



Moon Chosen

P.C. Cast

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Chosen to embrace her true identity. Chosen to follow her destiny. Chosen to change her world.

Mari is an Earth Walker, heir to the unique healing powers of her Clan, but she has been forced to turn from her duties, until she is chosen by a special animal ally, altering her destiny forever. When a deadly attack tears her world apart, Mari reveals the strength of her powers and the forbidden secret of her dual nature as she embarks on a mission to save herself and her people. It is not until Nik, the son of the leader from a rival, dominating Tribe, strays across her path that Mari experiences something she has never felt before...

Now evil is coming, and with it, a force more terrible and destructive than the world has ever seen, leaving Mari to cast the shadows from the earth. By breaking Clan Law and forming an alliance with Nik, she must make herself ready. Ready to save her people. Ready to save herself and Nik. Ready to embrace her true destiny...and battle the forces that threaten to destroy them all.

Moon Chosen Details

Date : Published October 18th 2016 by St. Martin's Griffin

ISBN :

Author : P.C. Cast

Format : Kindle Edition 608 pages

Genre : Fantasy, Young Adult, Did Not Finish, Paranormal, Magic

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From Reader Review Moon Chosen for online ebook

Sophie "Beware Of The Reader" says

5 moonlit stars!

An ARC has been kindly provided by St Martin's Press, via NetGalley.com, in exchange for an honest review.

I've read many books written by this author being her House of Night series or her Goddess Summoning series. When I realized she was writing a new series, I had to read it and I feel so privileged to have been chosen by the publisher as it's been a truly magical read.

I loved so many things in this book, beginning with the whole new world PC Cast has created depicted with many details, from the plants to the beasts and of course the clans and tribes. As she took the time to set the scene and the tone, the beginning was a little slow and I was lost between who was who but once I got my bearing, I was sucked in this post-apocalyptic world all ready to follow the main characters many adventures.

I walked right alongside Mari and Leda crossing heavily thorned brambles to get to their hidden burrow. I prepared healing potions with crushed leaves and flowers. I hunted with Nik in the dangerous forest to find the lost puppy, trying to avoid Wolf Spiders. I bathed in the moonlight or in the sunlight, depending on the tribe to gather strength and sanity. I could see the colors, hear the screams of animals or men turned feral as they were plagued by the Night Fever, I could smell either the healing sage or the putrid odor of bodies affected by the blight.

It was vivid, it was real...

This particular world is our earth, many years after the sun destroyed all technology. Men tried to survive through clans and tribes. Each tribe had its own distinctive features. Some tribes you'll love, others you'll despise and be disgusted by their way to survive but you'll always be able to see their intricacies and what made them special.

Honestly I was impressed by the author's writing as with just a few sentences, she made me envision each new main or side character in all their uniqueness. PC Cast is an experienced and gifted writer and it shines through this book. Many side characters fill the book, each very well portrayed, each serving their purpose to sustain the story and make it a magical experience.

Mari, the female main character is girl you will love very relatable with her doubts and dreams. She's been born from the love of a Companion, from the Tribe of the Trees and a Moon Woman from the Earth Walker clan. Companions and Earth Walker cannot join, cannot love. She is a taboo and as such had to hide her true nature to the Clan's men and women for fear of exile. She was also an incredibly talented artist and her true gift was more promising than anyone could have hoped. Caught between two worlds, she did not fit in and longed for being accepted for who she truly was. My heart hurt many times for Mari as I could feel her longing, her hope but also her deep despair when a dramatic event hit her full force.

Nik is her counterpart in his own tribe, the Tribe of the Trees a tribe known for enslaving Earth Walker's

women. For different reasons, he did not meet his people high expectations and was also always on the outskirts. He needed to belong, to be seen as worthy. He also had his lot of drama. The most talented archer of his tribe, he could never be a leading archer and it was slowly eating him. He was also a very likeable character courageous, loyal to a fault and ready to change his mind and stray from his people way if it meant creating a better, fairer world.

To my delight the villains were true “black no gray” villains: Dead Eyes with his barbaric and disgusting ways; Thaddeus with his arrogance and permanent anger, worsening by the end of the book as it turned to full hatred.

Each character had his/her own quest: Mari had to discover who she was meant to be, Dead Eye wanted to save his people and Nik had to find the lost puppy, prove his worth. Their paths cross, clash sometimes for better or other times for worse changing the future of their respective tribes.

It's quite a big book but not once did I feel boredom or thought some parts should have been cut. I was carried away far from my day to day life living in this magical land and experiencing every joy, hope, pain or fear Mari and Nick felt.

If you loved the House of Night series I just know you'll love this one too. My only complaint? I have to wait months to know what will happen next!

Fangs for the Fantasy says

I don't know how I got roped into this, but it appears I'm reading more P.C. Cast. I blame Cynna, Olivia, Maverynthia and Paige for my pain and suffering. I will be joining them on the Papercuts Podcast to discuss this atrocity we have all endured.

Because this book is just so very... typical. It was utterly awful in several ways.

I think to understand a lot of the PROBLEMATIC awful elements of this book as opposed to the awful WRITING elements of this book and the awful CHARACTER elements of this book it is necessary to look at how this book treats race

A very very very simplistic reading of this book would suggest there are no POC in this book – but I think that's largely because an editor (yes, I actually believe this book may have gone near an editor despite all evidence to this contrary) looked at this and said “you're going to make them POC? Nooooo, stop this Save the Pearls awful!”. This means the book is very very very very careful not to outright label skin colour of anyone. There's one reference to Earth Walker skin colour:

“The dirty, earthy colour of all Scratchers”

Which pretty much makes their dark skin confirmed in the most utterly racist way possible.

Even if it were ambiguous and it is rarely mentioned, that doesn't mean the racialisation of the Earth Walkers and the Tree Tribe aren't clear. The physical descriptions have several markers – the Earth Walkers have

black, coarse hair, broad noses; the Tree Tribe has blond hair, small noses. And these are just some examples – Mari spends most of the book hiding her mixed race identity using dark hair dye and darkening her skin and disguising her features with mud – which screams darkening her skin. Sure she could be disguising herself by being the person who is literally and clearly blathered in mud all the time

But... really? I mean can someone even live like this? She thinks the tribe ostracises her – but if she is this filthy all the time is it any surprise everyone backs away from her. Ultimately, another character openly comments that her skin is a different colour. It's hard to avoid the idea that the Earth Walkers are not a POC analogue even if not POC themselves

And we know that with some extra really problematic tropes that have been dropped on them. The Earth Walkers are cursed – at night if they are not “washed” in moonlight the women become passive, despairing, depressed and suicidal while the man become animalistic, violent, savage rapists. So much so that even washed they cannot live with their wives and daughters because big angry rapey men – with POC coding this isn't just problematic, this is disgustingly racist. Seeing this the Tree Tribe kills the animalistic men and enslaves the women – assuming they're helpless, pathetic, incapable of helping themselves and the good noble tree tribe HAS to enslave them for **THEIR OWN GOOD**

Seriously, this white saviour narrative is so strong Cecil Rhodes would ask you to steady on a little. Not only are these magical slave/slaughter traits disgusting in and of themselves, but they're also used as redemption for the Tree Tribe's slavery. One thing this book does manage is to make it clear that enslaving the Earth Walkers is wrong – but this narrative of woo-woo **JUSTIFIES** them, it absolves them. They're not evil, they just didn't understand that this entire race of people they were murdering didn't want to be murdered and enslaved. They're killing them **FOR THEIR OWN GOOD**.

The woo-woo which causes the POC to rape and be enslaved is an appalling, insurmountable part of this book which pollutes my tablet with its presence. But it's not the only issue – the way the Earth Walkers (coded POC) and the Tree Tribe (coded white) are described is utterly awful. The Earth Walkers are ugly – coarse, rough featured, plain; while the Tree Tribe are “refined”. This is the objective description of the two people – the beautiful blonds and the ugly, coarse POC who are rapists and enslaved.

This is awful – and a lot of this awful comes from Mari, our protagonist. Oh how I hate her. The only reason she isn't the most hate of protagonists is because The House of Night and the hot mess of Zoey exists and give this heap of wasted trees 12 books I'm sure I'll loathe Mari as much!

Mari is half tree tribe, half Earth Walker. She was raised by her mother, Leda, an Earth Walker. She has never ever met her father who died when she was born. She doesn't seem to have ever met a member of the Tree Tribe before this book. She knows of them only as brutal slavers and the heritage which forces her to hide inside and plaster herself in blackface mud. She is not as product of Tree Tribe culture at all

So why does SHE think the Earth Walkers are all the ugliest, coarse plainness while the Tree Tribes are so pretty? Where has she even got this beauty standard from? Who taught her to call her OWN MOTHER ugly

while putting the murdering tree people on a pedestal of blond, green eyed beauty? How does someone grow up, ostracised in a society, having to hide their features and decide EVERYONE in that society is grossly ugly except her precious self? I don't care what kind of self-confidence you have, this is not how things work, even if you are so self-centred small planets should orbit you?!

Any my gods is she self-centred and hateful. Especially to her OWN people, the people who raised her, her mother's people. She refers to the Earth Walkers as "Scratchers", a slur the Tree Tribe uses to denigrate the Earth Walkers... how does she even KNOW this word? She has no exposure to Tree Tribe culture, so how has she heard their slurs? And why, good gods, why, is she using it all the damn time? Why has she absorbed this level of contempt for her own people that she psychically learns insults about them?!

[Read More](#)

?Stephanie? says

Title: Moon Chosen (Tales of a New World, #1)

Author: P.C. Cast

Publisher: St. Martin's Griffin, 2016 (Oct 18)

Genre: YA Fantasy

This review can be found on my Blog, TeacherofYA's Tumblr, or my Goodreads page

My Review:

First of all, I must recognize the beauty of this cover. Has to happen. Might as well be now:

Ok. Had to do that. It's beautiful. Absolutely beautiful.

My opinion on this book is *not* going to be popular. I can already tell based on some of what you had to say when I mentioned I was reading it. But we will get there. And I'll explain. Let's get to the meat of the novel...

First thing you need to know: just like the byline says, these are "tales of a new world." So there's going to be confusion. There's going to be alternating POVs. There are definitely going to be parts you don't understand at first but make sense later as they all come together.

Let's start with Mari:

Mari is a Moon Woman's daughter. She lives in a burrow with her mother, Leda, the Moon Woman of her tribe of Earth Walkers. The Moon Woman is responsible for using the power of the moon to "Wash" the other members of the tribe. When it comes to women, it cures them of melancholia. When it comes to the men, it cures them of Night Fever (madness). These washings must take place every three days to keep the tribe mentally healthy.

Mari has a secret that she must keep from the tribe with her mother's help: she is only half Earth Walker. Her father was a Companion, a man whose tribe killed him for loving an Earth Walker. Mari, the product of their union, must hide her Companion features with clay and dye her wheat-colored hair dark. No one must know or they both will be banished from their tribe. Mari apprentice's with her mother but fears the power of the moon as she is only half-Earth Walker. When she goes out in the sun, her skin lights up with patterns and she must always wear a cloak to disguise the markings.

Nik is a Companion: a member of the Tribe of the Trees. When a canine chooses one of the members of the tribe, the bond is holy and permanent. They connect with the dogs on a psychic level. They take Scratches (what they call Earth Walkers) because they seem them as children that can't care for themselves. Nik has no canine and is past the time of choosing. One day when a pup comes towards him, he gets excited, knowing this could be it. But the pup runs past and out into the night...and Nik tries to find him.

Dead Eye knows the statue of his God, The Reaper, is nothing but a statue. His God is dead. The Skin Stealers have sacrificed and dined on the flesh of their sacrifices, wearing their skins, but their people are still dying as their skin slowly peels off their body painfully. One day, Dead Eye has a revelation: he skins a deer but lets it live, and packs his wounds with the deer's flesh (I know, his parts are extremely gross). When his skin touches that of the deer, it heals! He now knows that he is the tribe's Champion, their new God. And he will lead them to victory, no matter what the cost...no matter who dies.

These three stories are eventually interwoven into a complex tale that will suck you in, make you feel, and introduce you to the sides of human nature that we love and hate. These are tales of Cast's new world...and even after 600 pages, I wanted more.

Is It Classroom-Appropriate?

Umm, yes and no. There are parts that are great, but there are some rape scenes that can be disturbing . I would say introducing it in junior year and up would work. The intricacies of the people's lives are fascinating and could make a good anchor text if used with supplemental materials...are these people mutants of our old world, or are they products of their environment and just a step in evolution? Could this happen if we aren't careful? It really made me think about the way these people connect to the Earth: each tribe (and there are more as we see near the end) has abilities and weaknesses, skills and misunderstandings. It's a truly interesting tapestry of human development.

Age Range:

So it's too new to be on Lexile.com, so I would say 15 and up. The rape and sacrifice scenes can be disturbing. I wouldn't want a young reader to have nightmares. Though the scenes are necessary, they aren't pretty. And the book is long: it is a tome. Some people might get discouraged with the pacing and the length. I almost did but when I was about to get frustrated, the scene would switch to another POV, and I would learn more about the other tribes. Definitely keep only for advanced readers with patience. I would be wary of giving this book to anyone with sensitivities to rape scenes or violence.

End Result:

So...I have to go with my heart on this one. I really liked *Moon Chosen*. It kept me engaged and reading...and I still am thinking about it. No insta-love, no chosen one trope (if anything, Nik is *not* a chosen one and Mari

tries hard all the way), no weird love trainagles. There is diversity in love (the Tribe of the Trees have many different types of couples). There is reverence for the Earth. Reverence for nature and animals.

I give *Moon Chosen* ★★★★★. And I thought about this a long time. I was tempted to give it less because others didn't like it, but then it's not my rating, is it? I get why others might now have liked it: it does take awhile to develop, but I really liked the writing style and pacing myself. Then again, as you know with me, I have a plethora of patience when it comes to books. I think if people who DNF it pick it up again and get past the slow parts, they might like it. Then again, they might not.

I can't recommend it to anyone because now that I have seen some of the reviews, I don't know if others will like it like I did. But I'm also an easy sell. I like anything with magical worlds that are written well. I'm a book pushover. So don't read it based off my review...read it based on the blurb and what you think you might feel about a story like this. I **DO** hope to find other people that like this one, but I might be in the minority here.

What do you think of *Moon Chosen*? Have you read it? I haven't read any other Cast novels so I'm coming in with a blank slate. Do you think it's worth a read?

Alienor ✕ French Frowner ✕ says

TW - Racism

When I (painfully) tried to read this book, I was in a *GR-annoys-me* phase (you know what I mean), and didn't get to post a ranty DNF review because 1)not worth my time and 2)well, NOT WORTH MY TIME. It was the second book from P.C. Cast I tried to read and... Well, I never managed to reach 10%? Because what the fuck is this writing? Really?

ANYWAY. I would have probably forgotten this book even *existed* if not for seeing it on the NY Times list. Not that it would surprise me that much, given that Red Queen made it its home and you all know what I think about Mare fucking Barrows and her woman hate. **But then I read reviews about *Moon Chosen* and... this racist shit is not acceptable, guys. In addition for being a terribly written novel taking place in a poorly crafted 'world-building' with a TSTL heroine whose actions make no sense, it had to include blackfaces and negative portrayal of dark-skinned and biracial characters? Like??? In what world???**

I strongly invite you to read Paige's and AJ's reviews if you want to know more about it *shivers*

As for me, I won't try again to read anything by P.C. Cast. There's just not enough reading time in my life to waste it reading terrible books.

For more of my reviews, please visit:

alexis says

P.C. Cast has TRULY outdone herself with terrible, racist content this time. Moon Chosen is without a doubt the worst book I have read this year.

I would have never picked this book up on my own. P.C. Cast and I do not have a good relationship, and she is just a terrible writer. The only reason I got Moon Chosen was because it was through a book subscription box. Since I inadvertently spent money on Moon Chosen, I had to at least start it. I ended up quitting around the 20% mark.

First off, Moon Chosen makes no sense. It transcends House of Night of nonsensical worldbuilding. Moon Chosen is technically post-apocalyptic, but it reads as terribly written fantasy. There is essentially no plot, and it is just rambling about dogs and Mari being annoying for 600 pages. There is a really weird, out of place subplot going on with Dead Eyes aka the villain who should've been left for the next book. I am still confused as to what Cast was trying to accomplish.

P.C. Cast does not know how to write beyond stereotypes, which is shown throughout Marked and the other books in her House of Night series. Moon Chosen is on another level.

Mari lives with her mother's clan, the Earth Wakers, who are a group of the in universe PoC. Mari is biracial, and her father is a Companion (minus 40 points for terrible names). Because her skin color is not dark like the Earth Wakers, she wears a mix of clay aka blackface to disguise her heritage. Words like "dirty" and "unrefined" are used to describe the dark skinned characters while phrases like "the color of sunlight" (referring to her blonde hair) are used for Mari.

The Earth Walkers live separated by male and female (because after all, there are only two genders) because of the Night Fever. They also have specific roles based on gender like the women raising children, weaving, and, lawmaking while the men are hunters and protectors (minus 160 points for lack of creativity by following gender roles in a setting where you have the power to literally make anything else up). If you were worried about this fantasy/post-apocalyptic mess of a world following too closely to traditional gender roles, don't worry, because according to Cast the clan is a matriarchal society, so obviously #feminism. Now, back to the Night Fever. The Night Fever causes the men to become violent rapists and the women to become severely depressed every Third Night. Remember, the Earth Walkers are supposed to be PoC. The WoC are literally incapable of happiness and spiral into severe depression while the MoC become violent. The only way to temporarily "cure" the Night Fever is through being "washed" by the Moon Woman, and it only lasts for a short amount of time. Mari, the current Moon Woman, ends up ditching them, essentially leaving the Earth Walkers to self destruction.

This is only the tip of the iceberg for Moon Chosen. I didn't get far enough to get to the other problematic aspects like the Bury Your Gays trope, the sexualization of young girls, and even more racism. I suggest reading notes from Moon Chosen that The YA Kitten wrote along with their review to learn more. You can also read other 1 star reviews of Moon Chosen on Goodreads by Maverynthia and Paige (Illegal in 3 Countries)

Kei • lovelypagesreviews • says

2 stars

Netgalley says I downloaded this book July 26th, it's now September 30th. Officially the longest I've taken to finish a book - if what I did is even called reading.

I got so excited when I first read the blurb, OMG this book sounded amazing! And then I got approved. I immediately jumped in and I was ready to be captivated. Here's the deal: this is a book that needs one of the following,

a) a good editing - and I mean, it's currently at 600 and something pages. 350-400 would be the appropriate page count. Why? Because it's wordy and with very long descriptive sentences that make no sense to the reader. Why? Because the book has its own terms and no dictionary I can flip to, to know what the hell is happening. Don't get me wrong, I love big books, the bigger, the better, but this is insanely huge with its own terms, terms there were not even explained ten chapters in, so I was completely lost. Plus, there are endless repeats and re-phrasing of stuff we just read.

b) an appendix, or anything that will outline this strange new world I know nothing about, anything to make sense of the non-stop descriptions that were only there to make us **get it** but that wouldn't be necessary if we had an appendix and we could go in knowing who was what and why.

Don't get me wrong, **this book brings something new and original to the table** (earth walkers, moon women, the dogs, everything, really) but **the material is so messy and so long and frankly boring, you can't navigate to get to the good part**. This book legit made me re-read whole chapters just to understand what just happened.

Andrea says

Dogs, Skin Stealers and Earth Walkers Oh My!

Moon Chosen

Rating: 5/5

Summary: Mari is half Earth Walker and half Companion. Her dual “ethnicity” has always caused her and her mother to be extremely cautious. She must pretend to be a sickly full-blooded Earth Walker by dying her hair, skin and avoiding sunlight at all costs. In the sunlight, Mari’s skin comes alive with the green glowing Mother Plant fronds that declare her Companion bloodline. When a small pup chooses her as his Companion, Mari’s life changes.

Nik is a Companion who has not been chosen by a canine. It causes him much strife since his Father is the Leader and Sun Priest of their Tribe. When a pup escapes the Tribe on his watch, Nik feels responsible and takes it on himself to track the dog. When he goes into Scratcher territory, he crosses paths with a unique girl who can harness the power of the Sun.

What both Mari and Nik don't know is that change is broiling in the Skin Stealer clans. And this change could endanger both their families.

I received this an Advance Readers' Copy in exchange for an honest review from Netgalley, thanks to the author and her publisher.

I have been a fan of P.C. Cast since I found her House of Night books my freshmen year of high school. I was worried that the world wouldn't be as imaginative and complex as HoN was, but I shouldn't have. Cast has created a beautiful reality with three distinct cultures that are trying to coexist with each other. Misconceptions run rampant and change doesn't come easily.

Mari was an interesting character. I liked her because she was so brave and willing to do things for those she cared about. In the beginning, Mari is very afraid of what makes her different and the powers she may have. Over the course of the events, Mari grows up and into those powers. She also begins to trust herself and believes in her choices. It was wonderful to see this change and watch her become such a strong character. I hope she continues her growth in the next novel.

My other favorite character was Sora. At first glance, she seems shallow, flirtatious and lazy. We come to find out there is much more to Sora than her appearance gives her credit. She deeply values the friendships she develops and she has an appreciation for her own culture and future role in the Clan.

The plot is highly intriguing as we follow Nik, Mari, Dead Eye of the Skin Stealers and occasionally Thaddeus. Nik and Mari do most of the narrating, which is totally cool with me because I don't like the Skin Stealers or Thaddeus. They're evil and creepy! The book is long, but it never felt like it dragged for me. I loved learning more about each culture and what they do. Especially when Mari is healing, I found those sections the most intriguing since she uses a lot of herbs and her powers. There was a lot of thought put into developing this world and making each culture unique.

Overall, I seriously loved this and can't believe I'll have to wait forever for the next one!

Yodamom says

@32%

I can't listen to another minute. I do not like these authors' style, I find the narrators voice annoying and I just don't care about the characters at all.

Major Grips

- 1) Repetition: Every time a character speaks to another they use their name. Omg the "Mama, Mama, Mama.." had me wanting to scream "Make it stop" There was also repetition the story, events rehashed and retold many times.
- 2) TSTL- this girl who is an adult but acts like a child, gets herself into situations that common sense and her mother's warnings tell her not to. Life threatening situations !
- 3) The slavers leader just now after years and years feels like there may be more to his captives ?

Three red flags that hit me upside the head. I'm done. This author is not one I plan on reading again

Cyna says

This is a book founded on racist stereotypes, blackface, and justifiable slavery, and abominable characters framed as "the good guys". We did an in-depth discussion over at Papercuts Podcast, but I wanted to have a text entry on it, too, so here's notes dump. GoogleDocs formatting is better, but here's the text.

PLOT BEATS

-Nik's introduction is him getting called out for his misogyny, being a total sexist, privileged shitface

-We're still supposed to like him tho.

-Relationship between MC and mother is WEIRD

-They're bffs but also like sisters, calls her "mama"

-That Scene Where Leda Dies

-After almost dying like five times. IT IS COMICAL AND NOT TRAGIC.

-The Sun People's origin story so anti-technology

*But before all could be death
all could be death,
from the ending came the beginning
came the beginning.
For not all of the people were deaf,
not all were deaf.
Some left the soulless cities,
the soulless cities.
And followed the promise of green,
of healing green,
To the forest they turned!
To the forest they turned!*

It's like a fucking Atlantic article.

- WE'RE HERE, WE'RE QUEER, WE'RE DEAD

-The scene where Nik's father tells him about killing Mari's dad

"Father, I have no right to judge you. You did what you believed you had to do, and the Elders did what they believed was best for the greater good of our Tribe. It's just so horrible. I can't imagine what it's been like for you carrying around this secret for all of these years."

oooooooooooooooooooo IT MUST HAVE BEEN SO HARD 4 U, NOT TELLING ANYONE HOW U KILLED UR BEST FRIEND

-Take a drink every time Nik's dad says "son"

-Mari decides to save Nik's life for NO REASON EXCEPT PLOT

- "What? Why would you do that?" Sora asked.

"Sora, by now you should know that I'd do anything for Rigel. He led me here. He won't let you kill this man. I don't think he could make it much clearer that he wants me to help. So that's why I'm going to examine him—for Rigel."

OH PC CAST, U AND YOUR TRANSPARENT PLOT LOGIC.

-By the end, Mari is a Good and Kind Savior

-She had to Wash the women. Her conscience wouldn't allow her to leave—to retreat back to her comfortable burrow and the friends waiting for her there—while knowing Earth Walker women were suffering and she had had the opportunity to relieve them of that suffering, even if it was only for a little while.

-Is this a legit character turn?

-Total Danerys "mother" moment

-"Together they ran the length of the dock, unbarring and flinging wide the doors, and as they did so women began to spill out of the houses, crying, "Moon Woman! Our Moon Woman!"

And then they were surrounding her, and it seemed a million hands reached for her as voices cried, over and over, for her to Wash them—save them."

-Keeping in mind the Mari = "good" white-coded features girl who hated her people, and Moon ppl = POC, this is really fucking gross.

GENERAL FUCKERY

-THEY TALK IN EXPOSITION CONSTANTLY.

-See also: literally any part of this book. Mari talks to painting, herself, dog, First scene is Mari and her mom explaining their naming conventions to each other. Nik exposites to father about things they already know, right up until the end.

-The Dialogue is Atrocious

-Leda's smile was serene. "Hello, Sora. Actually, this was an impromptu acknowledgment of pride in my daughter." She lifted the hand that she'd linked with Mari so that the Clan was sure to see. "And part of that pride is that her gray eyes mark her as a Moon Woman candidate."

"As do mine," Sora said.

Mari stifled her irritated sigh and spoke up before her mother could respond. "Yes, but you're usually so busy fluttering your eyelashes at our Clansmen that sometimes it's hard to remember your eyes are gray."

That is the world's wordiest, shittiest burn.

-Mari is a Monster

-After her mother dies and she refuses to wash the Moon People: *"This first. Then Mama. Then I'll sketch Mama," Mari said. Clutching the charcoal she started making notes about the screams. She realized she should have counted them, and made a separate note to herself about that—COUNT THE SCREAMS NEXT*

TIME. [...] Writing about the direction the sounds seemed to come from, how long they lasted, and how it sounded like it was only one person screaming, and that it had definitely been a male voice.

"We'll stay away from the southeast tomorrow," she told Rigel."

SO MATTER OF FACT. COUNT THE SCREAMS OF YOUR PPL'S SUFFERING.

-"I just met you and you enslave my people, but you're totally my soul mate, Nik."

-Threatens Sora's life with mauling

-Re: Rigel: "So get used to him and stop acting like a silly Scratcher."

"Don't call me that!" Sora said, causing Rigel to give her a hard look as he bared his teeth at her. "See what I mean." Sora pointed at the pup. "We can't even have a conversation without him threatening me."

Mari lifted a shoulder. "Be nice and he'll stop doing that."

Sora: "STOP CALLING ME SLURS"

Mari: "BE NICE AND I WON'T LET MY DOG MAUL U."

-Aesthetics

-Mari is the specialest of specials, with her glowing gray-silver AND gold eyes.

-The glowing frond pattern, what is it with Cast and her dumb fucking tattoos?

-Still equating beauty with goodness/ugliness with evil

-Cannibal people women = ugly, dried-up HAGS

-Dove - "marred" beauty, sexypaleperfect except for her "cavernous", empty eye sockets

-"Maeve turned to look up at the Guardian. Her face was still beautiful, even though it showed lines of age, loss, and regret."

-Moon People Appearance (aka POC and blackface)

-Though Leda was Moon Woman, and the soul of the Clan, she was as plain in appearance as were most of her people. Leda was thick-browed, wide-nosed, and narrow-lipped. But in Mari's sketch, her mother's thin lips were lifted in a brilliant smile that was reflected in the one feature of hers that was truly remarkable, her wide, silver-gray eyes.

-This is so clearly the author stepping in to canonically tell us who is pretty according to our real-world (white supremacist) beauty standards. There is NO WAY a character like Mari would consider her MOTHER or her people "plain", because she has NOBODY TO COMPARE THEM TO. Her standards of beauty would align with theirs, what the fuck kind of shit writing is this?

-Describes her hair after dye as "dark and muddy, like brackish water. 'Like the rest of the Scratchers'."

-Paste "thickens her features" (says some variation of this phrase three times)

-Her default features described as: 'Mari traced the line of her clean brow, delicate where her mother's was thick, down her face to her high, well-formed cheekbones, then over her small, straight nose.'

-"It showed a tall man whose facial features, except for his eyes, mimicked Mari's. He was standing beside a waterfall smiling at a plain young woman."

-"Mari wrapped her arms around herself as if to keep her heart from bursting from her chest. She wanted to run down the bank, take her place at her mother's side, and once and for all claim her birthright without

being frightened that she would be cursed for her fair hair and sunlight-absorbing skin."

OH MY GOD.

-Nik re: Jenna: *She was just so pitiful and ugly!*

-Nik re: Mari: *Her hair had been dark and matted — her skin the dirty, earthy color of all Scratchers*

-Mari re: Nik: *She looked from his hair to his face, and was even more intrigued. His features were so different from those of the Clansmen. Nik was more refined, with strong cheekbones and full lips. Had his jaw not been so square and his neck and shoulders not so powerfully built, Mari would have been tempted to call him pretty.*

-Cast's "progressive gender balance" is still gendered

-Earth Walkers all lived in burrows they created from the living earth, usually choosing difficult, hidden places for their homes. Women tended to group their burrows together. Men, even those who were mated, lived apart from the Clanswomen, as Night Fever made cohabitation as dangerous as it was difficult. But the Clan didn't hide from one another. The women simply controlled day-to-day life—raising children, growing crops, weaving and counseling and lawmaking. Men hunted and served as protectors.

-Gender roles are rigidly divided, even live separately, have separate magical afflictions. Women are still domestic overseers, men are still "hunters/protectors". No room for people who don't fit the gender binary.

-Wonder if it's like *HoN* where there's no room for people of opposite gender who want to do "male things"/"women things"

-Moon People Affliction

-Men turn violent and rapey = racist depiction of men of color as "violent raping savage" stereotype.

Somebody take away PC Cast's pen and computer and fucking *human being* card.

-Women turn sad and depressed???

-THE POETRY (fucking kill me now)

*Moon Woman I proclaim myself to be
Greatly gifted I bare myself to thee.
Earth Mother aid me with your magick sight
Lend me strength on this full moon night.
Come, silver light—fill me to overflow
So those in my care, your healing will know.*

-Sora is the real hero here

—Finally. I've been trying to find you for days." Sora glared at her as she tried to smooth her dirty shift and pulled leaves out of her long, tangled hair.

"I told you if you followed me I would kill you."

*"I know very well what you told me, and that's why I didn't follow you—though that was a very mean thing to say to me. **But I forgive you because you were carrying your dead mother.**"*

-Sora u treasure

-But Sora gets her "just punishment" for being a SLUT

-CONSTANTLY HUMBLED BEFORE/BY PROTAGONIST FOR HER SINS

-Home destroyed by men who knew where it was BC Sora hosted them in it, slutty mcslutslut

-Almost raped until Nik saves her

-"*Mari and Nik turned to face her. Sora was standing by the hearth with a blanket wrapped around her, bruised and bloodied, but whole.*"

PC CAST IS NOT A HUMAN BEING.

-Which is a character turning point re: Nik's goodness, btw. Begs Nik's forgiveness, AND HE HAS THE GAUL TO "FORGIVE" HER.

THAT IS THIS BOOK'S SHIT DYNAMICS. Sora thinks it's better to let Nik - a member of the clan who *enslaves and kills them for sport* - die, and SHE'S in the wrong. SHE later has to be saved BY HIM from HER PEOPLE, and then beg for HIS forgiveness for not being willing initially to save his life.

-**Nik shows his in-ness** by asking Rigel to "bite Sora just a little bit for him", similar to how Stark was always taking Aphrodite down a peg.

-Wants to be Moon Woman so she won't get left alone, which is WAY MORE INTERESTING MOTIVATION THAN JUST BEING NICE.

-Thinks Companions are ugly, which is an ACCURATE STANDARD OF BEAUTY.

-LEGIT QUESTION: Do we like Cast's Mean Girls more BC the narrative doesn't act like they're perfect? Are they genuinely well-written, or do we just like them more because they're the only ones with the balls to be mean to the MCs?

-The only good part

-"*Rigel looked up at Sora and then sneezed all over her mostly empty bowl of stew.*

"Oh, yuck. The creature is disgusting." She plopped the bowl in front of the pup. Wagging, his tail, he gulped the rest of her sneeze-covered stew."

-This is only good bc my dog would totally do this if he were smart enough

Paige (Illegal in 3 Countries) says

See more of my reviews on The YA Kitten! My copy was sent to me by the publisher for review. I do not think this was a smart choice.

Want to listen to me dissect this book with some friends? Check out this episode of Papercuts Podcast!! If you've ever wanted to hear what I sound like, this is your chance.

This is gonna be a long review and I'm not even covering everything I want to, so I've uploaded my notes on Google Drive for easy viewing. Just click the link! All quote citations and page numbers are in that document and based on the US hardcover edition.

Once upon a time, there was *Revealing Eden* by Victoria Hoyt, a novel that turned white people into the oppressed class and made the white main character donning blackface a narrative necessity. It was rightly called out for racism then and is still ridiculously racist now. If I weren't already familiar with the Cast family's brand of racism thanks to their *House of Night* series, I'd think *Moon Chosen* was written specifically to out-racist *Revealing Eden* and all the cultural appropriation and Magical Native American fuckery from the aforementioned series. Between blackface and all the racial coding, *Moon Chosen* may actually be the most racist YA novel of all.

The Earth Walkers, Mari's maternal people, are described with phrases like "dirty, earthy skin," "unrefined features," "thick-browed," and "wide-nosed," among others. Her paternal people are the Companions, aka Tree Tribe, aka Treeple. Mari takes after them, so we can assume that most of them are fair-haired ("hair the color of sunlight") with "small, straight nose[s]" and "clean, delicate brow[s]." Since she was a child, she and her mother have dyed her hair "dark and muddy, like brackish water" and used clay to alter her features as well as change her skin color. The difference in skin tone is so significant that when she washes off all the clay, another character reacts to just how different her clay-covered skin color is versus her natural skin color.

I guarantee you the character isn't saying "wow, your skin color is so different!" because Mari has tan lines. Mari doesn't spend much time outside her underground home before the novel's events.

Cast can try to cover it up by being vague about what color anyone's skin is, but **THIS IS BLACKFACE.**

!!!THIS IS BLACKFACE!!!

I could stop this review right goddamn there and be justified in my zero-star rating for *Moon Chosen*, but this ain't even the full extent of this racist clusterfuck. I have four pages of notes in a Microsoft Word document because there's so. Much. Bullshit.

The reason Mari has to cover her skin is that if her mixed heritage is discovered, she'll be driven into Companion territory and left there, presumably dooming her to a life of slavery. This explanation comes over a hundred pages into the novel and should be shown rather than told. A much better opening to the novel would be her Clan capturing and punishing some Treeple. Then we would see firsthand what Mari has to fear instead of simply hearing about it from her infodump-happy mother Leda.

Blackface is also indicated by the sledgehammer-heavy racially coded language Cast describes the Earth Walkers and Treeple with. The descriptions of the Earth Walkers as listed above and their traditions indicate they're coded as people of color, probably Native Americans/First Nations specifically (but with no specific tribe because of course not). The fair-haired Treeple are similarly coded as white and the Skin Stealer people who shouldn't even be in this book read like descriptions of uncontacted tribes akin to those Michael Rockefeller was studying and documenting when he disappeared in 1961.

Seriously, the Skin Stealers have no place in the novel. If they had to exist—because they seem to exist so the Treeple look better in comparison—they shouldn't have been introduced until the second book of the series and the Earth Walker/Treeple dynamic should have been the real focus.

That's another way Cast racially codes the two core groups of the novel: the fair-haired, fine-featured people are the enslavers, the dark-haired, thicker-featured people the slaves. One quote explicitly outlines why the Treeples do so, painting them as well-meaning people who genuinely believe they're helping:

“We care for them. We give them purpose. We protect them, even from themselves. Yet they are so base that over and over again they flee our safety and care and, heedless, rush to their destruction. [...] What can be done with such creatures?” (p. 61)

So Cast wants to be a Good White Woman(tm) and deconstruct racism in her novel. Well, it's clear from the content that she doesn't understand shit about how racism actually works. People who enslave others don't have or even need a “good” reason like giving them a purpose to do so; they'll make up their own reasons and characterize the people they're enslaving as lazy, dumb, or otherwise subhuman. They convince themselves of this so thoroughly that even when presented with evidence to the contrary, they'll still hold onto that belief.

The quote above and the Treeples' perspective in the novel in general humanize racists just as badly as that new A&E show “Generation KKK” and all the fluffy features on fascists, white supremacists, and the like that have been coming out lately. Cast even tries to put the language of racism in the mouths of Earth Walkers when she has an Earth Walker character say that a Treeple boy they come across “isn't a person.”

I bet Cast is someone who would say racism against white people is a thing (it's not).

On to another device that contributes to the racial coding of the Earth Walkers as POC: Night Fever. This illness's origin is never explained, but it affects the Earth Walkers by infecting the women with depression and the men with madness that can drive them to rape women. For this reason, men and women in the Clan live separately. The only fix of for the Clan's Moon Woman to Wash them of Night Fever every three night's or so. The illness's gender-specific nature shuts trans and nonbinary people out of yet another novel.

Night Fever's effects on the Earth Walker men in particular invoke the beastly, predatory black/native man image we've seen in films like 1915's *The Birth of a Nation* and other media. Better yet, Mari goes on to blame the men and call them animals who should be put down because they choose not to be Washed most of the time. Mari has the ability to Wash them, but she chooses not to and in fact intends to abandon her Clan, leaving them with no Moon Woman at all after her mother's death.

Because yeah, Mari is a terrible human being with no real personality or redeeming qualities. Had Cast been willing to make Mari face the consequences of decisions like abandoning the Clan that needs her, she could have made for an excellent anti-heroine. Alas, Mari is presented as flawless and faces no consequences whatsoever. She's completely willing to abandon her people to madness, depression, and death. Her characterization is inconsistent, as seen when she's murderously angry at a character one minute and decides in the next to help the same character.

Another character who could be incredible if they faced consequences and were interpreted differently: Leda. A saintly mother/mentor, she is the only person Mari interacts with on a regular basis and is the one to tell her what the Clan will do to her if they find out her father was a Companion. Much more interesting: an interpretation of Leda as a tyrannical mother figure who wants to keep Mari to herself, so she lies/exaggerates to her daughter about the dangers of being exposed and controls the Clan with an iron fist. She's the only trained Moon Woman of their Clan, after all. They need her to Wash them.

I swear to God I'm wrapping this up. The worldbuilding, in two words, is fucking disastrous. Moon Chosen

is a far-future post-apocalyptic tale. In a massive infodump by a Treeple storyteller, we learn that the Sun “belched its displeasure” (that is an actual goddamn quote) when the people got too obsessed with technology and wiped out most of the planet, presumably via global warming after knocking out all the satellites and electricity.

Though the Treeples live in trees, status in their tribe is dependent on whether you have a dog. BECAUSE DOGS IN TREES. The dog system of there being Shepherds and Terriers and Leaders is never explained adequately and makes you wonder if only two breeds of dog survived the belching sun’s apocalypse. Infodumps that can either be integrated better or eliminated altogether add at least a hundred pages to a novel that’s already suffering from long stretches where absolutely nothing of importance happens.

As a final niggle: the poetry used to call on the power of the Sun and the Moon is just bad. Dear God, you could make a drinking game out of trying to read these without laughing or cringing.

OKAY. I THINK I’M DONE.

Am I insulting Cast personally with much of this review? Probably, yeah. But due to a combination of this novel’s content, the content of her deeply racist House of Night series, and how she actually treated someone who criticized her for using the r-word with alomb, I feel confident saying this novel’s racial issues represent Cast’s own beliefs. It’s sad to see books like this still coming out after all the hard work done by We Need Diverse Books and independent advocates for diversity in children’s literature.

Maverynthia says

TRIGGER WARNING: THis book contains rape, threats of rape, racism and homophobia and thus I will be highlighting them

So if you love racist as hell books like "The Continent" have we got a book for you! Also probably want to go read one of those 5★ reviews.

First of all we have Earth Walkers who are the black, maybe dark skinned Asian people based on the fact that "but her eyes were wrong. They were bigger and almost almond-shaped." Presumably "almost" meaning that her Companion father helped her to get more "normal" white people eyes.

Then there are the Companions. The Tree Tribe. These are the blond haired, blue eyed white people that are "WISE AND JUST" even though they enslave and murder the Earth Walkers and call them Scratchers. I don't remember if there was a vulgar term for Companions.. probably isn't one because they are so White and Pure and Wise and JUST! They have dogs. Shephard are better than Terriers. What happened to all the other dogs? Who knows! This is dystopia.

Finally we have the Skin Stealers. They are the cannibals that don't really do anything except paint themselves like Native Americans, have lots of sex, skin people and eat them. We don't have a vulgar term for them either.

Now takes all of this together and add a lot of filler and you'll have this book. This was a very tedious book to get through having so many words that don't add to the story at all.

We have Mari that whines that she's not the Moon Woman, yet she fakes being sick and doesn't really practice. Compare this with Sora that **does** want to be the Moon Woman, but we are supposed to see her in a bad light because she makes eyes at the guys and acts like a typical person. She's kind of the princess type that's weak and is going to need Mari to save her later. She also almost gets raped just to put her in her place.

Then there is Nik the Companions that is also part of the white savior trope that we have going on here. Mari is basically the other half.

Oh then there's the Night Fever that strikes the Earth Walkers. We don't know what causes it, but Drawing down the moon can cleanse them of it. This needs to be performed every 3 days or the women turn into a depressed crying mess and the men turn into violent rapists. :D Fun right?

Now comes the fun when a shepard pup escapes the Treeple and runs off to Mari. So all the Treeple get together to find the pup leading to Mari's clan where then eventually leads to Mari's mom dying, Jenna being enslaved, Jenna's dad being killed, Danita being "raped so bad she might be unable to have children" and pretty much all of Mari's clan being murdered by the Companions.

Where do the Skin Stealers fit into this? They kind of bait the Companions and set it up for Mari and Nik to meet. The lesbian couple is broken up by one of them dying. That's about it. Oh and they make Thaddeus evil, even though he was on the path because "Terrier people can't be leaders so I'm going to kill everyone to make a point." Then Mari washes the people that the tree people kidnapped and everything is on fire. Then there is maybe a trans person, or a trans cat? Right at the end.

All amongst this is Mari calling her people Scratches the derogatory name for them that she learnt from somewhere.

Now amongst this is just endless spewage of words that you can honestly skim past and still understand what's going on. Add to this copy paste basic Wiccan rituals that you can find in any 101 book. Cast doesn't even do this once just to illustrate. No, it's every. Damn. Time.

So we have maybe Native American stand ins that kill and eat people, paint their bodies and wear their skin. Black, maybe Asian or Islander men that go "crazy" and rape and kill people when they aren't washed every 3 days. The women cry a lot and die of a broken heart.

And the white people that kill and enslave the Earth Walkers but who are called "wise and just" by Mari's mother, who is an Earth Walker.

I could talk about the amazing amount of misogyny going on in here, but I think others have covered it. Because we have that going on too.

Suzanne says

I found this book thoroughly enjoyable, even with the vast world building (which I usually do not like). The characters are interesting and there is a good amount of them so you get many different perspectives. I am glad I already have Sun Warrior here because I am very much ready for this story to continue!

Overall, intriguing and a good pace.

Shera (Book Whispers) says

Review copy provided through Netgalley for an honest review.

Moon Chosen quickly turned into an obsession for me. One of those reads that you can't put down and will try to read everywhere. No really. At one point I begged a charger off of some poor stranger so that I could just KEEP READING! When someone was talking to me in line while checking out I held up my Kindle and said, "Middle. Book. Reading." (Not one of my finest moments.)

I will be the first to admit you have to really pay attention to the start of the book. There's three main leads

and each represent a group of people. Earth Walker's, People, and Companions are the tribes here. What might be confusing is that three main leads for each group are part of the changing point of view, and some other characters. At the beginning you really have to take note of the names as the other tribes have different names for each other. Not to mention completely different ideas of what they're like. Pile that on top of learning this rich world it might be overwhelming.

I love how brave this book is! Touching on slavery, all kinds of murder/cruelty, asking questions about societies accepted ideas, and cannibalism. Moon Chase smoothly takes on many hot topic issues and deftly drops it into this rich world without feeling heavy handed. Or preachy. The ideas and actions of the characters will leave you thinking every time you have to put the book down.

Cast's writing has always been addicting. A lot of people asked me if this was like the writing in The House of Night series. No, this is like Cast's other books. The writing is stunning and the attention to detail is fabulous! Some of the characters I thought echoed a few from The House of Night, mainly the mean girl who eventually becomes a friend. Other than the lore of herbs and the magic of the Moon Mother's I thought it was pretty original from that series. Oh, and there is animal bonding. Companions bond with dogs, and apparently there's a branch of clan that bonds with cats. (Okay, so there are quite a few similarities. It still feels refreshing though!)

Thank you! Thank you Cast for creating Mari! What a wonderful lead. She's strong and opinionated. Watching her grow as a person was a pleasure. Even if I didn't always agree with her actions and ideas I understood her. Romance was not a driving force behind her actions. Yes, there is a romance. It is not the focus though and it actually REALISTICALLY builds up in the story. So that I bought the emotions. Another big thank you.

The other three main leads are just as well realized. Nik is a sweet and idealistic guy. It was wonderful watching him seek the truth. Following him as he started to question how righteous the Companions were is a reminder that one should always question the status quo. Many times he was the damsel and Mari got to save him. So there is that. Then there is Dead Eye, the lead representing the People. The People are known by the other tribes as Skin Stealers. Yeah, they're the cannibals. To be quite honest they're the bad guys. However, I was totally addicted to their story and what horrible plot Dead Eye was scheming up. So chilling.

Cast's attention to the world and the seamless way the POVs all connected took my breath away. Every page turn was accompanied by my frantic breathing as I tried to keep up my pace of consumption. The pictures where I nice touch too. I loved the plant stuff that accompanied the lore and the other drawings as well. The history of the world and the tribes was awesome. While at times Moon Chosen seemed to follow a set of steps for a High Fantasy books it didn't take away from the original ideas here. Quite a few times I found myself surprised!

This is an earth after the apocalypse, but it's pretty much High Fantasy. Not dystopian. Yeah, you could pop it into apocalyptic if you really wanted. The world is so rich I am not gonna even attempt to tarnish it by summarizing it.

Overall I am completely devoted to the series! It's cruel that the next one doesn't even have an expected publication date yet! I NEED MORE. Finally another fabulous lead to add to the latest releases of Young Adult High Fantasy. Not to mention that FINALLY the book isn't revolving around romance or the female lead's need to have a man(s). Thank you. The attention to the world building was exactly what I needed to wash away the disappointment of this years reads from my mind! So what I'm saying is: This is brilliant!

Content Warning: Some of the characters get raped or almost raped, it's not gone into detail. Characters have sex, again not gone into detail. Plenty of sexual humor. Also, homosexual relationships. Of course sexual humor.

I should also toss out that there is cannibalism, and the skinning alive of not only humans but animals. It's not super detailed, but it's there.

5/5- Fabulous, a beautiful obsession!

Originally reviewed at Book Whispers.

Sam (Rescue Dog Mom, Writer, Hugger) says

I purchased this book based on the blurb and cover drawing. I thought Mari's "special animal ally" was a wolf. It's not. This is my first book by this author. I see all the 5-star reviews for this book, but I did not enjoy it and won't be following the series.

I found the story slow in spots during the first several chapters. The savagely gruesome acts of human and animal cruelty were written much too explicitly. When I began reading, I thought the story took place in the past. About one third into the book I learned it was the post-apocalyptic future. There are 3 separate tribes that live rather primitively. Near the end of the story a fourth tribe is very briefly introduced.

I liked how the dogs are revered and the concept of them choosing a life-long human Companion. The story ends in a cliffhanger with much to be resolved.

Carrie says

Mari has been raised by her mother who is an Earth Walker. Calling on the power of the moon her mother can heal the clan and needs to name a replacement for her position. Mari should be the one chosen but Mari has had to hide half of herself her whole life because her father was not of the Earth Walkers. When an attack happens Mari decides to stop hiding the other half of herself after she is chosen by a canine from her father's clan.

Nik is from the clan that Mari's father had come from and is out with other members from his tribe searching the lost pup when he sees Mari call on the power of the sun. Nik finds out who Mari might be from his father who was friends with Mari's father and is determined to track her down. Unfortunately what brings the two together is Nik needing Mari's help.

Moon Chosen was an intriguing read that had me hooked with parts of the story and a bit confused and bored with others. Early on the story jumps POVs rather quickly and it almost feels like you've managed to switch books mid-reading. It was hard to figure out just what each section meant to the others until fairly late in the book.

I think for me personally I would have enjoyed this one a lot more without the slow build and confusing start. The length of the book is over six hundred pages and it felt there could have been a more direct

approach to the world and character building that could have cut the book down quite a bit and not had me wondering if I should continue on reading in the beginning.

I think around midway through or perhaps a bit farther everything began to make sense in the story and the parts that I had been enjoying in the earlier sections merged with the parts I was a bit iffy on and it became a much more enjoyable fantasy read.

Overall, 3.5 stars for Moon Chosen. An enjoyable fantasy read with interesting concepts to the different tribes of people but a very slow pace that could get a bit confusing.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.wordpress....>
