



## Winter's Storm: Retribution

*Karen Luellen*

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## **Winter's Storm: Retribution** Karen Luellen

Born into evil.  
Raised for violence.  
Searching for truth.

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In the second book of Winter's Saga we meet Creed Young. He's a metahuman, like Meg, Alik and Evan Winter, but unlike the Winter children, Creed wasn't rescued by a goodhearted doctor from the experiments and traumas at the hands of the evil Dr. Williams. No, Creed wasn't that lucky. Instead, he was raised along with hundreds of other metasoldiers in a militant compound to be a lethal, bloodthirsty assassin. His first assignment: To kill the thief, Margo Winter, who stole three children from Dr. Williams' institute twelve years ago, and return those stolen assets.

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"Karen Luellen has cranked up her series a notch higher. Be prepared to spend a few sleepless nights glued to these pages. Once again I find myself impatiently asking when the next book will be available."

Franz McLaren, author of the Clarion of Destiny Series, <http://www.goodreads.com/franz1369>

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## **Winter's Storm: Retribution Details**

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Author : Karen Luellen

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## From Reader Review Winter's Storm: Retribution for online ebook

### Sharon Mariampillai says

#### Actual Rating: 2.65

This was an okay read. The story was dull at parts and I thought the writing style lacked. The book was slow-paced, but it got better near the end. However, the characters are a bit annoying in this book than in the previous book. I want to see where the series goes from here, so I will continue it. I am, however, glad I made it through this book. Overall, a decent read.

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### Franz McLaren says

Many new authors have penned a great first book and then never matched that level again. A few authors have managed to write a second book that matched their first. Fewer still have written a second book that exceeds the first. Karen Luellen is one of these. I was instantly intrigued by her first book "Winter's Awakening". Using snappy dialogue, she brought her characters to life. By the end of her tale, I felt that I knew 15 year old Meg and had seen the world through her eyes. Meg was the star of the first book

In "Winter's Storm", the author gives Meg's brothers, 14 year old Alik, and 12 year old Evan a chance to shine. Through their words and actions the boys take life and the scenes come alive as they are forced to challenge a greater threat than the group met in the first novel, only this time, without the help of Meg. In this book we also meet Creed a new and interesting metahuman torn between what he has been taught and what he knows is right. Along with the tension of being stalked by the most relentless hunters in the world, we are left wondering which side Creed will be on when the final battle comes.

Tension starts with page one of this book and does not relent until the final chapter. With "Winter's Storm", Karen Luellen has cranked up her series a notch higher. Be prepared to spend a few sleepless nights glued to these pages. Once again I find myself impatiently asking when the next book will be available.

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### Dianne says

The Winter family is hiding out while Margo recovers from her injuries at the hands of the evil Dr. Williams, the scientist responsible for the Metahumans' development. Metahuman Creed Young is sent to terminate Margo and kidnap the Metahuman Winter children. Creed's resolve is tested, as are his allegiances as he sees the loving interaction the family and their friends have when Meg's life is on the line. Will he remain a threat to the family? Will he help them? Can they trust him?

Once again, Karen Luellen has created an amazing story that never stops twisting and turning! These characters are so real, so lifelike and again, the family bonds, belief in a higher power and the need to 'do the right thing' is so evident, I can recommend this series to anyone at any age to read.

Did I mention the family pet coyote??? Love 'em!

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### **Sara says**

The second book was better than the first! This is quickly becoming a series I will be a loyal supporter of! I loved in this book how we were able to get more glimpses into the minds of so many other characters. At first, I wasn't sure I liked the idea of Creed as an additional person to read about. I thought he might distract from the original characters of Meg, Alik and Evan, but he didn't. I ended up loving him and truly feeling happy for him in the end. I secretly love the idea of him and Meg ending up together. I know they're young but you can tell he cares deeply for Meg. I was a little upset with Cole at the end of the book! I'm not very happy with the selfish decision he made and I'm leery of the consequences he'll endure both physical and emotional.

I'm extremely excited about where the third book will take us. Personally I hope they are able to go into hiding in order to have the needed time and training that will be necessary to fight the war against Dr. Williams! I love when books have sneaky elements of hiding and chasing and not knowing who's lurking in the shadows. It makes it more fun than an all out fight or battle! Anyhow, I'll definitely get the next book for my Kindle and I'm very much looking forward to the release date!!!

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### **Amanda Gill says**

I wanted to like this book as much as the first one, but it is so poorly edited that I couldn't even finish the book. Wrong word choices (whole instead of hole...how do you punch a whole in someone's neck?), changing verb tenses mid-sentence, incorrect pronouns, and so many other silly mistakes made the book nearly unreadable for me. I think that's sad because the story concept is excellent! I like the characters and their adventures. I want to know what's going to happen to them. Unfortunately, the delivery of the story leaves a lot to be desired. I really think the solution is finding a better editor.

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### **Sarah says**

This book started out quite confusing, as we were introduced to a new character, with no idea how he fit into the rest of the story. The book then continued to be fairly confusing and boring, and although it improved a bit during the second half, I still didn't really enjoy it. We were also then left with a bit of a cliff-hanger.

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5 out of 10

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### **Nereid says**

Is blood thicker than water or just some DNA to be overcome? For some one like Creed who has never known the love of a family, the Winter's were to be feared and envied. Megan and the boys having rescued their mother are still in danger and need to go into hiding. Dr Williams is still desperate to capture them and

eliminate the thorn in his side, Dr Margo Winter. Secrets will be discovered and people will change sides. Creed is on the path of redemption but it is a rocky one and the female Meta called Farrow is the ultimate killing machine. The Winters family have to adapt and survive and evil is still out there, waiting to strike.

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### **amber says**

3 stars. Same issues with editing that the first story had...wrong word used, typos, tense changes...but the story was a bit stronger and \*slightly\* less predictable this time. Enough to make me pay up for the third book, as I'm truly curious about where the characters go from here. I believe this author shows promise, but would love to see a better editor as well as more dimension to the characters and less stilted dialogue. Oh, and the random God references are either too prevalent, or not prevalent enough. This is either a Christian fiction or not, but the one preachy scene was a little weird, and the constant prayer references are weird since there is no lead up into the characters Christianity.

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### **Gary says**

Winter's Storm: Retribution (Winter's Saga 2) is just as good as the first one. A fair amount of this story deals with a new character Creed Young. With the focus on Creed it doesn't hurt the story as much as you think. It works because for the majority of the book the Winters' are reacting to their new reality. And those life changes events just keep coming throughout this novel.

I wanted to hate Creed Young, as a new character and for his purpose. I couldn't even when he was being puppeteered by the evil Dr. Williams. (As a character, I visualize Dr. Williams as Dr. Doom, without the metallic suit. And please don't leave comments about how this is incorrect. I personally don't like the Fantastic Four. The Avenger, X-Men did better jobs fighting their villains, except in the Ultimate Universe. For whatever reason they disbanded, Johnny joining what's left of the X-Men fit him better.) Creed and Gavil are a literary example of dysfunctional. I've wanted to beat the living crap out of my brother, but to literally HAVE to kill him. I couldn't do it, even if I raised in the conditions of that hell-hole, The Facility.

There is a reveal, in this book, that took shape, in the first book, Winter's Awakening: The Metahumans Emerge and continued in this one. Each incident you could see this eventual outcome. I'm just surprised that it didn't happen sooner. But holding it off until the end made the anticipation for the next novel, Winter's Wrath: Sacrifice, that much sweeter and panged. I can't wait to read what comes from this decision. If you haven't read it yet, check out Winter's Awakening: The Metahumans Emerge.

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### **Elise Marion says**

This book was better than the first! My favorite thing about this book is that we get to learn more about the other characters that were sort of secondary in the first book. In Winter's Awakening, Meg is the main character, and we view most of what is happening through her eyes. In Winters' Storm, we get to know Alik and Evan more, and are introduced to Creed.

I loved that we got to see these character's grow, and that we get to see Alik and Evan as more than just Meg's goofy little brothers who like to play with the plumbing.

I also love the dynamic between Creed and Meg, and how it creates a tense little love triangle between Creed, Meg, and Cole. I love how we get to dive into Cole's emotions as he struggles to keep up with his friends, who are all super-powered meta-humans.

Another thing I loved about this book was that we got to learn a bit more about what makes Dr. Williams so evil. And just when you think he couldn't get any more sinister, a neat little plot twist magnifies his evil ten-fold, and you're left with chills racing down your spine as you realize just how much the evil doctor is capable of.

A small issue i had with this book was the shifting in point of view. In the first book this happened chapter to chapter and so it was easier to follow. In this one, however, from time to time there was a POV switch in the middle of a chapter, which could be a bit confusing, but only for a second. Luellen is a such a good story teller that I completely forgot about this as I read.

A thrilling read from cover to cover, better than the first! Once again, the story leaves us hanging, biting our nails in anticipation of what will happen next.

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### **Karen says**

This book was way better than the first book at the series,I am so glad I decided to read this!

If you read the first book of the series and wasn't so sure you want to continue the series, you have nothing to be unsure of, this book is amazing!

Creed is one of the Metahumans in Dr Williams compound and also is the one chosen to kill the "stealer" and take the gifted Metahumans back after his brother failed, but what will happen if he falls in love with one of them?

Well,I loved Creed's character,he was a strong,main character, and I loved the fact that he had been been battling with his own fears and decided to do the right thing.

Another thing I liked was the the Medicine references,I always love to learn something new, and to enjoy and still get new interesting information, is an obvious plus plus situation.

I also loved the aspect of surprise, I was actually surprised for a lot of events that happened in this book! I just adore this main character, and hope to see him more in the next books.

overall:5 stars

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### **Terri ♥ (aka Mrs. Christian Grey) says**

This story begins not to far from where we left off in the first book. Again I was sucked into this story from the first page. We are introduced to a new character, Creed, who is connected to someone from the first book who had an encounter with Meg.

Although he's new, I sympathized with him from the beginning and rooted for him throughout almost feeling like I was betraying Cole in a way. You'll just have to read the story to understand why.

The story didn't follow any predictable patterns for the most part. In fact, I was so engrossed with the story, I

wasn't even trying to figure out where things were headed. I just let Karen Luellen lead me wherever she wanted to take me.

I love a good cliffhanger, but having been able to read the first two books back to back, I must say I am in the dumps not being able to move on. Nevertheless, I don't regret reading and not waiting. The third book can't be released soon enough.

Great job! Again I recommend to readers of all ages.

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### **Melissa says**

I really liked the addition of Creed to the story in this book. It was an interesting look into the way "the other side" works. I also really appreciated the expansion of the brothers' characters. The pace was quicker and smoother. It made it a much easier read.

I still had a problem with the author's choice to jump tenses in the storytelling. However it was alleviated a bit by the fact that Meg was out of commission for a good portion of the book so she wasn't really a point of view for most of it.

The ending definitely made me \*slap head\* NOOOO! \*sigh\* Now I HAVE to read the next one! haha.

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### **Cat says**

Holy cow I love this book (and series)!

This book is told from different POVs, either Meg in first person or in third person with a focus on Creed and various evil do-ers. I really enjoyed the progress in plot for this story and that you get to see different sides of the story. You also get a nice healthy dose of all the Winters and their close family friends. I did really like all the family moments, since, like Creed, I haven't experienced many of them myself.

Bit of romance, doctor-y stuff, and lots of Metahuman awesomeness (or sometimes not so awesomeness). Lots of discoveries! The biggest downer to me (and again this is very personal) is the need to credit God. I completely respect that, though I don't remember any mention in the first book (or at least I forgot about it) so it kind of surprised me.

Love this series so much I purchased the next book already :)

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### **Abbie says**

#### **Actual rating - 2.5**

The characters were alright in book one, but in this installment they started to really annoy me.

This bored me quite quickly unfortunately, and I was pretty glad when I got to the end.

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