



## Kiss of Fire

*Rebecca Ethington*

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Joclyn Despain has been marred by a brand on her skin. She doesn't know why the mark appeared on her neck, but she doesn't want anyone to see it, including her best friend Ryland, who knows everything else about her. The scar is the reason she hides herself behind baggy clothes, and won't let the idea of kissing Ryland enter her mind, no matter how much she wants to.

The scar is the reason she is being hunted.

If only she knew that she was.

If only she had known that the cursed stone her estranged father sent for her 16th birthday would trigger a change in her. Now, she is being stalked by a tall blonde man, and is miraculously throwing her high school bully ten feet in the air.

Joclyn attempts to find some answers and the courage to follow her heart. When Ryland finds her scar; only he knows what it means, and who will kill her because of it.

## Kiss of Fire Details

Date : Published October 30th 2012 by Imdalind Press

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Author : Rebecca Ethington

Format : Kindle Edition 354 pages

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## From Reader Review Kiss of Fire for online ebook

### Sandra "Jeanz" says

Can I give extra stars out of 5 like 8/5??

#### MY REVIEW

I was gifted this arc by the Author, Rebecca Ethington in exchange for my honest review. This is the first book in the Imdalind Series. I have to admit upon first looking at the cover, I really didn't like it at all. After reading the book, I realise that the female on the cover is Joclyn who at one point in the book falls from a window, but I still think the cover could do so much more for this well written action packed book. The cover could just simply show the necklace that Ryland gives Joclyn, or the "bead" that Joclyn's father sent to her on her birthday, or even a picture of the "scar" below her ear with what looks like a dragon on it. The cover could and should do so much more for the book! I hope this doesn't offend the cover designer or author but I promise to be honest and my opinion the girl on the cover looks unnatural and awkward and really doesn't do the book total justice. The cover would not pass my "Would I pick it up from the shelf to learn more about it" test. So I guess at this moment in time you are probably saying well "Why did you agree to read the book?" The answer is simply the blurb, the blurb sold me the book and made me want to know more. As for the plot of the book and how it is written.....well fantastic, brilliant, addictive...and marvelous are the words that come to mind. The book tells the story of Joclyn, who has a scar below her ear, that has what looks like a dragon shape within it. Of course Joclyn is shy and hides behind her overly large hoodies, she doesn't make friend easily at all, in fact she is somewhat of a loner. Other than her one best friend in the wole world, Ryland. Ryland just seems to understand her, she can relax with Ryland. The problem is that Ryland's father doesn't like the close friendship and uses the excuse that Joclyn's mother is his employee to try and keep the two friends apart.

Rylands father Edmund, is a strong, but strange man, he has to control all those around him. Edmund is an evil, cruel man who seems to care only for business.

As Ryland and Joclyn become closer their feelings for each other change from just friendship to something much stronger and deeper. As they come together for their first kiss, Ryland notices the scar on Joclyn's neck and everything changes, drastically. Ryland knows what the scar is and knows it means danger for Joclyn, people will hunt her down for the rest of her life until they manage to kill her. Ryland vows to protect Joclyn, but can he really protect from his evil father? Joclyn meets others like her who have "powers" and "magic" that are hunted because of it. They try to help her, she meet Wyn whom she becomes friends with, and the guy she thinks is Wyn's brother Ilyan. Ilyan seems drawn to her and she feels their is something really familiar about him, but what can it be? Everyone and everything is not necesarily what or who they seem to be.

The book is so well written by Rebecca, the plot grabs you, slowly reels you in and holds you on the edge of your seat right until the very end of the book. In fact speaking of the end of the book....What a Cliffhanger! I am seriously looking forward to the next book as soon as it's available.....

So did I enjoy the book?Yes, Loved it! Would I recommend the book? Yes I have recommended to my daughter to read it already! Would I read Bk#2 in the Imdalind Series? Yes please as soon as possible! Would I read more books written by Rebecca Ethington? Definitely yes!

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### Ivie says

Wow, this book was a whirlwind of emotions for me. It went from being a big cliche, predictable, yet intriguing anyway, to the point where I couldn't put it down and one plot twist after the next. The ending was

totally unexpected, but you won't be hearing what it was from me. Nope, this is a spoiler free zone, peeps.

**~Plot~ 3/5**

**~Characters~ 2.5/5**

**~Storytelling~ 3.5/5**

**~Romance~ 4/5**

**~Aesthetics~ 3.5/5**

**~Overall~ 4/5**

You may be wondering how a book with not great ratings for each breakdown could be a four-star read. Well, I'm about to tell you.

**~What I Liked~**

- I liked the ending because it was unexpected.
- I liked that, even though two people liked Jocelyn, she was loyal to only one. So it was realistic. There was no love triangle, even though there could have been. Even though she knew they both were safe and meant her no harm, she was only loyal to the one she's loved since forever. She felt guilty anytime the other touched her (totally appropriate, get your mind out of the gutter, thank you.)

**~What I Didn't Like~**

- I just couldn't connect with Jocelyn on an emotional level. Sure, I felt bad for her, and I wanted her to succeed, but I just wasn't connecting with her.
- The romance was kind of predictable in some ways.
- 50% of the book was pretty cliche.

There are pros and cons to this book. Minor swearing, alluding to teens in inappropriate situations, though barely described. A described kiss, but not to a gross point.

This book is free on Kindle, so I say try it and see if you like it. It wasn't bad at all. It wasn't my favorite and I kind of am curious about what happens next, but not enough to buy it right now. Maybe soon. Maybe later. But, I do think I will be revisiting what happens next at some point.

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**Ben Alderson says**

This book is absolutely amazing!

Its an extremely well loved indie paranormal novel with over 7,000 ratings on goodreads and I can SEE why its so good!

I loved this introduction to a new magical world within a modern day world. I loved the characters, I can already see myself falling in love and shipping characters together.

**THIS BOOK IS FREE TO DOWNLOAD ON ALL EBOOK SITES!**

Also

if you go to the goodreads page you can enter to win a paperback, its worth it!

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### **Amber Hetchler (???????) says**

It took so long to pick up the pace and get interesting, but once it did it was actually pretty good. I'm strangely hooked now and I think I might need to read the next book.  
I'm glad I gave it a second chance.

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Dnf at 15%

I actually had to create a 'did not finish' shelf just for this book. I couldn't take the cliche romance and plot anymore. Maybe I'll try to finish it at a time I'm less irritated.

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### **? jamieson ? says**

"You have very pretty eyes" he said softly. "They look like diamonds"

This book .... THIS BOOK. I truly, truly don't know how I feel about it. Do I love it, do I hate it? I just do not know (Which, btw is a pretty shit opener for a review. Hello, today I will be reviewing a book I both loved and hated)

I just ... I just don't know. **THERE WERE BITS AND PIECES I REALLY LOVED** and then there were bits that literally made my eyes roll into the back of my goddam skull due to how cliche they were.

This book is **definitely** one for fans of The Mortal Instruments ! It follows much the same premise. A young girl is thrown into a magical world hidden from the eyes of regular people, whilst finding out she is unknowingly one of these magical people.

#### **THINGS I LIKED ABOUT THIS BOOK**

♦ *it was free on amazon.* Yeah, whatever. I'm a cheapskate, and I'm broke. Free books are good books

♦ The set up of the magical world. I liked that the centre/origin of the world was in The Czech Republic and that the characters traditionally spoke Czech. It just felt like it was something new and refreshing in an area that has been really overdone and explored.

♦ Ilyan. I loved his characters, he was my favourite. However, I do think he could have used some further development tbh

♦ I liked that bad shit happened because I feel it raised the stakes and generally made the story more intense

◆ I also really liked Wyn as a character - and Ovilia

◆ I feel like it set up the series well, and I am genuinely excited about where this goes even if the first book by itself wasn't my favourite, I feel the series as a whole has great potential

### **THINGS I DIDN'T LIKE AS MUCH**

◆ I'm sorry but I just hated the main character so much. She was so whiny, and just ... **urgh!** she was so frustrating. 1: Has intense guilt about something that *obviously isn't her fault*. 2: Is a beautiful girl but thinks she's ugly 3: She's such an amateur but acts like she's a master and I'm like **GIRL** pls respect your elders

◆ There is a lowkey love triangle and I am NOT DOWN

◆ It was really tropey and cliche. I didn't like the romance much, it was just *too much* at times and idk how to feel about it. I went from really liking Ryland to literally cringing about him every few minutes and it was frankly exhausting

◆ Mean Girl Trope™ I hate it. Its the worst freakin trope. I SINCERELY HOPE OVILIA GETS JUSTICE PLS MAKE HER MORE THAN JUST A MEAN GIRL **PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE**

◆ The baddies were too much. They were just too over the top evil for me to take seriously. I didn't feel like they were complex villians, they were more the insane, murderous, stereotypical hitler style villians. They were just too over the top for me to engage with u know?

◆ Found the writing style a tad too simplistic sometimes

**TRULY** this book is a conundrum. Maybe it's because I went in with low expectations that were definitely surpassed - but I don't know how to feel.

I think it's one of those books you just can't take too seriously, it's sort of fun and fluffy but not really well developed in any aspect. It felt like characters, world building, plot were all good and yet they needed something to make them **better**

I think I will continue with this series, because it seems to be set up really well to have good potential. I'm hoping that there will be lots of character development, since I think that was lacking lots in this book.

Overall, I give this a 3.5\*. It was much better then I expected going in, and for a debut novel I really enjoyed it. I will be continuing this series !

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**Kathy Jo says**

4/18/15 - Can't tell you how many times I've read this but I love it even more each time! On to Eyes of Ember! I need this refresher course so I can read Burnt Devotion. I'm dying here! Can't read fast enough! Lol.

WHAT?! NO!! That was NOT supposed to happen!! I can't be left hanging like this!! So NOT fair!! Ugh!!

I was totally sucked into Kiss of Fire from the start and absolutely LOVED it!! Joclyn and Ryland quickly moved their way to the top of my most cutest and amazing couples list!! They were best friends from the start... fell in love over their years of friendship... and not only make each other better but together they are complete. \*sigh\* I so cannot WAIT for book two to come out!!

I am SO glad I stumbled upon Rebecca L. Ethington! After reading Kiss of Fire she too has moved to the top of one of my lists... favorite authors!! I can't wait to see what's in store for Joclyn and Ryland in Eyes of Ember! :o)

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★?????★ says

DNF at 75 %. This review contains spoilers.

Ever ate too much candy? Ya know, when you eat so much you get sick from it but can't make yourself stop from eating more? Yea, this book = that.

Interesting paranormal concept. Somewhat original and I applaud the author for that. Sadly, not strong enough to make me wanna stick around.

The 'heroine' is beyond annoying - whiny, weak, immature, pathetic, TSTL. I don't need my heroines to be kickass right away, they can grow into that role, but there is only so much lack of strength I can take. Who the fuck wants to read about a girl that hides in a corner when she's about to die? Honestly, I get that some go defensive instead of offensive, but there's still a difference between fish in a barrel and a cornered tiger. FYI, giving heroines superpowers just because they lack even the smallest survival instinct, is ridiculous. Not only is she TSTL, but also TSTD, because then I wouldn't have to read on and on and on about her never ending helplessness and pain and blablablablabla.

The plot is draaaaawwwwn out. The first 1/3 of the book creeps along and nothing interesting ever happens.

I can't even be bothered to list all the things that made me wanna headbang the wall over and over again.

Further treats:

- Her best friend Ryland gifts her with presents worth several thousand dollars, because you know he can. She has NO problem taking them. Not one thought is wasted.
- She FIGURES OUT NOTHING by herself. She gets hid over the head with a gazillion clues. But instead of using a few braincells on finding out what the fuck is going in she's more like: 'Nah, why leave the easy road of complete and utter ignorance and stupidity.'
- Again, she questions NOTHING. Hint: Jumping on Rylands back scene. TSTL.
- Ryland is super uber overprotective; starts carrying her around when she has a small scratch. AND SHE LET'S HIM.
- She meets Ilyan. Thinks he's somewhat hot but knows he's about 10 years older than her and she thinks

that's gross. Then she gets to know he's centuries older. Book 2 (blurb): He becomes her love interest. Duh. - Love triangle. Nough said.

YA doesn't mean maturity is a taboo topic. But this book almost feels like it.

Teens might like this book. I might have a few years back. But I am adult enough now not to squeal over somewhat not unattractive males and/or anything potentially romantic.

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### **Gloria Green says**

At the age of five Joclyn was bitten by something that sent her into a coma after experiencing tremendous pain. After almost six months she woke with only one side effect of the bite. A small raised red scar like a brand with a black mark in the middle. Since then she has wanted to do nothing but to disappear. Instead she did the best she could to hide the mark behind her ear on her neck by wearing baggy clothes and long hair hanging over it. She blames the mark for her fathers disappearance. Her parents argued about the significance of the mark. Then one night the arguements stopped and Joclyn woke to find her father had left.

Now she's almost sixteen and her mom works for the scrooge from hell. Fortunately the Devil's son is little piece of heaven named Ryland. He's her best friend but in 3 months he's supposed to leave for college. With time running out their hearts start feel the pressure. But their love and friendship is forbidden by Ryland's father. Ryland realizes what he wants most is to love Jos. Then he discovers her mark. Joclyn biggest fears become a reality as she loses Ryland because of the mark. She feels like everything leaves her because it. But the mystery of the Mark is now revealed. Her absent father returns, friends from school aren't who they appear to be, and Ryland's father is a bigger threat than she ever imagined. She's a Chosen Child, marked by the Kiss of a creature that resembles a small, winged dinasaur with a human like face. My heart breaks reading about the torture Ryland has had to endure at the hands of his father.

I loved this story. I wanted a different ending which means my heart is totally invested in the characters and reading the next book. You will love the mix of magic and romance and action. Your heart will swell and break as you read Kiss of Fire.

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### **Lenore Kosinski says**

Oh dear lord that was epic.... I haven't been sucked into a world so much since Reckless Magic, etc. Ms Ethington did a fabulous job of introducing a unique universe that had so many intriguing elements, but wasn't too confusing to get wrapped up in. Though dear me, I do want to learn some Czech now so perhaps I could have a hope in hell of pronouncing some of those words in my head. I spent the first half wishing the heroine knew she was in an epic novel b/c then she would have seen some things coming. I spent a lot of time going back and forth with theories, and ideas of what would happen, how things would end, who was who, who wanted what, etc etc....and sometimes I was right and sometimes I was wrong. I had so many questions, and the author achieved a perfect balance of satiating my curiosity with some answers, while leaving some unanswered for now with an implied promise that more would be revealed in future books. The main characters and secondary characters were all ones that were tailor made for my tastes....I can't even really describe it, but I loved them all.... Oh Jos and Ryland....I don't know how I will survive not knowing what is going to happen, if it's really the end, if there will be a twist, if my suspicions about Ilyan will be

confirmed. OK, I don't even know why I'm writing anymore...I LOVED it. I laughed, I bawled huge gasping sobs, I was absorbed. And the ending was near perfect....felt like the closing of a chapter, just waiting to feed me more....

ON REREAD: if you're one of those readers that can't stand bad editing (typos, etc), this one is a medium -- typical self-published novel. IT wasn't remotely enough for \*me\* NOT to get totally wrapped up in the plot, but I did notice them.

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### **Kathy \* Bookworm Nation says**

Kiss of Fire is the first in the Imalind trilogy. It has been awhile since I've read a YA fantasy book and I thought Kiss of Fire was a fun way to get back into the genre. I was pleasantly surprised by how much I enjoyed the book, since it was free and self published (I could be wrong on that) I didn't have the highest expectations. I liked our main characters Jocelyn, Ryland, Ilyan and Wyn.

I thought the book was well written and flowed pretty well, for the most part. I liked the beginning and was excited when towards the middle things started to pick up. The last half went back and forth for me, at times I got a tad bored. The end was good though and left me wanting to read the next book. I think it will be a fun series. Oh, I also liked that it was clean!

I just have to say it. I am not a fan of love triangles. It's not super present in this book, but I have a feeling it will be in the next one. I just think it is WAY over done. It seems like every YA series out there has a love triangle now, maybe that is why I have been avoiding the genre. Let's be original and not use love triangles as plot devices anymore, okay?

Content: Clean!

Similar Reads:

The Emerald Talisman by Brenda Pandos

Reckless Magic by Rachel Higginson

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### **Yesha says**

(Note: Downloaded free copy via Smashwords.com)

Stars: 3.5/5

Characters– Let's start with favorite–

Ilyan- Amazing, smart, handsome, mature, royal attitude, kind. Just love him. ♥ Wyn- sweet, girly, fierce, adorable. Talon- loyal and good. Ryland (Ry)- second main character- Good, protective, perfect friend and boyfriend. Ovilia- mean, insolent, but love her sibling. I'm not judging her right now knowing what she has gone through and I'm sure there will be more to this character in next books of the series that may make her nature reasonable. But in this book surely unlikable. And PROTAGONIST- Joclyn- Agghh! I didn't like her. I will explain it why in 'didn't like section' below.

What I liked? First of all the story and concept was really good. Interesting and touching opening of the book with receiving mark and tragedy of Joclyn's family. Joclyn and Ry's friendship, their emotions for each other felt so raw, real, and heartwarming. Their Forbidden love kept me glued to book. Czech words in the book were interesting, it gave book a different touch. Theories / stories behind mark, about Ilyan and his family, about magical world was so amazing and different that it made this story stand out from other paranormal romance.

First half of the book was little slow, it made book suspenseful, I was looking for all the secrets to unrevealed, wanted to know what that magic and mark is all about. Yup, I didn't get it till around 45% of the book. Only hints. All interesting thing came in the second half. I have mixed feeling for this first part because of this reason. I liked the suspense but at the same time it made me impatient and irritable.

Second half of the book captures all the speed magically possible. You that feeling you get when your plane taxiing on the runway and suddenly accelerate fully to take off. That's how it felt at this point. It made first half worth reading. Actions, magic, fight, stories, all was there. It was exciting. Antagonist was such an evil, I haven't met such antagonist yet.

End- Expected yet interesting. First chapter of the next book was really interesting and I'm curious to see what happens next.

Read full review on my blog

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### **Serena (The Book Comedian) says**

[SURPRISED: I'M SURPRISED THIS BOOK TURNED OUT SO GOOD

HAPPY: I'M HAPPY I HAVE FOUND THIS BOOK; I'M HAPPY KNOWING I GET TO READ THE 2ND BOOK RIGHT AWAY

SAD: I'M SAD I DIDN'T

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### **Melissa ♥ Dog/Wolf Lover ♥ Martin says**

Free today on Amazon kindle 1/29/16

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### **N.G. says**

Reseña en español: <http://spanglishbookblog.wordpress.co...>

4.5 stars

I'm not going to spoil the book for those who haven't read it yet!

Now, most of YA books are very unoriginal (they have the same plot over and over again) which makes them dull. However, this one keeps you guessing until the very end, and the story was refreshing.

When I was reading I was trying to guess what the characters were, Vampires, wolves, fairies or aliens....? Lol but all my thoughts were wrong, and I'm glad I was because my expectations were high for this one. I was so connected with it that I cried, laugh, screamed and even cursed.

At the beginning I thought it was a little bit slow for my taste (but that's because I'm obsessed with fast-paced books). Nonetheless, in that amount of time we got to truly know the temperament/nature of the characters to the point you started to care about them.

When the action started I was confused, but everything is so perfectly described and fast (in a very good way) that I couldn't diminish my levels of excitement! I was like:

That last scene broke my heart completely.

(view spoiler)

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I finished this book hours ago, and I just can't get that last scene out of my mind. I need to read the sequel.

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### **Ari Reavis says**

I didn't know what to expect going into this book and was presently surprised by the plot. You know something weird is going on, but don't really get the full scope of things until the action picks up..... a lot. The romance was high schoolish (lots of not quite kisses and mixed signals), but very cute and genuine. Ryland and Jos were willing to sacrifice so much for each other. There is a lot to comprehend when the truth comes out, but the author did a good job of not bombarding you with too much information at once. A mean cliffhanger though, but you, of course, knew it was coming.

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