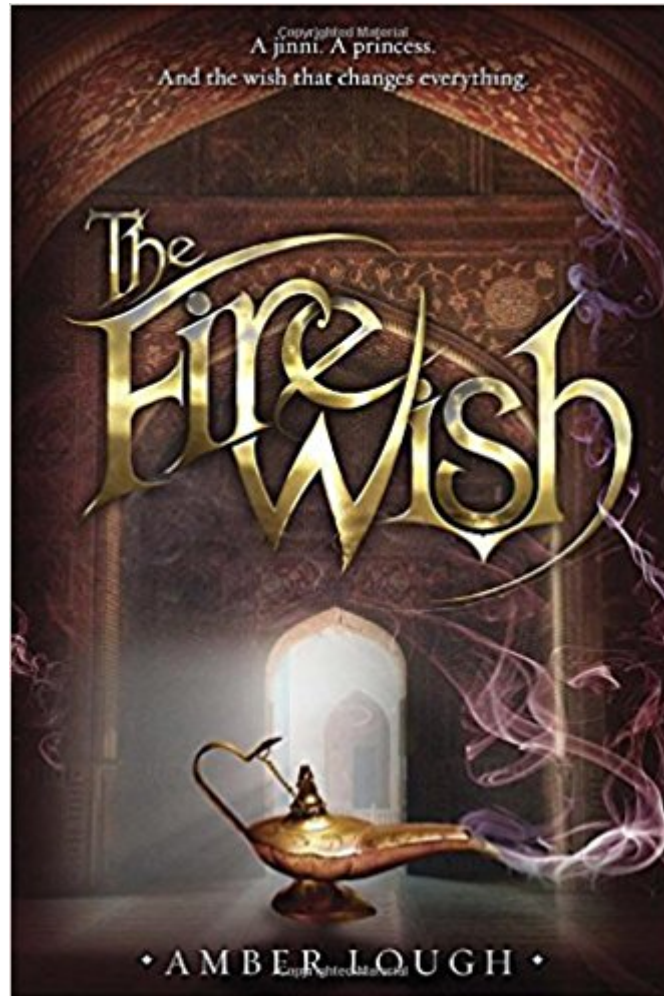




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The Fire Wish (Jinni Wars)



Synopsis

A jinni. A princess. And the wish that changes everything. . . . Beautifully written and accessible fantasy for fans of Tamora Pierce, Rachel Hartman, and Laini Taylor. In this romantic and evocative fantasy, Najwa is a jinni, training to be a spy in the war against the humans. Zayele is a human on her way to marry a prince of Baghdad which she will do anything to avoid. So she captures Najwa and makes a wish. With a rush of smoke and fire, they fall apart and re-form as each other. A jinni and a human, trading lives. Both girls must play their parts among enemies who would kill them if the deception were ever discovered enemies including the young men Najwa and Zayele are just discovering they might love.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: HL670L (What's this?)

Series: Jinni Wars (Book 1)

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Ember; Reprint edition (July 14, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385369794

ISBN-13: 978-0385369794

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.7 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 10.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 63 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,384,838 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #11 in Books > Teens > Historical Fiction > Middle East #1127 in Books > Teens > Romance > Historical #1996 in Books > Teens > Romance > Fantasy

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr 9 Up In this fresh new twist in the fantasy genre, Lough places a decidedly human spin on the jinni (aka genie) myth, the diabolical creatures of Arabic lore. Zayele, a human princess from Baghdad, forces a wish upon Najwa, a jinni, and the consequences are dangerous and life-altering. The wish causes the teens to switch places and they must contend with the very different worlds to which they are transported. Both main characters are distinctly developed, and even when the switch occurs, they maintain their disparate identities. Lough's stylistic prose is simple and

accessible; she employs many elements of imagery and figurative language in easy-to-understand ways that will appeal to younger teens and reluctant readers. A tense and mysterious mood pervades this book, but the pacing picks up too rapidly in the latter part of the novel. The world-building falters, and many teens will be discouraged and confused by the lack of development of background information and the novel's internal mythology. The use of occasional *deus ex machina* methods also disappoints. An uneven debut.

—Amanda C. Buschmann, Atascocita Middle School, Humble, TX --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

VOYA, June 2014 "In medieval times, during a war between the humans and jinni, sixteen-year-old Najwa lives below the world's surface in the cavern of crystal, fire, and water, training to be a jinni who can spy on the humans living above them. But her first time above ground, she is enthralled by the beauty of the human world and intrigued by the human prince she sees in Baghdad's palace. Meanwhile, sixteen-year-old Zayeel is living outside of Baghdad in rural Zeb, where she chafes at the restrictions placed on her life, especially when she is unexpectedly selected by the caliph's vizier to travel to Baghdad to wed the prince. When Najwa makes a forbidden trip to the surface of the world, she is seen and seized by Zayeel, who wishes for them to trade places. As each is catapulted into a foreign world, events unfold showing each young woman's strengths amid unexpected love and intrigue. Treachery by the vizier endangers both Najwa and Zayeel, who learn they are connected not only by Zayeel's wish. Lough has created a lyrical story resounding with magic, love, and strife. Besides the lure of beautiful language and a compelling story, she also touches on themes of the desire to truly belong and the discovery of inner strength. This first book in a series will hook young adult readers who grew up on tales of Aladdin and the Arabian Nights and is sure to entice others looking for a tale of romance and adventure. This first-time author has created a winning entry in the world of young adult fantasy."Booklist Reviews, July 1 2014"

In this Middle Eastern fantasy reinvention of *The Prince and the Pauper* (1881), a soon-to-be-princess swaps places with a jinn training to be a spy in the decades-long war between the jinni and the humans for survival and supremacy. Najwa, the jinn, is still learning the extent of her powers, training under the famous magus Faisal for the Eyes of Iblis corps. Zayeel, a daring young girl set to wed the caliph's son, wants nothing more than to stay with her family. The two girls should be enemies, but when they accidentally meet on the way to the caliph's palace, Zayeel makes a powerful wish that switches their lives and points of view, making each girl a linchpin for their respective sides of the ongoing battle. There's a promise of romance, though it remains slight in this first

installment in a planned series, and the focus remains mostly on the intriguing schemes the girls find themselves in. Debut author Lough's lovely and lyrical writing fills this fascinating fantasy world with delightful, lush detail. "Publishers Weekly, May 5 2014" Debut author Lough introduces two courageous, resilient heroines in this series opener, a historical fantasy set in Baghdad's Golden Age. Humans and jinn once lived in peace, advancing scientific knowledge through cooperation, but are now at war. Zayelee, a free-spirited 16-year-old from Zab, where the war began, dreads her upcoming marriage to the caliph's son Kamal; she'll have to leave behind her blind brother. Zayelee makes a wish to trade places with the unwilling jinni Najwa. Reflecting the author's background in military intelligence, Najwa, part of the prestigious Eyes of Iblis Corps, must investigate the game-changing weapon Kamal is developing. As both girls struggle to undo Zayelee's wish, they uncover their shared, hidden past and become targets of deadly intrigue. Though sometimes predictable, Lough's novel distinguishes itself by its willingness to follow through on the consequences of its protagonists' actions. "We know you didn't mean to harm Najwa, but what is disturbing is that you so freely took from someone else," the wise Faisal explains to Zayelee before sending her to rescue Najwa and reverse her mistake."

I'm surprised I hadn't heard more about this book when it first released. I preorder in paperback because it was only \$5 and really enjoyed the entire story. The first 50 pages were slow only because it took sometime to get used to all the names and who was who but after that the story quickly escalated and you're caught up in a world of jinni, prince & princess and wishes. I loved Najwa's story and her admiration of the prince from afar. I thought we got a true glimpse of Zayelee on the beach with Atish, hopefully we get to see more of her true self in *The Blind Wish*. I love the magical world created and I'm looking forward to finding out more in book two. I'm hoping for more romance and the war to be settled.

On my quest for diversity in literature, I discovered a blog post about a white woman named Amber Lough who grew up in the Middle East and Japan, and then wrote a fantasy book about characters from that area, called *The Fire Wish*. Could a middle-aged white woman really do justice to a book about Arab teenagers in the desert? She seemed to have done her research, and I was willing to give it a shot. After all, who doesn't like a book about genies? Djinn? Jinn? In this book: Jinn. Well, even if you aren't a big fan of the topic, I strongly suggest you give this book a chance. The Plot: Zayelee is a headstrong young teenager living in a small village

three days. She is chosen, against her will, to be a prince's bride in an act of good faith between the tribe and the palace. Zayeel is desperate to get out of this arrangement, even considering running away with her blind younger brother, but eventually is forced to make the journey along with her older cousin Rahela, who is terrified of the jinn, having survived a jinn attack when Zayeel was born. Najwa is a slightly timid teenaged jinni, just learning about her own abilities in her underground world. On one of her spy tests it turns out that she is the only jinni anywhere who can get past the human palace's jinn wards and enter. She also discovers some very important information about a young girl who has been chosen to be the first bride of the younger prince (sound familiar?). Wanting to know more about this princess, Najwa breaks the rules and uses her invisibility spell to visit her. Then she gets caught. By the future princess. Zayeel is delighted to have caught herself a real, live jinni, and demands a wish from her. Najwa is forced to grant Zayeel's wish to have Najwa take her place as the princess, but instead of returning home, Zayeel finds herself taking Najwa's place in the underground jinn caverns. Suddenly, neither girl is having nearly as much fun as she thought she would, and both must find a way to escape their situations without being caught. Najwa, with only the jinn-loathing Rahela as her ally, cannot wish herself out of her situation, and Zayeel has quite a bit of difficulty pretending to be a jinni when she is not. With the impending royal marriage and both the jinn and humans on the verge of war, it is a race against time to set things right. The Verdict: Holy wow, I am a little embarrassed at how quickly I stalked Amber

Lough's twitter, tumblr, and personal website to find out when the next book comes out. The Fire Wish is told from alternating points of view, which made it a little difficult to follow at times, but even that could not slow down my voracious appetite to know what happened to these two girls. I wish (haha, get it?) I could say more about the plot of this book, but I'd be giving away some major spoilers, and this is one book I do NOT want to spoil for anyone.

Visually rich, lyrical in spots and filled with exciting, breath-holding moments. It's "The Prince and the Pauper" set in ancient Bagdad, but in this case the pauper is a Jinn. A wonderful read.

I really enjoyed the read. I had a hard time putting it down. I had never read anything about jinnis before and it was a breath of fresh air.

So so so so good! The audio book was great as well and I cannot wait to get my hands on the next

one.

Predictable but interesting enough to keep you reading.

THE FIRE WISH was an exceptional book that I devoured so quickly. Then I became furious with myself for reading it so quickly, because I just wanted to continue Najwa and Zayelee journey so badly!! As this being my first jinni book, I was curious to see what was in store. And I am thrilled to say that I loved the the unique world-building, and the thick-plotted world in THE FIRE WISH!! And after reading this book and practically loving it, I know it will not be the last jinni book I read!! A jinni, and a princess trading lives??? YES, that is enough to make me want it. It's different then your normal YA book, and that's one reason I loved it!! And another reason I had to read it was that Aladdin was one of my favorite Disney movies growing up, and though it was different, it still had similarities, and I loved that!! THE PLOT... Najwa is a jinni living in the Kingdom Jinn, training in the Corps to be a spy in the upcoming war with the humans. But the day she breaches the humans wards in the Baghdad palace, everything changes. On her third trip sneaking past the palace wards, her luck finally runs out and she is caught by Zayelee and forced to grant her a wish that will change both girls lives, forever... Zayelee is a human living with her tribe when the Vizier walks into their village and informs them that the Prince of Baghdad is looking for his first bride. But it's only when her father and the Vizier inform her that she will be Prince Kamal's first wife, and the Princess of Baghdad, that Zayelee's world gets ripped out from under her, and her life is forever changed! But when Zayelee runs into the only thing that can save her from her horrible fate at being a bride to a man she doesn't love, she eagerly takes it! She forces Najwa, a jinni that snuck past the palace defenses to grant her a way out, but the wish doesn't turn out to be what she thought it would be. With a wish went wrong, Zayelee a human, and Najwa a jinni, find themselves switched and forced to live each others lives, if they can pull it off. Living in two very different worlds, and with the jinni and human war on the horizon, both girls know that getting caught as each other is not an option. One wrong move could cost them their lives... A magical adventure... Ooh, that was just a beautiful story on so many levels!! It was truly one of a kind, and with a writing that captivated and allured me, I know for sure that I will be reading more from this author!! But I have to admit that the beginning of this book had me tempted to put it down for a while. But as the chapters went on, and I found myself slowly getting more attached to both characters, I just knew there was no putting this down, and that I HAD to stick it out to the end to find out what would happen to both this girls. And I am sooo happy that I did not let the slow beginning weigh my decision to DNF this for a while,

because I would of been furious at myself to not reading it when I had the chance!!! I was also a little skeptical when I started reading the dual POV's. I'm not to eager to jump into a book if it's told from two POV's. But surprisingly, it was easy to adjust to the two very different lives, and the change of character. And after a few chapters, I was quickly immersed into the flow of the story, and I thoroughly enjoyed both characters POV!!Overall, I highly recommend THE FIRE WISH for any YA, fantasy fan who wants a different kinda read, with awesome characters, a ongoing war, and two very sweet romances that will have you yearning for more. If you can get past the slow start and the dual POV's, then I think any YA, fantasy fan will love this one as much as I did!!! NOTE: I received an ARC from Random House for reviewing purposes. All opinions expressed are my own and are not influenced in any way!!

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