

Oceanborn

Amalie Howard

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The coronation is over.

But the battle has just begun.

Nerissa Marin has won her crown. But can she keep it? Already, her ties to the human realm are driving a wedge between Nerissa and her people. When word arrives that her part-human prince consort, Lo, has been poisoned, she makes the difficult choice to leave Waterfell and return landside. As the royal courts debate her decision, even more disturbing rumors surface: a plot is rising against her, led by someone she least expects.

On land, Nerissa learns another shocking truth: ?Lo does not remember who she is. As her choice to try to save him threatens her hold on her crown, changing loyalties and uncertainty test her courage in ways she could never have imagined. Nerissa will have one last chance to prove herself as a queen ...and save the undersea kingdom she loves.

Oceanborn Details

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Author : Amalie Howard

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From Reader Review Oceanborn for online ebook

Soma Rostam "IOB" says

I read the first book in this series a long while ago and it was definitely something unique that I have never seen before,, although I was familiar with the author even before she started this series. So I was anxiously waiting for the second book in this series.

Nerissa has finally descended into her rightful throne but there is still so much more danger in store of her. Especially after she leaves her love, Leo on land to go into the water. I really can't say anything more because I will ruin it for anyone else who has not read this series yet.

As always, the thing that interests me the most about this series is the plot. It's such a refreshing one. I love reading about aliens, and this was the first book I read about them, but definitely not the last. Aside from that, there is not much going on and this was the same problem I had with the first book. It was going a bit too slow at times and I got bored.

The romance is also another subplot of this story but it was almost non-existent. I wanted more development in the romance but nothing happened. It almost felt like the first book was repeating itself considering the romance subplot. There is also the development of some of the minor characters that we didn't see much of in the first book. That was definitely a plus. Specially getting to know more about Speio and what kind of person he is.

There was a little twist going on throughout the book and although I figured it out much sooner, it was still the most interesting thing about this book. And the end was so exhilarating! I LOVED it. I cannot wait for book three!

Farrah says

A brilliant sequel that managed to top the first, Oceanborn was a fantastic YA read. The stakes were upped, the characters grew, the romance deepened, and the ending left me wanting more. I absolutely LOVED this book!

Nerissa was my least favorite part of book 1. I had found her to be selfish, more concerned with running away from her problems than being a good leader to her people. But, in this book, she proved what a strong queen she could be. She was determined to do what was best for her people, whether Aquarathi, hybrid, or human. She really became an admirable character and I ended up really liking her.

Lo was as amazing as ever. Even with memory loss, he was sweet and utterly adorable. He stood by Nerissa, no matter what, even if it meant facing the suspicion of the Aquarathi. He was wonderful and I loved him even more in this book.

The romance was lovely. I thought it was so sweet that, despite Lo's memory loss, they still had a bond that transcended memory. Nerissa and Lo were steadfastly loyal to each other, determined to stand by each other, no matter the situation. I thought they were a perfect couple.

The plot was fast paced and I was hooked the entire way through. There were a few twists along the way, along with some thrills as Nerissa dealt with the danger facing her people. I loved the story and the ending was a cliffhanger that has me itching to get my hands on book 3. Can't wait to read it!

Oceanborn was a fantastic YA paranormal romance. I absolutely loved this book. It had everything that made book 1 so good and did it better. Fans of book 1, you will love this one. And, YA lovers, this is a series

romance and I enjoyed seeing it continue, and Jenna taking her BFF duties seriously. Cara. Well. Her character development was intriguing. That is all.

In short, all the characters, including secondary characters, continue to be written with depth and multiple dimensions, and they continue to develop in to even more awesome and loveable characters!

The narrative was just as engaging as it was in Waterfell. The writing continued to be absolutely beautiful, and continued to weave a fantastically unique story and astounding world. The descriptions and world building continues to be as vivid as it is in Waterfell, everything can so easily be pictured, and has been effortlessly created with lots of detail, without clogging up the narrative with pages of description. You really do feel like you're there sometimes!

Much like with Waterfell, I was hooked from the first page and I couldn't book the book down until I was done. Like, I was walking around the house and going up and downstairs with my eyes glued to the Kindle, and I had a near miss with a door! It's so fast paced with a fantastic flow, you pretty much zip through it unless, unlike me, you can exercise some self control and force yourself to read slower!

Waterfell for me had plenty of twists and turns but I guessed the huge reveal, this time..not so much. There's so many twists and turns and I never saw any of them coming, I never guessed where the book was going nor was I expecting it and I really enjoyed how Amalie kept you guessing and kept the mystery this time round!

Aaannndd Amalie...that cliffhanger...WHY DO YOU HAVE TO DO THIS TO ME?! I can't even. You're gonna be left wanting more and with an agonized wait for the next book!

Oceanborn is the sequel fans where all hoping for, it surpasses Waterfell fantastically.

Oceanborn continues a fantastic series that really stands out from the crowd, that continues to be unique, continues to make you laugh and continues to give you one of the best written romances I've come across lately! Not to mention the totally unique premise and mythology that I loved so much about Waterfell! Fast paced and full of plot twists and with a nice little cliffhanger to make you scream, Oceanborn is going to leave you with the mother of all book hangovers! You have been warned!

Colleen Houck says

Loved the big fight scene at the end with Cano and the stuff going on with Riss's mom and the others? Wow! My favorite thing about these books is the transformation into the other forms. Especially the partial transformations.

Lynndell says

Oceanborn by Amalie Howard is the second book in the Aquarathi series. This fantasy involves Lo suffering from amnesia that is caused by more than a head injury. Nerissa and company endeavor to find a cure and bring Lo's memory back. I enjoyed the twists and turns and the ending makes me want more added to this series! Thanks to NetGalley and Harlequin Teen for the arc and the chance to read and review this great book!

Aparajitbasu says

Original Link to the review at my blog Le' Grande Codex - here

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It is always a joy to read a sequel and find out that it is even better than its predecessor and Oceanborn does not disappoint. I always make it a point to read Harlequin Teen books and The Aquarathi series definitely makes that cut. Following in the footsteps of Waterfell, Oceanborn boasts of a particularly enticing cover, strong characters, a strong plot consisting of some very unsuspecting surprises.

Oceanborn picks up where Waterfell left off. Nerissa has been reinstated as the Queen of Waterfell but unrest reigns supreme. In a bid to keep Lo safe, she sent him to the human world. But that seemed not to be the case. There is danger everywhere. There are those below and above ground who would go to great lengths to harm Nerissa and her loved ones fall in that category too. And Nerissa must do all she can to brave such dire odds.

Nerissa says that she is an alien ergo, human emotions don't apply to her but out of all of them I found our young Aquarathi Queen to be the most human of them all. She is by no means perfect. There was a time when she was hesitant, afraid, sometimes selfish and sometimes a little stupid. But she is selfless too and willing to sacrifice her happiness to help her friends and family. And seriously queenly duties do not mix well with the desires of the heart and it is interesting how Nerissa tackles it all with some very heart-warming and some fierce moments along the way.

Lo. Well he was a bit more different this time. An attack on his person rendered him amnesiac. He doesn't know his other Aquarathi half at the moment. He doesn't remember Nerissa and his personality does a u-turn. But that electrifying chemistry still holds strong. Amnesia may have affected his brain but his body still remembers Nerissa. The dangerously hot and sexy Lo was too adorably cute as he stood firm with Nerissa against all odds, adamant to recover his memories and recover his missing piece.

Despite all odds, the bond stays true. A bond that transcends all. I really melted at the romantic cuteness between Lo and Nerissa here. They were too cute together. For Speio I felt really bad. He got mixed in the wrong crowd in the first book and here when he had just regained his worth and Nerissa's friendship, he gets thrown another surprising odd bone at the springing more dire circumstances for Nerissa and Lo.

Among the secondary characters Jenna truly stood at the front. We saw a glance of it in Waterfell and it in Waterfell and it is even more apparent in Oceanborn. Of course having experienced Amalie Howard's brand of writing in the first book, I expected surprises where I didn't think possible and in places never thought imaginable and I was not disappointed at all. Howard maintains a constant flow with strong never lagging, never speeding too fast, just maintaining the perfect pace and keeping hooked hitching us with the twists and turns along the way. And I really don't like cliffhangers. Hope we'll get a 3rd book soon.

"An excitable and palpable & passionate sequel that has the power to render us yearning for more"

Jullie Wheaton says

I thought this book was exceptional.

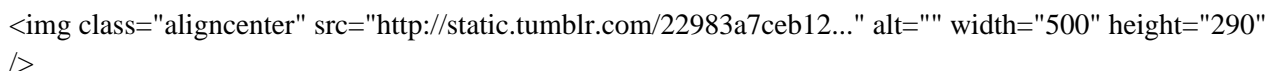
Nancy The book junkie says

Rating: 3.5/5

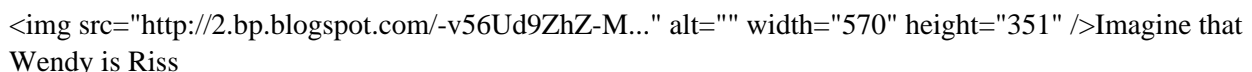
Review coming soon!

Kayla (The Thousand Lives) says

I have to give it to Howard: she really has consistency. My feelings toward book two in the Aquarathi series are *exactly* the same as book one. Part of me wants to be hyper-critical, but the reality is that I actually enjoyed Oceanborn in the end, and I'll be reading book 3 whenever it's released. I've got to warn you: all my thoughts below are probably going to be confusing and unsure, but in the end I did like the book. So remember that, and here we go!

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Let's just get the negative out of the way, shall we? I have three main issues with Oceanborn, and they all have to do with the writing. First of all, the story really drags in some points. The plot will really get going, and I'll finally be hooked, and then we detour onto some random subplot that really has nothing to do with furthering or improving the overall story. RED HERRINGS. EVERYWHERE. My second issue is with the style of writing; Riss, and the other characters, swing from regal alien-beasties residing in court (the stuff I actually liked, with the politics and high stakes and whatnot) to teeny bopper High School Musical drama (can you hear me shuddering?). It was all the high school cliches you could ask for, and the illogicality of it all just had me rolling my eyes. Can we *please* get back to the world saving and throne-presiding? The drama just about killed me in some places. But I digress. My last issue is minor, but still irksome: pop culture references. Everywhere. I'm all for it, if done well. But these were so in-your-face that it completely pulled me out of the story. (view spoiler) So those are my three problems, and they were large enough to make me consider DNFing in the first half.

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Imagine that Wendy is Riss

Buuuuuu... Just like with Waterfell, I couldn't put it down. It's like watching the Real Housewives - I'm rolling my eyes and yelling at it half the time, but I just *can't* stop looking at it. And so I finished it. And actually, despite all my complaining, there really is a good story underneath it all. So much so that I intend on reading book three to find out what happens to Riss and the others. Because I ship Riss and Lo like nobody's business, and I'll flip tables if they don't get an HEA. I really do care about Speio as well, but really (view spoiler)

So yes - very conflicted. This is one of those books that you need lots of patience for, which, thankfully, I had a lot of the day I finished it, since I'd just had a horrible aural migraine and spent the day on the couch feeling hungover, minus the booze. So really I just needed something to keep my mind off the pain at the base of my skull, and Oceanborn did that. This is probably one of those books that will be different for everyone. It depends on your tolerance levels, I guess. Either way, I give it a final rating of three stars. This review was originally posted on The Thousand Lives

Brooke (The Cover Contessa) says

I want to thank Harlequin Teen for sending me a copy of this book to read and give an honest review. Receiving this book for free has in no way influenced or changed my opinion or review.

Blurb from Goodreads:

The coronation is over.

But the battle has just begun.

Nerissa Marin has won her crown. But can she keep it? Already, her ties to the human realm are driving a wedge between Nerissa and her people. When word arrives that her part-human prince consort, Lo, has been poisoned, she makes the difficult choice to leave Waterfell and return landside. As the royal courts debate her decision, even more disturbing rumors surface: a plot is rising against her, led by someone she least expects.

On land, Nerissa learns another shocking truth: Lo does not remember who she is. As her choice to try to save him threatens her hold on her crown, changing loyalties and uncertainty test her courage in ways she could never have imagined. Nerissa will have one last chance to prove herself as a queen ...and save the undersea kingdom she loves.

****SPOILER ALERT**** If you have not read the first book in this series, Waterfell, stop here! There may be spoilers associated with that book. You have been warned!

I have to start this review with letting you know that I'm a huge Amalie Howard fan. So, given a chance to read something she writes, you can bet I jump on it. When Waterfell was being published, I jumped on the opportunity to read and review it. And I was not disappointed in any way! I was expected a typical mermaid story, to be honest. I guess I didn't read the blurb closely, or I might not have read it at all considering I'm just a fan of the author in general. What I got was so much more! Not mermaids, but sea monsters, aliens, creatures that can transform themselves so they look like humans and live among our society almost seamlessly.

This cover is just amazing. It certainly matches the cover of the first book. What I love most about this cover is the colors and the way they pop off the page. And it's very simple in its presentation.

This book picks up where the first book left off. Nerissa is in Waterfell, but there is much unrest there. And she has sent Lo off to live in the human world, thinking that would keep him safe. But no one is safe, anywhere. There is unrest in Waterfell, but there are people on land who want to hurt Nerissa, and they'll do it by hurting those who mean the most to her. Imagine ruling an underwater world from the land. Not an easy feat for the newly crowned ruler of Waterfell who has many against her from the start!

I really love Nerissa. If you read Seamonster, Speio talk a lot about how selfish Nerissa is. But he slowly comes to realize her reasons for why she is this way. And this continues in Oceanborn. I don't find her to be selfish at all, but more selfless. She is willing to sacrifice herself over and over again for those she loves, including Speio, Lo, and her best friend Jenna. I love how she never fears to put herself in harms way to save

people. But her duties as ruler and her duties to those she love often don't mesh.

Lo, well, you'll find Lo to be a bit different in this book. As the blurb points out he's been poisoned, and he can't remember who Narissa is, despite the fact that they've bonded. And of course, with Lo's memory on the Fritz, others are mover than happy to move in and usurp his time. But he and Narissa still have a connection, and Lo's body can't seem to forget that, which gives great hope throughout the book.

Speio, well, I was mad at Speio after Waterfell. I really wanted to just punch him in his head. Then I read this book and he's so much more concerned about Narissa and her safety. He's also back to being a great friend. Narissa has forgiven him for his transgressions. But Speio is still quite naive about things and this turns against him in the long run. As much as he wants to be loyal to Narissa, things don't necessarily always turn out the way they should be.

The secondary characters in this book are just as great as the first. I love Jenna. She's the ultimate best friend. She super supportive and keeps Narissa's secret so well. Cara of course makes an appearance again, and I think you'll be surprised at her character development in this one.

To say that this story takes a turn your not expecting is an understatement. I truly was not expecting where it went. I loved how Howard kept the flow going and the mystery intact. The pacing is amazing and I flew through the book. The descriptions are so visual I can easily picture them in my mind. Especially when Howard describes the water scenes. All a testament to Amalie's amazing writing. Once again, Rissa's voice drew me and in and didn't let me go. As with the first book, I got sucked into this and could not put it down. I read really wanting to know what would happen.

I can say that I can KILL Howard for the small cliffhanger she decided would be the end of this book. And I really need book #3 NOW because how can she expect me to wait to see the conclusion of this series! I'm totally hooked on this world and these characters. I need to see what happens to them and can only hope for a happily ever after for everyone! And, while it's not a mermaid book, I still think fans of such underwater books will completely appreciate this series and need to pick it up!

Debra Elsner says

I loved this boo; it was a brilliant sequel that managed to be better than the first. Oceanborn was a great fantasy YA read. The stakes were upped, the characters grew, the romance deepened, and the ending left me gasping for more.

Natasha says

The second book continues the same style of its predecessor mixing interesting shape shifting leviathan aliens and their politics with cliched high school sitcom problems. Seriously I expected Nerissa a queen and senior who should you know look to the future not on dumb dances and concerts when their are killer hybrids that could expose your kind to a world that would quickly fear and try to hunt you down as your friend while a true keeper of one is not the norm for humanity at large. I liked Nerissa for her convictions even though I got so sick and tired of how she kept going on and on about humans are just so awesome and how her species way of thinking is so dumb. Oh Speio you sad lonely guy I can't fault you being trapped by the rival queen as your state of mind made you an easy target. If there is a third it means another cool

aquarathi court and its politics to learn that I am interested to read and usually third books tend to downplay the safe mundane setting for true showing of the fantastical.

Book Magic says

Good read

This was another good read. Some of the plots were easily figured out, while others were revealed as surprises. I can't wait to read the next one n find out what happens.

Jana at ThatArtsyReaderGirl.com says

OH MY. I WANT THIS SO BAD!!!!

Fallon says

Oceanborn starts off with Nerissa settling into her new role as Queen. She soon feels excruciating pain and knows it is due to her bond with Lo and something is wrong. She has a tough decision, stay in Waterfell or go find out what has happened to Lo. Nerissa heart is pulling her towards Lo and she knows there will be problems in court with her leave. Nerissa soon discovers Lo does not remember her or there bond and she has a limited time to make him remember.

I savored every second of Oceanborn. I will forever want to do cartwheels for Lo. Charming has nothing on him. Him and Nerissa connection is so felt with every heart beat. Jenna is the best friend I will forever wish for. She has balls of steel. Now we have new eye candy and oh yah girls swoon. We now have a tall green eyed dream named Carden. Boy did I love hearing Amalie describe this Aquarathi.

This book had it all I was giddy and laughed so hard at times. There were times I was on the phone reading all about Carden to my co-blogger. Then there were very emotional times. There was some feisty chicks who do not put up with crap and know how to throw down. That I think is one of the things I love most about Amalie's writing is how strong she makes her female characters. Even the supporting female characters are always strong in some way and never weak. This book is a must read and I am giving it 5 out of 5 stars.
