



## The Blood Curse

*Emily Gee*

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## **The Blood Curse** Emily Gee

*Those who drink the water shall thirst for blood. They shall be as wild beasts.*

A blood curse is ravaging the Seven Kingdoms. Fugitive Osgaardan prince, Harkeld, is the one person who can destroy it. Guarded by Sentinel mages, pursued by Fithian assassins, he begins the final—and most dangerous—stage of his quest: entering the cursed kingdom of Sault, where drinking even one drop of water means madness and death.

But the mages aren't the only travellers heading east. Princess Brigitta, abducted by Fithian assassins, is also bound for Sault—unless she can escape. And in close pursuit is her loyal armsman, Karel.

Young orphan, Jaumé, is also headed for Sault—where he will be forced to make decisions that will change the fate of the Seven Kingdoms forever.

## **The Blood Curse Details**

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Author : Emily Gee

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## From Reader Review The Blood Curse for online ebook

### Gavin Gates says

OK, so let me start by throwing this in the honesty box, I've got a bit of a sentimental attachment to Emily Gee and this excellent series. A while back, after being a 10+ year reader of Mass Movement I got the opportunity to start reviewing books for them, they were short somebody who loved to lose hours at a time to monsters, myths, swords and sorcery and I just so happened to fit the bill, well, at least on the side of interest, if not writing skills.

When Tim Mass Movement handed me my first pile of novels to read and write up the top one of the pile happened to be 'The Sentinel Mage (The Cursed Kingdoms Trilogy Book 1) by Emily Gee' the reality of what I had agreed to set in but was very quickly followed by the relief of being immediately drawn in to an excellent novel.

I did not get the follow up through any time but loved the first so much that I bought a copy to keep up to date with the unfolding tale anyway, again, the second novel in the trilogy 'The Fire Prince' was killer. Packed full of interesting developments, both in character growth, and in events taking place in the kingdom. Right, now onto the novel at hand, this picks up dead on where the predecessor leaves you with a lot going on, I love it when that happens. Gee does not let up and straight from the first word in I was gripped, the three groups of interest all split still and with their missions building in intrigue and importance equally, you really do need to read what came before this, if you don't, you will not only have no idea of what is at hand, but also be missing out on something any fantasy fan will enjoy. Gee does not disappoint at all in this one, there is no fat to trim from the tale and there is no attempt to do so, bare bones, rock solid fantasy at it's best. Well crafted characters in a well built setting living through a very well thought out and executed plot line. As a final novel in a trilogy 'The Blood Curse' ties up all loose ends and serves it's purpose to the full potential I was hoping for. Emily Gee, take a bow, your work here is done.

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### Haley says

I really enjoy Emily Gee and I was so happy to find this book in my local bookstore the other day! I enjoyed The Blood Curse, but found that it was slightly to long for my taste. I just wanted to know what happened, alright. Everybody basically dies in horrifying ways as well, and I didn't super enjoy that but it was a good story, and I love my happy ending.

I thought that it took Harkeld way to long to change his perspective on the mages. I greatly enjoyed Britta and Karl, and Innis was lovely. Of course. Going to have to read them all over again!

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### Maria Itliong says

Great finale for The Cursed Kingdoms Trilogy and it was well written. Great ending for the main characters, especially for Prince Harkeld and Innis as well as Princess Britta and Karel and young Jaume...

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### Cate Ellink says

Absolutely adored this book and the trilogy. Fantastic characters, ripping story, never shied away from

telling a tale that rang of truth. Loved it.

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## Rhyson says

Guess what, everybody? If you drink lots of opiates, getting raped won't bother you! At all! In fact, not only will it not turn you into a drug addict, getting raped while high on drugs will give you confidence! This message is brought to you by the same author who thinks getting beaten while trapped in slavery has no emotional effects and those who abuse opiates can simply stop doing drugs whenever they want without major therapy and support.

Appalling.

The rest of my review before the woman-hating author angered me with her cheap, meaningless ending: I did run into a new problem. The author uses a lot of characters. A lot. Dozens. And she names all of them. And now she's running out of names. I counted eleven names used elsewhere. I wouldn't call it plagiarism. There's a wide variety of sources and it's just one per source. But it ruins the spell the author is supposed to cast on readers. Running the names through Google would have been a good idea. I can't believe the editors didn't catch at least some of this, though.

The names:

Groot - To be fair, this book was published in 2015, and the movie came out in 2016, but the reminder of Guardians of the Galaxy is unfortunate.

Linus - A character from the Charlie Brown comics.

Dag - A main character from Lois McMaster Bujold's The Sharing Knife series.

Cora - A modern day name, which is jarring.

Rosa - A modern day, Spanish name.

Justen - One letter away from Justin, a modern day name. Now that there's so many other names from other sources, I couldn't help but notice this one, too.

Cree - A name of a North American Native tribe.

Rand - One of Robert Jordan's main characters from the Wheel of Time series. And the author, Ayn Rand.

Tomas - A main character, who was also a prince, from Raymond E. Feist's series.

Vermeulen - A Dutch surname.

Gretel - A fairy tale character from the story of Hansel and Gretel.

Krey - This one is hilarious. You see, this character is described having ice-blue eyes with an edge of madness to them. "You're kray-kray," is a way of saying, "You're crazy," among some people. Unfortunate coincidence.

Otherwise, things that bothered me included the absolute waste of characters and buildup. The author introduces characters, sets them up as dangerous and tough, only to have them slaughtered. "Oh. That's all?" could be written on their gravestones. The Fithian Assassins are still unrealistically super human. That ruins any tension. But for being superhumans that can kill entire armies, they sure have trouble keeping a handle on one, dinky, little woman.

The author also uses a lot of descriptions which aren't really descriptions. Cheap shortcuts that shunt the work of imagination onto the reader. "Her feet were braced to run." All right, so that looks like what? "His eyes were full of intelligence." What colour is intelligence? And did you know that a person can carry their sword with ease just by standing still in one spot? And silences can be filled with hostility and fear? It's not an egregious problem, but it stood out to me because I wasn't hooked into the story.

I see that the author comes from New Zealand. But I also see that she has lived in Sweden. So perhaps she is

acquainted with how snow works, perhaps she is not. Either way, "Snow drifts" is something she might want to look up. She may have inadvertently doomed all her main characters.

<https://tse4.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP.Bj...> <https://tse3.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP.QP...>

<http://www.saugeentimes.com/483%20Liz...>

And if Karel gets described one more time as having "Hawk-like features" one more time, I'm gonna.....

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### **Grace Zhao says**

[Do you really want me to believe that Karel was able to escape the curse even though they were calf deep in water when taking in consideration that he has a wound on his thigh as well as other plac

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### **Tina says**

A race to break a curse to save kingdoms, and along the way, an animosity between peoples for their differences, a tale of strength, kindness, and love. For all the killing, plotting, and saving of kingdoms, the story has a sweet ending. A wonderful story!

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### **Karen Cowgill says**

I wish I could give more than 5 stars!!! This book was FANTASTIC!! It is the third book in a trilogy, The Sentinel Mage was book 1, The Fire Prince was book 2, and The Blood Curse was the end. If you like fantasy, sorcery, and derring do...this is the one for YOU!!

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### **Robin (Bridge Four) says**

The Cursed Kingdoms is what I like to call Travelocity. In this series the characters are always on a quest and moving camping and going to a destination. This is the third book in this series so I should be used to it. But where only one or two story lines were traveling before now EVERYONE is traveling and it is hinted that by the end all PoVs will meet up.

This added a nice bit of tension as I wondered 'when will everything collide?'. But at the same time travelling FOR ME in books can get tedious and dull. There is all the camping and packing and walking and scouting....It isn't really my favorite sort of fantasy.

Princess Britta, she and I get along well. She was mostly a pretty face but she has become so much more since The Sentinel Mage. Now I know this series is supposed to be more about Harkeld and his journey but Britta's story line is the one that I liked the best. She has been kidnapped by Fithian assassins and they have a plan to use her against her brother so the curse will not be cured. Karel her loyal armsman and maybe more \*wink, wink\* is hot of their trail.

I couldn't wait for Karel to finally find Britta but at the same time I was glad she wasn't just sitting around waiting to be rescued. Still when they do meet up I had to bite my fingernails because it was pretty intense.

Still these two had some great moments and I enjoy the VERY slow romance that is building between them.

Harkeld and the Mages honestly didn't have as many scenes in this book as I think they had in the others. Harkeld has not been my favorite character in the series due to his prejudice and anger towards the mages who are helping him. Even in the beginning of the Blood Curse I struggle with him but FINALLY we get some character growth here and by the end I did really care about whether or not he would have to give his life to break the curse.

Where Innis was a main PoV in prior books she doesn't get a lot of page time but at least by the end it is finally resolved as to what she and Harkeld will be to each other in the future. The only problem with the mages story arc is that it was a bit predictable and honestly I was so used to people dying that it lost any shock value. That curse is mean and it took its toll on their party but I was like... 'oh look someone else just died'. I didn't care about them enough to really 'care' that it was happening most of the time. Just a bunch of fodder.

**Jaume was actually the most interesting story line to me.** He didn't get a lot of page time in the prior books but he plays a major role in this one. Practically adopted by a Fithian he ends up right in the middle of this mess and he is actually one of the characters I grew the most attached to over the course of the series. An orphan who doesn't want to see Harkeld killed or the princess used against him. He has a major role to play and I felt his anguish over what he should do. Trust the man who has become like a father to him OR help Harkeld and Britta when the time comes.

I do have a slight complaint. This ends a bit abruptly for the end of a series. I would have loved an epilogue a few years later after everyone has settled. I really didn't know it was the ending when I came to it I thought there were a few chapters left still.

Overall this is a good series if you don't mind traveling. Some of the plots were a bit predictable but overall it is a grand and epic journey to save the world.

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## **Kenzi says**

So that sucked. I'm sorry Green but I just didn't like it. Honestly this whole trilogy was if-y. I didn't like how the book just ended. I mean, the author could have done so much more with these books. Now, this is just my personal opinion but I didn't like how she just tied up all the loose ends and stopped writing. She could have gone so much more in depth with these books and didn't. She could have even added more books to the series, and you know what, I would have read them because I've already gotten myself this far in the series. Why not ready another book or two about what happens when Putrus, Innis, and Harkeld get back to the Allied Kingdoms. I'm not even going to mark that as a spoiler because we all know it happens. This book is so predictable.

On a positive note Green was able to do something many writers have failed to do. She create characters that you don't instantly love. Innis was too shy for my liking. Petrus became friends with Harkeld even though he's in love with Innis. And Harkeld, well, he changes. But there is still a part of you that's afraid he'll turn around and become that arrogant "whoreson" was in the beginning of the series.

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## **Aeron Trahaearn says**

harakeld is BAE!! okay so i would have liked to hear his proposal to innis but np...its alright, I also would have liked to know what happens with osegeard but hey "the world is not a wish granting factory!" loved this book especially the jokes I mean ...*Where is the whore with the sore tooth....*" I died laughing!!

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### **Anne Monteith says**

This is a well-written story filled with interesting characters, magic and the world building is well-executed. Those who enjoy epic fantasy will like this and with the final novel to be released on June 24th it is the perfect time to start the series if you haven't already so that you can read them back to back. This is the final book in this series and it tied the loose end up nicely. Overall I enjoyed the entire series though I did have some issues with it; I read many different genres, including YA but I like to know when I buy the book what audience it is aimed toward. The first book seemed to be for adults., the second books writing and content seemed more like YA (14& up) and this final book continued that trend. The reason I was a little disappointed is I expected the series to be in the same manner as the first.

I enjoyed the way the author did the POV's, following the prince and the shape-shifters story, the alteration between Britta and Karel and Jaume's POV telling the Fithian's POV. I found all the characters to be well-drawn and the world-building and magic system was well done. I thought that the Prince was a selfish brat for way too long; hating that he had magical blood because the Sentinels had engineered it to happen so that the curse could be broken. If he found it so distasteful he could have killed himself and the Sentinels could have retrieved the items needed to break the curse. I found there tolerance for the most part to be unbelievable; people cannot help disliking someone who repeatedly treats them like crap just because they are mages. He sees way too late that they left a comfortable safe life, left their family and friends so that they could save his world, not theirs. The way that he is written makes it difficult for this reader to care if he survives or not. His life is not necessary to destroy the last stone.

Overall, this is an entertaining series that readers of fantasy over 14 should enjoy. The books flow well and I found them to be a relatively quick read.

\*\*3.75/5 STARS: Receiving a digital ARC from the publisher via NetGalley did not influence my rating or review of this book; all opinions are mine. I wish to thank the author and/or publisher for allowing me to review this novel.\*\*

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### **Amelia says**

I thoroughly enjoyed this series and the last book did not disappoint. It was very well written; each chapter gave just enough detail to keep you up to date with each different characters struggles, maintaining interest throughout the book so I could never put it down. I really liked how Britta's character developed through the story; becoming a true heroine with determination and resolve.

There were a lot of characters killed in this book, with very little time to process each massacre; drawing comparisons with the Game of Thrones.

A perfect ending, bringing all the characters paths together to the final conclusion. Fantastic writing, but I would expect nothing less from Emily Gee.

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## **Fifi Shepherd says**

This book redeemed anything that irritated me about the first two books.  
Harkeld?! Turned out I actually liked him in this book!

Such a truly satisfying end to the series with all the loose ends tied up.  
Dare I say I kind of want to know how Karel, Britta and Jaumé end up? I want to know what happens to the kingdom! Then again, the best stories are those we don't know all the details, I think.

Very happy I picked this one up :)

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## **Blodeuedd Finland says**

This is old school fantasy, it's light and they are on a journey.

First we have Harkeld and the witches. Sometimes I just wanted to hit him. The witches are good! They are trying to help! Do not be an ass about it. It's the whole, oh you lied to me, Innis is not a man! Get over it Harky boy. But then again I can understand his anger, I'd be totally embarrassed too.  
Also, the witches have been dying like flies so far, they do not seem that powerful.

Another POV is Britta who has been taken by assassins. She had courage. She truly has grown.

And then there is the little POV of Jaume and Brennick. They are hunting Hark.

This world is so messed up. There is a curse who turns people into sorts of zombies who kill and kill. It's really bad and the whole continent is going under. They are also bigots who hate witches, and that had me so mad DO not kill those who are helping. But then everyone always has to hate someone.

It was light, it was a fast read and then in was over. I do like a good trilogy

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