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Tell The Wind And Fire



Synopsis

“Sarah Rees Brennan writes with fine control and wit, and I suspect that word of this magical thriller will pass through the populace with the energy of wind, of fire.”

Gregory Maguire, author of *Wicked* and *Egg and Spoon*

In a city divided between opulent luxury in the Light and fierce privations in the Dark, a determined young woman survives by guarding her secrets. Lucie Manette was born in the Dark half of the city, but careful manipulations won her a home in the Light, celebrity status, and a rich, loving boyfriend. Now she just wants to keep her head down, but her boyfriend has a dark secret of his own—one involving an apparent stranger who is destitute and despised. Lucie alone knows the young man’s deadly connection, and even as the knowledge leads her to make a grave mistake, she can trust no one with the truth. Blood and secrets alike spill out when revolution erupts. With both halves of the city burning, and mercy nowhere to be found, can Lucie save either boy or herself? Celebrated author Sarah Rees Brennan weaves a magical tale of romance and revolution, love and loss.

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Absolutely wonderful book; I have read all of Sarah Rees Brennan's books and they are all so incredibly awesome. This one felt different to me than her others did: I can't define exactly what it was, but it was lovely and new, perhaps a bit darker, and a bit more open to interpretation in some ways? Anyway, the characters were as always beautiful and well developed and unique, and the world was fantastic, and even though I knew where it was going due to having read *A Tale of Two Cities* I was always on edge and couldn't put it down. The ending was so well done, better than I could have imagined. So much love for this book and for the author. Can't recommend it enough!

Just finished *Tell the Wind and Fire*, a modern YA retelling of *A Tale of Two Cities* by one of my very favorite modern authors, Sarah Rees Brennan. I hadn't read anything about the book before I bought it, so I was surprised and pleased to realize what it really was, because I have a very personal, though increasingly distant, relationship with the source material. It was as a seventh-grader that I read *A Tale of Two Cities* for the first and only time. I'd grabbed it randomly out of the junior high library without really understanding its significance, and I was too young to grasp all its themes, for sure. But I loved that freaking book. And if I'm being honest, the thing I loved most about it was how much it made me cry. I was a child obsessed with questions of truth and justice, and this was the book that really drove home for me the thin line between justice and vengeance, and the fact that equally terrible things could happen in the name of either. I was moved and horrified by Carton's sacrifice, and utterly broken by the necessity of it. I'd been raised to oppose the death penalty (and other state-sponsored killing), even in the name of justice, but in many ways it was Dickens who helped me to truly understand why. I always related best to ideas when they were presented to me as stories, and this was no different. Of course, this means that once I realized what Sarah was doing with this story (which took me a little longer than I'd like to admit, especially considering that many of the characters—

heroine (and retain their original names), I also knew what would happen to its main characters. To Sarah's credit, this knowledge did not lessen the impact of their fates. Over the years, I've learned that, with a few exceptions, I find Dickens pretty tedious, and I never reread *A Tale of Two Cities*, even in all this time. Thanks, Sarah, for bringing it back to me after all these years.

Oh, I think reading this finally healed my feminism-related feelings from reading *A Tale of Two Cities* in high school English. It was so great to see a take on Lucie that acknowledges the complexity of being a symbol and a person simultaneously and stresses her own agency, while still retaining the intricate plotting and thoughts about the consequences of revolution in the original. Plus, magic!

I could not stop reading. *Tell the Wind and Fire* has all the "feels" I would hope to have in a good book. I cried and laughed; I felt angry and happy. I haven't read *The Tale of Two Cities* but I want to read it. Is there going to be a second book? I want to know how the gold thread in the dark and Ethan make it in this new world!!!!

Though the end of the story is foreseeable, the whole book was such a lovely story. Brennan really cuts through all the glamour and gets to the heart of humanity in this standalone novel. Stock up on tissues before reading.

I love "*A Tale of Two Cities*," so I was really excited about this one. It's not perfect, but it shows great imagination in the world building, with some George RR Martin-esque torture devices. (Seriously. The Cages are nightmarish.) I didn't feel that Lucie was as strong a character as some of Brennan's previous heroines (Kami Glass of *The Lynburn Legacy*, Sin and Mae from *The Demon's Lexicon*), but she does have good things to say about her place in society, and how she is seen as wonderful and innocent as a child, but once she has grown up, she is a temptress corrupting all with her feminine wiles. I wish Ethan and Carwyn had been a bit more developed, but since the POV is Lucie's, it kind of makes sense that they weren't. It felt a little rushed, and the ending didn't leave me with too much hope for their society. I'm still worried for the characters. But it wouldn't be Sarah Rees Brennan if you weren't worried for the characters.

Loved it and couldn't seem to put the book down. This book was well planned and the two things that I need now is the movie and the next book!!!

This new stand-alone by Sarah Rees Brennan is a must-read. Whether you are a fan of Dickens or not, you will love the universe, characters, and cool twists.

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