



Awakening Beauty

Bonnie Dee

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To fight this evil, they'll have to make love. Lots of love.

AWAKENING BEAUTY Book 3 in The Fairytale Fantasies Series by Marie Treanor and Bonnie Dee.

Joel Thorne feels as if he's been sleepwalking through his life. Wealth and success are his; now he's at a crossroads. Politics beckons, a move that would be made easier with a loveless marriage of convenience to his ambitious friend and ally, Vee Gabor. During a long mountain hike to clear his head, he discovers a castle overgrown with thorns and, inside, a beautiful sleeping woman.

When Princess Aurora opens her eyes, Joel's handsome face is imprinted on her heart - then she's swamped with grief and loss. An evil fairy tried to take her pure blood to gain power, and though her other godmothers fended off the worst of the curse, she's been asleep for a thousand years. Worse, she's been erased from history and from the memories of all she loved. True love brought her back, but to what future?

Despite their instant, strong attraction, Joel's practical nature wars with the possibility that magic is real. Yet with every touch, every kiss, the heat and emotion grow more real than anything he's ever known. Their union also reawakens something else. Something darker. An evil fairy's centuries-old vendetta that just won't die.

Warning: Contains explicit, edge-of-your-dreams sex, a newly minted hero in training, and a fairy princess who kicks butt for the man she loves. No fairy dust was spared in the making of this book.

Learn more at www.MarieTreanor.com

Awakening Beauty Details

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??Trea says

Prior to reading this book, I read the first two books in the series: Cinderella Unmasked and Demon Lover. This book is a follow up to Demon Lover, which I was not expecting and didn't realize until I finished the book. It can be read as a stand alone book, but having read Demon Lover prior to this made the ending a bit more enjoyable for me. However, that did not redeem this book for me. I found it to drag quite a bit, something that the first two novels did not do for me. Aurora was too whiny of a heroine for me as well, constantly bemoaning her state of affairs and not getting enough backbone to do anything about it until much later in the story. The love scenes were indeed steamy and sensual, but also much too calculated by Aurora for my tastes. All in all, I would keep this and re-read it only as part of the series if I was reading subsequent books in the series, but generally ignore it as a standalone read. This was a disappointing read for me. Let's hope Sex and the Single Princess is a better read than this one!

Maura says

So this one actually builds off of the previous story in the series a bit. Aurora is sleeping beauty, a princess who was cursed as a baby and on her 19th birthday (gotta be legal here) she is put into a 1000 year sleep. Joel is hiking in the woods when he comes upon Aurora's castle and is drawn to where she sleeps. He doesn't kiss her, but he pokes her awake. He doesn't really believe her story about being a sleeping princess at first, but he does what he can to get her out of the castle and get some help. Then when he realizes she's got nowhere to go and no one to take care of her, he takes her home with him. Of course, there's the added benefit of exploring their attraction.

Joel and Aurora are an okay pairing. Joel, for all the detail we get about him, doesn't really feel like a character with any depth though. I just felt like I never actually got to know him. But on the surface, he's an okay guy, except for not being upfront about temporary natures of relationships and all that - especially with innocent Aurora. Aurora was a disturbing combination of child-like innocence and sexual insatiability. Not my favorite heroine type. They have some great sex together - I'll give this story credit for some pretty hot scenes. But when it comes to their relationship, things felt a bit off. First of all is that Joel believes Aurora to be a certified nutcase at first. Then, as time progresses, he believes she's sane, but simultaneously believes that she's all new to this modern world and that magic did not put her in a 1000 year sleep. But then I guess he does believe she slept for 1000 years, but still doesn't believe in magic. But his explanation for that is never given. Then, after all this magic and being hit with a magic lightning bolt and watching bright white rays emit from him and Aurora while they're kissing or watching the villain manipulate Aurora's body, it's not until the very end of the confrontation when he sees the villain shift into a raven that he becomes overwhelmed by the possibility of magic. This is the same sort of progression for Joel realizing he loves Aurora too...lots of denial and then sudden acceptance with no real reason why. I was interested while reading, but found myself with a lot of questions and disbelieving comments...it's somewhat distracting when I'm trying to stay into the story.

I got a bit confused or maybe it was the author who seemed to forget that Ragnarok was not a blood relation to his adopted daughter, Brea. So, Joel should not have any inherited power from Ragnarok...unless he did some magic to give power to Brea, but then that's something the author might mention, but didn't. So, that was a bit confusing why the villain wanted Joel who supposedly had some unspecified power (but the story canon says he wouldn't). And Aurora's power was never explained. Why is this evil woman after Aurora? Because she has power in her blood, but what power? I need to know why it was so important! There were a

few of these half-thought out things in here that could have been better presented or at least more fleshed out to make it all make more sense. Also, I know this is just nitpicky of me, but a woman from the medieval times does not manage to shave her legs with a modern day razor without cutting herself and she certainly doesn't decide to trim the pubes with it.

Vienna Marie says

3.5 stars
