blushing. Female character one: "Yes, you do." Female character two: "No, I don't." Female character one: "Well, I invited him to dinner at our moms' house." Female character two: "You didn't! I hate you! You're dead to me." Female character one: "What are you going to wear to dinner?" Female character two: "I don't know. Let's go through my closet." Female character one: "Your date is going to be eaten alive by Aunt Tillie." Female character two: "It's not a date! Why did you ask him?! I hate Aunt Tillie! I hate you! What-EVER!!" Female character one: "Well, I'll make sure he knows some embarrassing thing about your childhood." Female character two: "Well, that hot guy YOU like? I'm going to tell him something about YOU!" Female character one: "Hey look, a dead body." Female character two: "Good thing I can speak to ghosts, but first I have to go to dinner and spend about four chapters thinking about that hot guy coming to dinner before I, ya know, actually speak to the ghost of the dead guy and solve the mystery. Wow... he really is soooo hoooot." Female character one: "Let's order lunch." Female character two: "Middle Eastern. I've called in the order, it will be here in 20 minutes." Female character one: "I wonder who killed the dead guy." Female character one: "Oh wow. It turns out to be the most obvious person we've met recently." ~~FIN~~ I've just saved you having to read through past the first book. You're welcome. The whole thing is kind of

insulting to women as while these books WANT to create "strong female characters," but they manage the exact opposite. Every single "witch of the Midwest" is the same hot-guy and clothing obsessed stereotype completely interchangeable with one another. Also, other reviewers have cited that there's a lot of grammatical and logistical errors. I can assure you that's true. Amanda Lee doesn't know the difference between "I" and "me," and uses them incorrectly throughout the first and second books. I'm not as critical for her sake but for her editor's sake. Editors should at least catch the most basic grammar mistakes.

I was not aware that Ms. Amanda Lee had written so many books and created several different series. I had an opportunity to download "Every Witch Way but Wicked" for free in a book promo and the book description pulled me in. A town in Michigan filled with witches? Murder? Dancing naked in the forest every full moon? What was not to like? I tried it and thoroughly enjoyed it! Some reviewers stated that the banter between sisters, cousins and others in the household was annoying and took away from the story. Personally, I enjoyed it. Put any two adult women together in a household and discussions like in the story are common - especially if both are strong willed. Now add several of these relatives living together in a small town and you got yourself a handful. Several times, I found myself laughing out loud at some of the comments and snarky remarks which helped to change the mood in the story. The small town depends upon the tourist trade to make their living; the name of the town and premise that witchcraft is openly practiced bring in the crowds year around. This summer's murder mystery is interrupted by a real murder - somebody killed the town drunk. Soliciting the help of ghosts and spells, the three twenty-something-year-old cousins set out to solve this mystery. Of course, there's a love interest for two of the girls. I get a kick out of grand-aunt Thellie and compare her to Grandma Mazur in the Stephanie Plum series. Both are extremely funny! The murder is finally uncovered

I am so glad I decided to give the book a chance. I loved it! It has been awhile since I enjoyed the characters in a book so thoroughly. I fell in love with Aunt Tilley. She reminded me of two of the women in my own family. Although mystery and suspense is woven throughout the book, the humor is the part I fell in love with. I laughed so hard at one point I upset the family dog and she felt compelled to come check up on me. Don't start reading late at night or you will be up all night! I could not put it down. Since I am not ready to say goodbye to all the characters, I am now starting on her next book in the series. Enjoy!

Witches abound in this, #2 of the Wicked Witches of the Midwest series. Well, maybe abound isn't the right word...and maybe witches isn't the right term, either. The Winchester women in Hemlock Cove are witches throughout the generations, but they try to hide it from the townsfolk...their ruse kind of works, as the town has re-branded itself as a kind of northwest version of Salem, Ma, with a witchy theme and occult stores to attract the tourists...so maybe they're just playing a role? Maybe not. Honestly, I don't think they're fooling anyone, but they're harmless (even great Aunt Tillie for the most part). In this entry, Bay Winchester takes the lead again, dragging her cousins along for the ride. For such a small town, there's quite a bit of murder. Plus, the cousins stumble on a skeleton in a cave that may or may not be another murder from years ago...however will they solve it? Only one way to find out... FBI agent Landon Michaels returns to Hemlock Cove and Brian Kelly shows up as Bay's new boss. William made Brian's keeping Bay on as editor a condition of his inheritance of the paper, so her job's safe, but will she still want it after having Brian as a boss? Lee's humor and writing style work for me, but they might not be everyone's cup of tea. I like the idea that the cousins don't totally buy into their witchy selves, unlike some books of the same genre. I think that brush with dichotomy gives meat to their relationship with their moms/aunts and actually enhances the family relationships Lee is trying to develop here.

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