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Magic Bitter, Magic Sweet



Synopsis

Maire is a baker with an extraordinary gift: she can infuse her treats with emotions and abilities, which are then passed on to those who eat them. She doesn't know why she can do this and remembers nothing of who she is or where she came from. When marauders raid her town, Maire is captured and sold to the eccentric Allemas, who enslaves her and demands that she produce sinister confections, including a witch's gingerbread cottage, a living cookie boy, and size-altering cakes. During her captivity, Maire is visited by Fyel, a ghostly being who is reluctant to reveal his connection to her. The more often they meet, the more her memories return, and she begins to piece together who and what she really is - as well as past mistakes that yield cosmic consequences. From the author of The Paper Magician series comes a haunting and otherworldly tale of folly and consequence, forgiveness and redemption.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I will freely admit that the reason I originally wanted to read this book was the cover. I mean, look at it, it is GORGEOUS. And then while I was busy ogling the cover, I noticed at the very bottom that it was written by the author of The Paper Magician (a book I've never read, but heard tremendous things about). I do own the book, its just never made it to the top of my TBR list. After reading Magic Bitter, Magic Sweet " The Paper Magician (along with every other book written by Charlie N. Holmberg) has skyrocketed to the top of my To-Be-Read list. The premise of the book sounds magical enough. Maire is a baker that is able to infuse emotions and abilities into her baked goods.

The resulting delight passes the emotion/ability on to the lucky patron that indulges in it. The only problem? She doesn't know how she does this | Or even who she is. The writing is magical from the start. "It's when I stand that I see him ahead of me, hovering in the grove of trees. Their leaves filter the sunlight into wide beams, but the bands of light pass right through him, as though he were nothing more than a shadow. That strange sensation returns, quickening my heart, prickling my fingers. Blinking to ensure I do see him, I step forward, careful to avoid the roach's path. He has a man's shape, yes, but strange wings stem from above either elbow. Narrower than a bird's, they seem to be shaped from sunlit water rather than feathers. He hovers a few feet above the ground, yet the wings don't flap, nor do they look large enough to support him." The entire book is written like that. With quiet language that forms powerful images.

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