



Forest of Ancestors

K.A. Denver

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Eli is not your average witch, he is a member of a group of elite trained warriors fighting evil entities that torment the non-magical world.

However, when one of their leaders is murdered, questions are raised and an ancient foe of Dark Witches, who was previously thought to be long gone, reappears.

It will take all their abilities to defeat this enemy with the possible help of an unlikely ally.

Knowing the past will lead them to unexpected revelation which erupts into a battle unlike any other. Eli is about to discover all is not as it seems and life has plenty of tricks up its sleeve.

In Forest of Ancestors, the first book of The Guardians series, K.A. Denver weaves magic, romance and betrayal into a thrilling fantasy with a contemporary flare.

Forest of Ancestors Details

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Author : K.A. Denver

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From Reader Review Forest of Ancestors for online ebook

Elizabeth says

The Guardians: Forest of Ancestors by K.A. Denver is the first book in a new series, Forest of Ancestors. Eli is a witch in a group of warriors and has dedicated his life to helping non-magic people with things they can't handle. His biggest problem is not finding closure over the fact that his now ex-girlfriend left him with nothing but a letter saying it was over. When Eli discovers someone following him, others in the coven reveal similar experiences. Surely this isn't a coincidence. After someone close to Eli is murdered, a connection is revealed to the Dark Witches that were thought to have disappeared long ago. When one of their leaders sees a vision of a war approaching, Eli turns to his four closest friends for help.

K.A. Denver brings the snark and humor to life in this fantasy adventure with a vast range of delightful and in depth characters. Eli is a tragic hero who is still dealing with the death of his father, but he's also grounded and family orientated, putting his close relationships with his familiar, Parker, and his four best friends first. Eli has a lot of attitude and walls, but he's also loyal and emotional. This core group of friends often blends together in a way that family does where they play off each other's banter and attitude, but there's so much love between them. They support and respect each other, and are exactly what Eli needs in his life. Each character has their own personal flaws, vastly different backgrounds, and personalities that make them easy to tell apart, but it's easy to see how they formed the bond they have. Every character has a personality that is easy to connect with, even the ones that never speak. The animals are completely charming, such as Arthur and Parker, who tug at your heart and are just as in depth and emotional as the other characters. The Guardians is a dazzling read that's clever, funny, and has a vast world of magic that comes to life in every scene.

Francis Benedict says

Where do I begin? Okay, as a first note, let me just say that I received this book in exchange for an objective review so I'm going to be fair and objective in my observation.

I'd love to compose a beautiful review for this beautifully written story but I just don't have the requisite magic to do it. Forest of Ancestors is a story about witches, magic and a mystical forest featuring plenty interesting characters that simply jump out at you, drawing the reader into an ecstasy of magical moments. But wait a minute, this is not your average 'Aunt Agatha the witch' story, you are in for many pleasant surprises.

Eli lost his 'warrior' father as a young boy but the truth surrounding his death is shrouded in a mystery known only to those he thought he trusted. But time will reveal so much. Having grown, with his magical powers fully developed he has become a trusted and reliable member of the coven. Eli Quinn and his white witch buddies are allies of non-magical humans and have been using their arcane knowledge of the supernatural to aid and protect them but now, and suddenly, they are up against powerful dark forces long thought vanished, who are bent on bringing total annihilation on them. A bloody battle looms, if Eli's kind lose, the entire human race face an imminent peril.

I don't know whether or not the author is a witch herself but, peradventure, then I see story telling as being her strong point. For a debut, Kathy Denver has displayed a level of creativity akin to what you'd find with

most established fantasy authors. The story is readable, characters believable, and locations vivid. Fans of horror, fantasy and even mystery will find this book highly recommended.

Well done K.A. Denver, it doesn't come cheap but on this occasion you earned my five stars.

Joanne says

A great story.

This is a great story which holds a good level of mystery and intrigue that develops at a good pace as the plot progresses. The differences between light and dark magic, and the ways in which each character uses their magic, add interest and complexity to the story. The central characters are varied and quite well crafted although, as a reader, I didn't really feel as connected to most of them as I would have liked to.

I really like the concept of the forest of ancestors as a place of memory as well as of magic, and the ways in which that setting is portrayed and developed in the story. The images were formed quite vividly in my mind as I read, and it was good to see the characters fully engaging with, and responding to, this special element of their environment in personal ways.

My one criticism - and it is a real annoyance as a reader - is that there were places in which the writing really needed more thorough editing to remove quite obvious errors that remain in the text. A less fastidious reader might not notice all of them, but a couple of them were quite glaring and should never have made it to the final manuscript.

Overall, though, I did enjoy this book. It has some quite original elements and surprising turns that complement the strong storyline.

Jennifer Redmile says

I really enjoyed this book. The banter between Eli and his 'crew' was excellent and really brought the characters to life. I'm looking forward to reading the next book in the series.

Kell Frillman says

I had to take away one star because there were some run-on sentences and the structure was a bit distracting at times.

With that said, however, I found this book quite creative! The main protagonist, Eli, was interesting right from the start. The author does an excellent job of voicing the brain of a teenage boy, a dash of immature sass yet with just enough emotional maturity to be capable of deeper thought. Organically learning about his past helped justify the fact that he is more mature than he originally lets on. I also appreciated that the main character was in fact, a teenage boy, when many books involving witchcraft seem to center around females. What I found unique about this book was unexpectedly reading from the point of view of the antagonist. Although I was inherently inclined to root for Eli, I did find myself swimming in a bit of a gray area as I was

given a unique glimpse into the motivations of the other side. Upon completion I felt I was given a good look into this world of witchcraft, and I'm looking forward to the story continuing.

Kevin Kuhn says

Eli is a witch who recently lost his girl and has thrown himself in his work, dispatching evil spirits from this physical world. Just one problem, as of late, these evil spirits seem to have become stronger, viler, and capable of physical damage as evidenced by the slashes across his torso.

Author Denver teases us with some fantastic action, but then makes us wait for much of the story, slowly building to an epic climatic clash that leaves a path of death and destruction. In between, we get to follow Eli – who's not only dealing with increasingly dreadful entities, but more significantly, a stunning ex-girlfriend that left him heartbroken. We steadily learn more about not only Eli, but also his coven and its history.

Denver does a magical job in making the fantastic seem every day. We take time to meet Eli's buddies, witches as well – just don't call them warlocks, it's an insult, translates to oath breaker. It's these kinds of little touches that build out the world of the Guardians. While developing the characters and exploring the history of the coven, Denver does a good job of establishing some solid intrigue. Who is behind this gathering evil?

This is a great setup what will clearly be an action-packed, character driven fantasy series. Denver lays the ground work for book two, but does it in an entertaining, mystical manner that delivers a satisfying fireball punch of action to end the first story. I flew through the 293 pages quickly and it felt a bit short, largely because Denver leaves you looking for the next book. Bookended by action, this fantasy will leave you wanting more.

Kirsty Noah-whitlock says

I rate books as I'm reading to see if they progress or decline. This started off with a 4/5 and easily shot to a 5 star as the book got more interesting and faster paced

Before reading I was a bit sceptical about whether I would enjoy as most witch books tend to follow the same path. However I was very pleasantly surprised as I discovered very quickly this was going to be unique. Loved the fact that it was a male witch for a change and the characters were fantastic. Full of magic, betrayal, death and suspense this is a perfect read for any magic, dystopia or thriller readers xx

S.K. Gregory says

I was given an ARC for an honest review.

Eli is a witch, who along with his coven, attempt to protect humans against dark forces. Unfortunately the dark forces catch up to them and one of their own is murdered.

I really enjoyed Eli's story, he was well written and despite the magical circumstances is still dealing with everyday problems including his crappy love life. A great first book for the series, can't wait for the next one

D.P. Tighe says

I enjoyed this tale of brotherhood between Eli and his closest of friends. K. A. Denver has weaved a magical tale in our own world. It's incredibly well written and the story flows smoothly.

Eli is a witch, I honestly would have preferred the men to be called warlocks but there is a reason given in the story for why they are called witches. Still irks me to some level, but I am not that clued up on Witches, Warlocks, druids etc. Now brace for a few spoilers.

Not including the snippet to the second book and focusing solely on the first, I felt that Nora could have been become way more evil, and more sinister. I had the feeling she was going to be a sort of antagonist early on. Its written well so you pick up the vibes through the pages. A lot is left open towards the end, which does make you want to read book two since you are left with so many questions. What I would like to see is more background into the dark ones. Possibly more background or chapters based around Eion, Mica, Thomas, Fion (Pretty sure I just spelt half these names wrong.) Along with Alex.

This gets a solid five stars from me. Cover is 5/5, Book is written superbly with little to no errors. Story is definitely a 5/5 with you hungry for more at the end.

Sandy Quinn says

The story starts slow but picks up in the middle. I was pleasantly surprised by the twists and turns in the plot which makes this book a page-turner. Finished the book in 2 days and am looking forward to see how the story will develop in book 2 (now that Eli and pals are left without their leaders). I know it's a good book when I ignore my cat pestering me to feed him. LOL

Shannon Bayless says

Eli is a handsome witch who works as a modern day magical warrior--a Guardian--protecting magical and nonmagical people from malevolent spiritual entities. When his Coven is threatened by evil witches, Eli and his friends must fight for their lives and defend their town.

Eli is the manly narrator throughout most of the book. His casual, decidedly masculine tone and his antics with his buddies reminded me of the fun TV show, Supernatural. This book has a similar good-natured vibe punctuated with really creepy paranormal stuff. The spells are vivid and well-described. The creepy scenes are super creepy.

I loved Parker, Eli's huffy cat familiar, and the newbie deputy, Alex Masters. I also really liked how Eli's tragic past haunts him and plays a role in his present.

My one complaint with the book is it uses Twitter comma rules. However, the story is still fun and not a problem if you're not picky about punctuation.

All in all, a fun, action-packed paranormal story with a cute romance on the side.

Adam says

Charmed for boys.

Yes but so much more. The character D amazing the comradely between the guys is so believable. Loved the family years but we saw more of them. Loved the tattoos. The demons were believable. Not so sure about the Magic tie?

Cannot wait for the next one. I would recommend this book to anyone.

Angela says

This book had me at warriors and witches! Loved the male protagonist in the central witch role and the dry humor in his voice. Enjoyed the different take on the witch theme- a sort of Buffy the vampire slayer twisted toward witchcraft. Very entertaining and great characterization. I am intrigued to see what else this series throws into the mix.

Lucretia says

I love to read anything that has witches. It's pretty rare I find something in this theme with male leads, that in itself captivated me. I was instantly drawn in by Eli and his friends, coven mates, guardians. Plus, the familiar Parker, was absolutely adorable. The world they populate is rich, with a history that enthralled me. I am totally down for more in this world and more Eli of course. Did I mention that he, in addition to being a powerful witch, is genuine good guy, and so swoony?

The story itself is as fascinating as the characters. There are a lot of threads all linked to the past that is about to come back and wreak havoc on the coven. It moves at a rapid pace, exciting and dangerous, yet there is a lightness between the characters that keeps it from being too dark or heavy. I especially loved Alex and her ability to hold her own with both the men, and the magic swirling around her.

The beautiful style, rich description, and creative storytelling make this a home run. Fans of magic, witches, thrillers, urban fantasy should simply adore this story. I am eagerly awaiting the next part.

Ravenna Young says

Eli, Eli, Eli...This was an awesome ride! What I adored most about this was the incredible character development of a male protagonist (ELI) that comes off the pages as genuine, unique and in many cases hilarious. It takes a lot for me to even bother with a male POV story, especially when written by a female author, but this was convincing and Eli quickly morphed to the top of my book boyfriend list. He's hilarious, his voice is strong. The witchcraft in this one was also well done, almost as if the author herself delves, and the writing

was clean, the setting dark and delicious.

The story starts off strong, intriguing, and then keeps going at the perfect edge of my seat pace. Nothing is held back as the warrior witches come up against a dark coven and secrets are revealed and dangled above my head, so now I am frantic, waiting for the next book.

Can hardly wait for Forest of Shadows.
