



Madly & Wolfhardt

Michelle Leighton

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Madly is your average nearly-eighteen year old girl—for a princess, that is.

Madly James is thoroughly enjoying her internship in the small town of Slumber when the unthinkable happens—there's a prison break in Atlas, the magically-protected home of Madly's race. A traitor has set free eight Lore, the spirits of what humans know as fairy tales, and they are making their way to Slumber to awaken their descendants.

The first spirit to arrive is that of Ulrich Wolfhardt, a man that was once obsessed with wolves and a young maiden he would follow through the woods. After a bite from a wolf, Wolfhardt's obsession with the girl became an unnatural hunger and the young maiden's grandmother cursed him with a fate worse than death. And now he's back...with a vengeance and a bite that can infect others as well.

Madly must learn the identity of Wolfhardt's descendant and stop him before he kills again and spreads his curse across the earth. But the only person strong enough to help Madly is Jackson, the Sentinel who vowed to protect her and the one person capable of breaking her heart. Can Madly resist forbidden love long enough to save the world from Wolfhardt? Or will she have to sacrifice her heart and her destiny to save the ones she loves?

Madly & Wolfhardt Details

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From Reader Review Madly & Wolfhardt for online ebook

Amber J. says

okay, I'm not sure where to start, because I really DO love the book, but I can't give it 5 stars because I DON'T like the ending =(

I DO *love* the character Jackson -- he's smart, strong, fearless, loving, loyal, and handsome -- definitely everything you want in a male lead character

sidenote: I want to apologize to Gale (The Hunger Games), Four (Divergent), and Gage & Logan (Burn) because JACKSON has officially taken the #1 spot and knocked you all down a notch lol

I DO like the overall theme of the story: choosing between love vs. honor & duty (so awesome)...

but I DON'T like that in the end, no one *really* makes that difficult choice* (not so awesome)
I feel like Aidan's choice is basically made for him, which sort of allows everything to fall into place too perfectly for everyone else, which almost gives it a happily ever after feel (I hope this doesn't count as a spoiler lol)

*I did ask M. Leighton about this on her blog, and she basically said the conflict isn't fully resolved and there will be more challenges to come in the next book

I DO like that this book examines the mythology of the Mer culture, which I haven't really seen in lit

I DO love M. Leighton's writing style, it flows beautifully without being simplistic

I DO know I will definitely be buying Book 3 =)

Melissa says

Mermaids? Really? This is not a topic that I would ever consciously seek out when choosing a paranormal romance. In fact, the first thought that pops into my head when I think of mermaids is a band of merry crustaceans playing the xylophone and singing, "The seaweed is always greener in somebody else's lake." But I really enjoyed M. Leighton's "For the Love of a Vampire" series, so I was willing to give this book a try. All I can say is "Wow!" I loved it. Mermaids, Little Red Riding Hood, werewolves (sort of) . . . This book had it all. There was a potential for all of this to become a giant mess, but Leighton is able to pull all of the elements of the story together to create a fun, exciting, and original story.

Madly is mermaid royalty who is living on land in a sort of boarding school. She is soon to be betrothed to her friend, Aiden. Before this betrothal she expects that she will feel some sort of metaphysical connection to Aiden, but it doesn't happen. He just feels like a great friend. Unfortunately, she does develop this metaphysical connection, but it is with Jackson, her equivalent of a merperson bodyguard. It is forbidden for

Mer royalty to bond with lower merpeople, and Jackson is considered to be lower. Jackson is gorgeous (it's required in all paranormal romances that the hero be gorgeous, isn't it?). He is also intelligent, strong, talented, caring, and he takes his job of protecting the princess very seriously. In fact, he is so serious about this job that he does all he can to avoid showing any of his true feelings for Madly. This leads to many misunderstandings between them. In fact, this was the most frustrating part of this novel to read. It is a pet peeve of mine, but I get so annoyed when reading about conflicts between characters which could so easily be solved if the people would just TALK to one another. Madly knows that she is feeling all a-fluttery around Jackson, but she is convinced that he hates her. On the surface it might seem that Jackson is angry with her all the time, but she doesn't see that his angry silences and occasional outburst come after Madly has either done or said something about Aiden and her eventual betrothal to him. I can see that Jackson is working through some jealous frustration, but Madly doesn't seem to figure that out. Most frustrating is how Madly deals with her insecurity about her feelings and Jackson's reciprocal feelings. She reacts by lashing out with angry and hurtful words. So frustrating. I just wanted them to sit down and discuss things. But I guess if things worked out that way in these books, they would be significantly shorter, and they wouldn't have some of the drama that continues to drive me to read. It is obvious to me that Jackson feels exactly as Madly does, but both of them are trying to avoid speaking the words outright because they know that they will only be admitting to feelings that can never lead anywhere because of the traditions of their world.

The love triangle between Madly, Aiden, and Jackson was interesting and original to read because it wasn't the average "Girl Loves Boy #1 -- Girl Loves Boy #2 -- Girl Can't Decide Between the Two" sort of love triangle. Aiden and Madly are destined to be together because the royalty of their world decreed it to be so, but Madly loves Jackson, and Aiden loves someone else. I won't give away his love interest so there is some mystery. The problem is not too many people to love. It is that the world of the merpeople has chosen for them, so Madly and Aiden are not free to choose for themselves. I was happy that I could heartily root for Madly and Jackson without feeling guilty for the left-over member of the triangle.

I think that it will be interesting to see where Leighton takes this story. Madly and Wolfhardt are actually two novellas that are combined to make one novel. The two novellas transition seamlessly, and I would not have even known that there were two separate books to this if they had not been labeled. The first novella focuses on introducing Madly and her world, while the second novella focuses on the fight to capture The Big Bad Wolf, Wolfhardt. Seriously -- The Big Bad Wolf. It sounds crazy, but it makes sense. While there is obviously a bad guy in this book, I think that there is potential for a more subtle enemy to arise in the future installments of this story. For this novel the royalty and people of Atlas are trapped away from Madly, so they do not play an active role in this story. However, their customs and rules are the things that will keep Madly and Aiden from finding happiness with their true loves. It seems as if these merpeople who are now victims in this first novel could potentially show themselves to be less stellar in future stories. I think that this will be interesting to see. Madly and Jackson are fighting some overwhelming odds as they try to stay together.

This was a fun book to read, full of many flutter worthy moments as well as a bit of suspense and action. It is not the end of the story. I am looking forward to reading more about Madly and Jackson, and there are still more things to discover about Aiden. Aiden's story is a secondary part of this novel, but it is still interesting, and he has his own issues to work through in order to find true happiness. I thought about this book even when I was not reading it, and that is a sign of a good book for me. I think I have found a new author to add to my list of favorites. I highly recommend this for fans of YA paranormal romances.

Donna {Book Passion for Life} says

A joint review for book one and two together. May contain spoilers.

I was looking for a short read and can across *Madly* on Amazon. I first noticed the amazing book cover and then I read the blurb and I instantly sold. Now let me just say *Madly* completely surprised me and had me captivated from start to finish. I loved it! And of course, I went straight on to read book two, *Wolfhardt* and loved it even more.

Who would have thought mermaids and werewolves could work? Well it did and I fell in love with M Leighton's work from page one. I instantly liked Madly and connected with her as a character quite easily. I found her fun, strong and just an all-round awesome character to read about. It was very easy to slip into her head and go through her motions and understand why she loved the people she did in her life. Everyone around her is supportive and trust worthy, but not just because she is a princess but because she has genuine friends that love and care her so it was nice to see she had that support system even when her parents are held captive.

The story itself was intense, action packed and dangerous. I loved finding out about Madly's world under the sea and what her life is like above ground but most of all, I loved finding out about Jackson. *Sigh* Jackson! He literally took my breath away, but of course with Madly being a Princess and Jackson being of a lower status; a sentinel who trains and protects Atlas, it's forbidden for them to ever be together. There love however does shine through and they have several heart-warming moment together and boy I WANT MORE!! I love Jackson and I think any fans of Jennifer L.Armentrout's Covenant series will love Madly's world just as much as me.

Overall, I'm extremely glad I picked up this series and I cannot wait to continue with book three once it's been released.

Suzanne says

I'm reviewing books 1 and 2 together as *Madly* is really only a novella, introducing us to the characters and the world they live in and preparing us for book 2.

Madly James is a mermaid princess doing an internship at the school in Slumber, together with her friend Jersey and her bethrothed, Aidan, also merfolk. This is so they can spend some time with the humans they are bound to protect.

After their resident advisor, Lady Sheelagh is found murdered, Jackson a sentinel, and Madly's previous crush, assigns himself to protect Madly, as the lore have escaped. They are holding Madly's sister Truly as leverage against her parents, Warden Major and Warden Queen, who rule the mermaid world beneath the sea. And apparently, the only ones who can save them are Madly and Jackson.

Madly and Wolfhardt kicks off here with the discovery that the first lore to arrive in Slumber is Wolfhardt. He is the wolf from the story of Little Red Riding Hood. The lore are connected to the fairy tales, with the modern day fairy tales being a retelling of what really happened with the lore in the past.

Madly and Jackson have to find out who the relative of Little Red Riding Hood is. They find her and Madly tells her of her heritage and the danger she's in.

These books didn't impress me at all. The world building was really bad. I know nothing about Slumber or Atlas or why they have to do an internship and why they protect the humans of Slumber, and, from my perspective, only the humans of Slumber? Is Slumber separate from the rest of the world? And why do the relatives of the lore reside there? There's so much that we don't find out the reasoning behind.

The characters are completely one dimensional. Madly is betrothed to Aidan and will apparently start to have really strong feeling for him soon, though again, the author doesn't go into any detail about this. Anyway, next you know, Aidan is falling for and connecting with someone else and Madly is still head over heels for Jackson??? And one really annoying thing, Madly's parents and sister are being held captive and yet all her inner dialogue is about Jackson. She gives very little thought or worry to her family!!

I felt this book ended prematurely too. Where this left off and the next book started really felt to me like it should have been a continuation of this book.

Needless to say I won't be continuing on with the series. I've read some good reviews of these books so there's obviously people out there who took a lot more out of these books than I did.

Fisher Amelie says

I happened to read the novella before I got to read the complete novel and was stuck with having to wait for the glorious results for a few weeks. It was the longest weeks of my life! Okay, okay, maybe that was a bit dramatic. Hey, it's in my nature but I do admit I had been waiting for the release more than any other book this year. Why, you ask? Well, because I love different and 'Madly and Wolfhardt' is unparalleled. Unparalleled, and not to mention, a breathtakingly beautiful story with equally stunning characters.

Mermaids and werewolves and creatures of Lore, oh my! That's right. Mermaids and werewolves seem an unlikely combination, I know, but now it seems like the most natural blend in the world, despite the fact that it's fiction, because Leighton's writing is flawless, smooth, and goes down like nectar from the gods. Tasted just as good, too, because the plot was so fascinating I felt hungry for more when I turned the last page. Nyuck. Nyuck. Seriously, though, the author took it in directions I never imagined and surprised me at every turn. The pacing was so superb, I was never left wanting to get to the next page, like some Indie's make me do. (Leighton never does this, by the way, in any of her books.) So, I think it goes without saying that I read the entire thing in one sitting. Laundry, be darned.

And now, drum roll please. My favorite part. Jackson. Oh, Jackson, Jackson, Jackson. At first glance, you think broody, broody and temperamental but as his character progresses his depth is revealed, exposing a selfless warrior and bonafide hunk. His silent mantra reads, 'For Madly. Always for Madly.' And silent, he is. He's self-sacrificing and in agony but his job is to protect Madly so he steals himself, for her. By the end of the novel, your heart is left aching for him which makes me want him for my own. I'd like to gather him up and place him in my pocket for later he's so amazing.

So, with that, I will walk away from this review with Jackson in my pocket because apparently I'm a thief and a warm heart because apparently I'm a sucker for a dynamic love story.

Joy (joyous reads) says

A bit of a background: Ages ago, Lucifer and Proserpine created evil creatures called Lores. Lucifer, being the dark angel that he was, perhaps saw opportunity to rule the entire universe (I'm just guessing - the author didn't really explain why or maybe there was a myth involved?), cast Proserpine out of the Underworld. Proserpine turned to Neptune for help, in which he agreed on the condition that she'd disclosed everything she knew about the creatures. Neptune then, created a prison for these creatures with a set of four keys able to hold these spirits. The story actually begins when one of those spirits escaped, locking down Atlas with Princess Madly's parents and sister, Truly inside. Since Madly holds one of the keys, she's the only one with the capability to trap Ulrich Wolfhardt's spirit and free Madly's people in Atlas. Who is Ulrich Wolfhardt? Well, long story short - he's a wolfman (not to be confused with a werewolf) obsessed with the Straus Maiden. So when his spirit escaped he continued to hunt the Straus bloodline by possessing his immediate descendant. Once they saved the descendant of the Straus Maiden, then and only then can they capture Wolfhardt and send him back to where he belongs. Confused yet? Don't be. The story is easy to follow once you get into the groove.

THE GOOD:

I'm really interested to find out how the author will incorporate the other folklore into this mer series. I think it's highly innovative for her to use these fabled sea dwellers as a vessel, while putting a spin on some of the fairy tales we've come to know of so fondly. The chemistry between Jackson and Madly was explosive and brownie points for the forbidden romance element. I'm dying to read the next book to find out how their relationship is going to work considering Jackson is a pauper to his Princess. Their bloodlines mixing is a no-no to the kingdom so I'm really anxious for their sakes.

THE NOT-SO:

This is a series with a whole lot of promise. But there were some plot elements that I really felt were unfinished. For instance: there was an incident in the prequel which hinted that Madly could hear what Jackson was thinking. I was looking forward to reading more about this in the second book, but I was disappointed to discover that it was something the author didn't really delve into. Another one was the geeky boy who'd watched Kellina from afar. Considering the time and focus spent on this boy, his role didn't really go anywhere - a decoy, if you will. While I swooned over Jackson and gushed over the romance, I sometimes found myself frustrated with Jackson's constant pulling and pushing. Also, about 70% of Madly's thoughts were of Jackson instead of worrying about her family in Atlas. I can sympathize pining for a guy to a point, but all the longing and wanting and lusting was a bit overdone in my opinion.

THIS IS HOW I REALLY FEEL:

Regardless of my grievances stated above, I'm still dying to read the next book. This ended in a cliffie and we haven't really seen the actual world of the mers. I'm also dying to read more about how the royals are going to react to Madly's mating tie. All in all, I think this will be an amazing series rich in adventures and romance. The prequel is a good place to start.

Courtney Cole says

I am trying very hard to think of words to describe M. Leighton's latest novel, Madly and Wolfhardt. Creative... ethereal... intoxicating... fascinating... all of these words apply.

I can honestly tell you that in a literary world where everything has been done before in one way or another, THIS story has never been done. Mermaids, fairy-tales, werewolves... oh my! And on the surface, it doesn't sound as if those things should go together.

But, with her incredibly adept writing skill, M. Leighton weaves a tale that is believable and fascinating. I was absorbed into this fantasy world from the very first delicious page. The fantasy Mer world is woven with so many details that I felt as if I was actually there with Madly and the swoon-worthy Jackson (who incidentally, is my new favorite leading man out of ALL of M.Leighton's leading men).

I adore this book. It is officially my new favorite M.Leighton book... and I would be highly surprised if it didn't become yours as well.

Jackie -Sated Faery says

AMAZING! Honestly, when I first saw this I wasn't too sure if mermaids sounded very exciting or not. But this is such a great author that she has had me daydreaming about a fish-man! (who thankfully doesn't keep his scales when he's on land- so it's not as weird as it sounds!) Madly is your basic teenager (besides the whole mermaid princess thing) until all hell breaks loose underwater and she is forced into an adult position immediately. She is torn between thinking with her head so she can save her people follow through with the future her parents have planned for her and thinking with her heart so she can be with her forbidden love and be happy. Madly & Jackson have to work together to find the Wolf spirit (Wolfhardt) who has escaped from his underwater prison, before he can begin his killing spree. This story is filled with action and suspense to keep you on your toes and constant frustration surrounding Jackson, the sexy sentinel that watches over Madly. This is one of those books that you won't be able to put down until you finish it! I cannot wait for more!

Alexandria Nicole says

I DEVoured this book! I absolutely loved it. Although I've never read a story about mermaids before, this story seemed completely original to me. Leighton incorporated fair tales into this story in a great way that makes perfect sense. She captured my attention within the very first few pages of the book and I couldn't put it down after that. Madly is a very strong character and she's really in tune with her feelings. She thinks like a normal 18 year old girl would so it's realistic. And Jackson, whew, don't get me started on him. A huge, sexy chunk of man that I would love to meet in real life. He's probably one of my new favorite fictional males. I will admit sometimes I felt like things were a little confusing but they weren't so awful that I had to quit reading. I've been that way with a lot of books and they've been some of my favorites as well. M. Leighton did a fantastic job with Madly's story on saving her family. I CANNOT wait for Book 3!

Carrie Ardoin says

Madly James is a mermaid princess whose parents have been captured. Her underwater home, Atlas, is in lockdown because the deadly prisoners called Lore have escaped. These nightmarish creatures are from fairy tales, but in this world are very real.

Madly and her guardian, Jackson, are charged with the safekeeping of a girl who may be under attack by one of the Lore. But things start getting complicated when Madly realizes her true feelings for Jackson, whom she can never have as she is a member of the royal family. Can she protect her friend, and her heart?

At only about 125 pages, this was a short book. So I'll do this review as a list.

What I liked:

--The mix of fairy tale creatures and mermaid myth. The basis for the world is very original and mixes together in a cool way.

--Madly's attitude. She is a princess, and she acts like one. Madly isn't afraid to speak her mind and give orders when they need to be given.

--Mix of romance and action. This book had a great balance of aspects I loved.

What I didn't like:

--World building. I didn't get a great picture in my mind of Slumber or Atlas.

--Madly's attitude with Jackson. The way the relationship went back and forth was maddening (LOL, pun). It's also something I've seen in a lot of books. The feelings Jackson has for her are obvious to everyone EXCEPT Madly. Even the reader knows!

--The ending. I kind of felt like the ending went too fast. To be honest I didn't completely understand what went on and the events seemed to contradict earlier parts of the story.

This book was kind of back and forth for me, but I will read the next one in the series.

Jalyn says

Oh so good! Unless some of the Lore captures are combined, I'm guessing there will be a total of nine books in this series and that really has me pumped!

Brief description

Madly is a mermaid princess who's parents are trapped in her underwater home of Atlas. While they're being held captive, it's up to Madly to capture the Lore (spirits) who are the bad guys in human fairy tales. In this book she's after Wolfhardt who is the wolf we know from the story "Little Red Riding Hood."

What I loved

Um, pretty much everything. I love Madly. She's an awesome heroine that isn't afraid to do what needs to be done to save others. Jackson is a really good love interest. I felt their feelings while reading the book and I was deliciously tortured by their I-want-you-but-I-can't-have-you relationship. Some of the scenes were...wow!

What I didn't like

Hmmm. I can't really think of anything.

Brief thoughts

4.5 stars from me, but I'm rounding up. I never thought I'd enjoy a book about mermaids, but I loved this book! I'm going to start *Madly and the Jackal* right now! The only thing that has me bummed....it looks like I'm going to have to wait another year for book 4.

Andrea says

After reading MADLY, I was eager to continue the series. MADLY AND WOLFHARDT, book two, is where the adventure truly begins. In effort to capture the escaped Lore and free her family, Madly must find Wolfhardt, more commonly known as The Big Bad Wolf from Little Red Riding Hood. With the help of her best friend Jersey, and Sentinel, Jackson, Madly must piece together the clues, putting herself and her friends in danger. And though her royal lineage leaves her promised to another, Madly's heart continues to yearn for Jackson.

I don't know how I managed to stay in the dark on this, but I had no idea that the Madly Series includes fairy tale lore. I mean, the word "Lore" is included in the synopsis and in the story. But until it was almost explicitly stated, I was clueless. What a dummy I am! If I had known, I would've been even more eager to read the series. M. Leighton's use of fairy tale legend was clever and fun. Even though, like I stated before, Wolfhardt is based on wolf from Red Riding Hood, Leighton loosely used the tale we know from childhood, and created her own legend. It was so cool!

As much as I love the story, I would be a big fat liar if I didn't come clean and admit that what truly makes this series such a fantastic read is The Love Story. Madly and Jackson. Sigh..

The story of Jackson and Madly proves that Leighton has a brilliant flair for writing chemistry. The tension between the two is nearly combustible. The longing for one another they share made me ache for them. And then, Jackson uttered the words, my favorite passage (thus far) in the series:

"When Jackson leaned down and pressed a sweet kiss to my cheek, he whispered in my ear, 'I love you, Madly James and if I never see you again, know this: someday, whether it's today or a hundred years from now, I'll die with you on my mind.' " (ebook, 82%)

Thud. <---The sound my heart made when I read that. My eyes burned with tears, my heart felt ready to burst. If nothing else, characters with that depth of emotion should sell you on this series.

MADLY AND WOLFHARDT was a joy to read. Full of fun characters, adventure, and great story-telling, who could ask for more?

Favorite Quote:

"I couldn't help the moan that escaped my lips. At that moment, I was lost to all else but Jackson. There was no right or wrong, no should or shouldn't, no do or don't - only feeling. Strong, all-consuming feeling that I had neither the strength nor the desire to resist." (ebook, 38%)

Dani says

4.5/5 stars (rounded up for Goodreads) :)

Future Warden Queen of the Mer, seventeen year old Madly James is currently residing in the small town of Slumber where she is given the unique opportunity to learn about and live among the people she will one day rule. When eight of the dreaded Lore, evil spirits the rest of the world commonly recognizes as fairytale villains, are released from Mer captivity, they threaten the safety of all magical descendants, not to mention the world. An unknown traitor has set this devious plan in motion and has also taken Madly's family hostage. Endowed with special abilities only granted to the royal family, Madly is the only one who can recapture the missing Lore, save her family and her kingdom.

The most immediate threat to the inhabitants of Slumber comes from the Lore, Wolfhardt; a bloodthirsty wolf-monster that once stalked a little girl in red through the woods to her grandmother's house. Now that he's escaped, he's back for the girl's descendant with one goal in mind – to finish what he started centuries before. Aiding Madly in her quest to stop and imprison Wolfhardt is Jackson, the handsome Sentinel to whom she lost her heart so long ago, but with whom a relationship is strictly forbidden by the morays of Mer society. Will Madly be able to protect her people and her heart?

First of all, can I just say how much I love mermaids? Well, I am (going to)...and I do (love mermaids). There's just something romantic and utterly other-worldly about a half-human, half-fish, magical race that lives beneath the seas and Leighton has created a beautiful mythology and history behind her Mer culture. There are many tantalizing tidbits about Madly's society sprinkled throughout the book that together create a wonderfully detailed picture of this magical world – why it exists, how it works and how it is structured. I especially love the whole idea of the Lore as these evil, malicious spirits intent on wreaking havoc, that to common knowledge only exist in children's storybooks as fairytale villains. If you stop to think about it, a lot of those un-Disneyfied fairytales by the Brothers Grimm and others are incredibly frightening stories that could keep many a small child awake at night, but are easy for adults to dismiss when regulated to the realm of imagination. I mean, just imagine if Rumpelstiltskin were real, or Mother Goethel, or the cannibalistic witch from Hansel & Gretel? Deliciously terrifying, right? Leighton does a wonderful job of bringing to life the rather horrifying side of fairytales in her re-imagining of an ages-old tale. I love when authors are able to accomplish world building so well and I'm able to immerse myself in new, exciting universes. Leighton's descriptions are so vivid that it makes it easy to imagine what Madly's world and its inhabitants look like.

At its heart, Madly & Wolfhardt is a love story. And I'll admit, I'm a complete sucker for the love vs. duty type of romance. There's just something about forbidden love, the love that isn't meant to be, that I just adore. It makes me cheer on harder for the seemingly ill-fated lovers and become that much more invested in their relationship. I also should probably admit that I'm also a total sucker for romances involving people who have a shared history/childhood friendship; oftentimes there's so much more depth to those kinds of relationships because of the shared familiarity that exists between them. So needless to say, I was completely sucked in by the heart-wrenching, sweet, tempestuous romance between Madly & Jackson.

Madly herself was a very compelling character. Though a princess, and the lone member of the ruling family free of the Lore's clutches, she wasn't about to let anyone treat her like some fragile thing that needed protecting. When she discovered her world, family and friends were in trouble, she stepped up and was ready to do something about it. Courageous, stubborn to a fault, slightly impetuous, confident, regal yet

compassionate Madly embodies everything I imagine a good princess to be and she's really a lovable character.

In fact, all of the characters had a wonderful uniqueness and weight to them, though I probably loved Jersey the most – über quirky and completely endearing. I won't say much about it, but I think Leighton did some interesting things with her characters and took them in some unexpected directions that ultimately I was very pleased with. You'll just have to read it to figure out my oh-so-cryptic statement.

Verdict? This book was charming; lighter in tone than her previous books, but with all the same urgency that a struggle between good and evil should have. Leighton has truly created a fascinating mermaid mythos and a heart-pounding romance that will leave you anxiously anticipating the next book.

Amanda says

M. Leighton never fails to deliver a breathtaking story and unforgettable characters! She has quickly become one of my favs! Can't wait for book 3! I might have to agree with Courtney that Jackson is my favorite leading man now!! Great job!! Loved it!! :)

Lindsay says

Okay, I admit, I wasn't sure how I would like a book about Mermaids, but it was friggin' fantastic! Love the cover art. Wasn't crazy about the main character's name being Madly, but grew into it. At least I could pronounce it, as is not the case with a few books I have read lately! Anyway, I just thought it was so original and loved the mix of mermaids, royalty and classic fairy tales. There is a love triangle that isn't really a love triangle and it never really makes you uncomfortable like so many other books. Jackson is one leading man I would like to get my hands all over...smokin', intelligent, devoted and so in love! I don't think there was a character in the book that I didn't like. I am so looking forward to the next book...is it out yet? tee hee

****Potential Spoilers****

Love that Aidan and Madly both formed mating bonds with other people and there was never any awkwardness with their understanding of each other and it seems like they will continue to be best friends and support each other. Will be interesting to see how Aidan's new "role" plays into the new book...will he still be able to turn into Mer? Obviously totally rooting for Jackson and Madly and hope there isn't too much turmoil with their relationship in the next book, but what would a good book be without some good 'ol fashioned turmoil? Jersey...have a feeling she is going to be a part of the next Lore with that set of brothers, one of which dumped her in book. It was just too weird of a thing for it to not be involved...Snow White or something?? Again...is the next book out yet?
