



Bottled

Carol Riggs

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At seventeen, Adeelah Naji is transformed into a genie and imprisoned in a bottle. For a thousand years, she fulfills the wishes of greedy masters—building their palaces, lining their pockets with gold, and granting them every earthly pleasure. All that sustains her is the hope of finding Karim, the boy she fell in love with as a human. When at last she finds a note from her beloved, she confirms he has access to the elixir of life and that he still searches for her.

But someone else also hunts her. Faruq—the man who plots to use her powers to murder and seize the life forces of others—is just one step behind her. With the help of a kind master named Nathan, Adeelah continues to search for Karim while trying to evade Faruq. To complicate matters, she begins to experience growing fatigue and pain after conjuring, and finds herself struggling against an undeniable attraction to Nathan.

As Faruq closes in, Adeelah must decide just how much she'll risk to protect Nathan and be with Karim forever. How much power does she really have to change her future, and what is she willing to sacrifice for an eternity of love? If she makes the wrong choice, the deaths of many will be on her hands.

Bottled Details

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From Reader Review Bottled for online ebook

Lora Palmer says

I had the pleasure of receiving a copy of BOTTLED by Carol Riggs from the author in exchange for an honest review.

BOTTLED is a lush fantasy about a young woman named Adeelah, who was turned into a genie long ago when a wicked man tricked her into drinking a potion. Forced to grant endless wishes to selfish, sometimes cruel, masters, Adeelah seeks to reunite with the man she loves. As she passes from master to master, she must also evade the man who caused her to become a genie, for he still seeks to possess her for her abilities. He'll stop at nothing to become her master again, and he is the cruellest of all the masters she's had.

Along the way, her bottle passes into the hands of Nathan, all-around great guy whose antique-dealer mother purchased her bottle. He's kind and thoughtful, considering Adeelah's own wishes and needs. He shares his Wefler bars with her. He makes sure his friends don't attempt to touch her, since as a genie she's not fully solid, and any physical contact is extremely uncomfortable for her. He supports her efforts to locate her long-lost love, even insisting on accompanying her despite the danger of being caught by Adeelah's pursuer.

In fact, Nathan is such a great guy (not to mention the cute moments of attraction between them) that I spent much of the novel wondering how Adeelah's love could possibly measure up to Nathan, despite the intensity of her longing for her love and the intensity of the connection they forged long ago. I found myself shipping team Nathan hard when I wanted to feel really torn between the two guys.

This story held many twist and turns, and lots of surprises along the way. There were some great flashbacks of Adeelah's earlier life, there were moments of action and danger, and there were some sweet, fun moments between Adeelah and Nathan and with his friends. I also loved the fantastic descriptions of genie magic, including its specific limits and the descriptions of the magic's effects on Adeelah and on the environment when she grants a wish.

Fans of genie stories, especially ones told from the genie's point of view, should definitely check out BOTTLED!

Carol Riggs says

I used to watch "I Dream of Jeannie" all the time as a young girl (yes, I am that old), along with "Bewitched." I loved those shows! Except I have to admit sometimes Jeannie drove me NUTS with all the torturous scrapes and tangles she got her master into.

This novel is a more serious tribute to the enchantment of this show. Unlike Jeannie, however, my genie has limited powers; she isn't able to use her abilities to reach her own goals. As one of my taglines says: "A genie's wishes don't count."

This is Adeelah Naji's story, the account of her quest to grasp her dreams of finding freedom and love.

Lynndell says

Thanks to Clean Reads for the opportunity to read and honestly review Bottled by Carol Riggs! This fantasy story involves a woman trapped in a spell, cast by a djinn, who serves her changing masters over the centuries. A traditional story with a female protagonist, a horrible villain, romance and suspense. This is a clean read book and enjoyable!

Michael Di Gesu says

I had the privilege of reading the ARC of this story given to me by the author. I have read MANY YA and MG books over the years. I usually enjoy anything with a magical theme, and I particularly enjoyed BOTTLED. First of all, the author takes us on an unpredictable adventure through time, covering several centuries. Adeelah is not your normal Jeanie, and that is what makes this story different from other Arabian tales.

With well developed and extremely likable characters, the reader roots for Adeelah to overcome her bondage. We become her champion, and find ourselves at the edge of our seats, biting our nails, and waiting for the explosive outcome.

Will she be with her true love after searching for a thousand years?

OR...

I don't want to spoil it for you... but rest assured you will be surprised by the ending. If you are looking for a fun, exciting, and enjoyable read on a rainy weekend, THIS is the BOOK for you...

Happy reading!

Brenda says

Seventeen year old Adeelah Naji fell in love with Karim when he saved her life while the rest of her family was murdered – but Karim's father had no time for her and was jealous of the love Karim showed Adeelah. Summoning an evil djinn, Faruq enticed a naïve Adeelah to drink an elixir – suddenly she was imprisoned in a bottle with Karim's father as her master.

As the years and centuries passed, Adeelah knew many masters – the wishes were varied but mostly they wanted wealth and grand homes; and all the while she searched for Karim. She knew he took the elixir of life every one hundred years and he also continued to search for her. But while she searched she had to remain alert so as not to come across Faruq – he was furious she had escaped him, and wanted her back. His plans to use her so he could live forever meant her life was in danger...

When Adeelah began to feel an incredible fatigue after granting certain wishes, her master was a young man of her age (when she was human) – Nathan was nothing like her previous masters. He was kind and considerate; she began to care for him in a most un-genie like manner. But still the danger of Faruq was on the horizon – plus was her search for Karim bringing him closer? She suddenly realised she had put Nathan

and his family in peril – what would she do? Her choices were few; her decision vital.

Bottled by Carol Riggs was so much fun! A genie in a bottle – a young woman no less – and wishes granted everywhere! But she had rules and the rules of the bottle weren't to be broken. Adeelah was a great character and I had a thoroughly enjoyable few hours evading evil characters and dashing through voids from one place to the other with her. Highly recommended!

With thanks to the author for this digital copy to read in exchange for my honest review.

Alicia Huxtable says

To be honest I've never read genies before so I have nothing to compare this too but I do know that I loved the writing style and the characters in *Bottled*. Kept me reading and guessing right through the book

Julie Fugate says

Wish for a great book and here you go!

I really enjoyed the main character, Adeelah, who becomes trapped into service as a Genie at the young age of 17. For centuries, she's had to deal with greedy masters, until she meets kind and generous Nathan. You'd think they were a match made in heaven except being a Genie is complicated. She's being pursued by a previous evil and immortal master who'd kill anyone who gets in his way. She's in love with another guy from her past who is also immortal. Plus, no one can touch her (think ghost). It was lots of fun to be part of this roller coaster ride as Adeelah finds enough freedom with Nate to discover who she really is. You'll want to read every last page.

I received a copy of *BOTTLED* by Carol Riggs in exchange for an honest review.

Carl Schierhorn says

I received this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Bottled is a nice retelling of Aladdin in very Young Adult fantasy style.

The genie is a 17-year-old girl – well, actually a 1,000-year-old girl whose physical age was frozen when she was tricked into becoming a magical being.

(It seems that 70 percent of YA protagonists are 17-year-old girls. But Adeelah is a nice one – imperfect, vulnerable with strength. She's a person you're happy to have met.)

The plot is built around a love triangle between Adeelah, her almost immortal boyfriend from when she was human and her 21th Century master in Washington state.

(It seems that 70 percent of YA fantasy has a love triangle, but this one isn't bad. The old boyfriend is as much a memory of a love as a character. The "master" is a pretty innocent and decent 17-year-old guy whom you come to care a lot about. As often is the case, the reader figures out they're meant for each other long before they do.)

Adeelah spends most of the book on the run from the very bad man who tricked into genie-hood. But the strength of the novel is her learning the 21st Century and its people, but also learning what he wanted isn't necessary the happy ending she thought it would be.

Her magic is strong, logical and limited. But it's the lack of magic the story turns upon.

Bottled is a good read – a solid four stars. It doesn't get higher because there's too much familiar about it – and I'm not talking about the story of Aladdin.

Rachel Morgan says

Adeelah's adventure swept me along, keeping me turning the pages of this beautifully written tale of magic wishes, evil masters, lovable characters, and sweet romance. Other than the inventive descriptions, what I enjoyed most in this story was probably all the moments in which Adeelah's culture and experience of the distant past clashed so hilariously with modern day technology, sayings, architecture, food and more. Her interactions with Nathan and her new twenty-first century friends had me chuckling to myself a number of times. An enjoyable read :-)

[I received an advanced copy of this book in exchange for an unbiased review.]

Derik says

This book is absolutely amazing! I couldn't put this book down and finished it in 2 days. The story and characters are charming and unique. I really enjoyed how the author conveys the thoughts of the main character, Adeelah, as she experiences life as a genie and all of its problems and limitations. The character of Nathan is very charming and his relationship with Adeelah is magical. I couldn't help myself to smile throughout so many moments in this book and especially the ending.

I received this book as free copy for my honest review. I had not anticipated the book being so well written and such an enjoyable story. I plan on reading more books by Carol Riggs and hoping she turns Bottled into

a series of books and not just a standalone novel.

Megan says

This was a fun read. There were some similarities to the TV show *I Dream of Jeannie*, but there were definitely some drastic differences - such as not being allowed to leave her bottle unless summoned (as well as several others). I liked both main characters, a lot. *Bottled* is a book I'd recommend to any fan of genie/djinn novels.

4.5 stars

Marla says

This was a fun book. What happens when you are turned into a genie with unlimited wishes and live for 1,000 years while you try to find your true love. Adeelah has been trapped by her true love Karim's evil and jealous father. While going from master to master she tries to search for Karim. She eventually falls into the hands of Nathan, a 17-year-old boy who is more worried about helping others than wanting wishes for wealth and big houses. He isn't greedy at all. There is some danger in here and several funny moments. I really enjoyed this book.

Dianne says

One thousand years ago, in a land far from here two teens fell in love, but Karim's father, selfish, vile and greedy used dark magic to entrap the beautiful Adeelah into becoming a genie, for eternity with himself as her master. Faruq desired to live for eternity, with all of the wealth that would entail and bound by the spell, and the nature of being a genie, Adeelah must obey by creating the elixir of life.

As centuries pass, she serves several masters until the day seventeen-year-old Nathan accidentally discovers her in a jar in his mother's shop. From Nathan, Adeelah learns what it is like to be treated kindly and to have a master whose heart is good and pure. Still she yearns for the boy she left behind so long ago.

But she finds she is being stalked by Faruq and her Karim is with him. Is he still the boy she has loved for a thousand years or has he become twisted like his father in an effort to hold on to their immortality? She is tricked into being captured by Faruq and what he demands is impossible. Adeelah knows she is fading away, perhaps her time on Earth is over? Will she lose her magic before she can keep those she has learned to love safe?

Carol Riggs' **Bottled** holds all the enchantment of the magic she writes about. A beautifully told tale, filled with characters that I could relate to. Small town teens, best friends and a squirrelly young child are only part of this amazing tale for teens. Without any doubt, the villain is a true evil person, a little crazed and obsessed with himself, I was doing the internal hissing every time his name was mentioned.

A delightful read for all ages, actually, equal parts sweet, heartbreakingly and fantasy. I had to wonder, what would I wish for if I had a magic genie?

I received this copy from Carol Riggs in exchange for my honest review.

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For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Tamara says

I received an ARC copy from the author in an exchange for an honest review.

4.5 stars

This book was so refreshing!

I'm not an expert on genie books, even though I have read a few, but this book was beautiful. Arabian Knights would approve of Carol Riggs' Bottled!

Adeelah (a lovely name) was enslaved to a bottle by her lover's father. For almost a **thousand years**, Adeelah is tossed between new master to new master, while also sleeping in between trying to figure out how to get back to Karim.

But Karim's father is no sunshine. He wants to live forever, but to do that, he must acquire ingredients before Adeelah can seal the elixir, ingredients that literally kill.

But when Adeelah wakes from a long sleep, a boy named Nathan becomes her new master. Though, he isn't like her previous masters, he is caring and not selfish. But Karim's father is still hunting Adeelah down, in need of a new batch of elixir.

This story of Adeelah is a ***thousand times captivating and lovable***.

I would definitely recommend this book to others, a thousand times over. It's very much worth the read!

Carol Riggs proves to be an author who can write a story that forces you stay up all night reading it. Bottled is written beautifully and I feel truly lucky to have read and review this book.

Julie says

This story is written in first person narrative from the point of view of Adeelah, the 1000-year-old genie. I dislike most books written in the 1st person because the story tends to be simplistic and shallow. Such is the case with Bottled and the reason for my 2 1/2 star rating.

The beginning of the book gives a brief retelling of how Adeelah met Karim, the young man she loves. The story begins in 1977, when Adeelah gets a new master after being without one for 300 years. The story quickly progresses and Adeelah goes from one selfish master to the next before she ends up in the present time with Nathan, a 17-year-old do-gooder.

No matter the time or the master, Adeelah's goal is always to find Karim, who is immortal due to a magical elixir. With Nathan as her current master, Adeelah finds him agreeable to helping her. Along the way Nathan's friends and family are brought into the story, and Adeelah interacts with them, beginning to care for the lives of all of them. This leads to a predictable ending, which wouldn't be a bad thing if the story itself had more depth.
