

Chapter 1 : The Curse Giver PDF

The Curse Giver is an action-packed epic fantasy with intriguing characters and fantastic world building! Lusielle has been falsely accused (by her husband!) of practicing the odd arts. Just before she is burned at the stake, she is rescued by a mysterious highborn stranger.

Prologue The curse giver slithered out of the basin and glided among the counter wares, surveying the tidy kitchen. When she was sure she was alone, she grew herself into a watery semblance of the human form that defined her current existence. Beauty implied good and good entailed virtue, all spoilers to the evil she practiced. The evening storm agreed with her mood. It had been a busy night. She was on the last leg of her three-part errand. First, she had paid a visit to the arrogant fool who had provoked her wrath nearly ten years ago. Why had he been surprised to see her? He should have known that she would be back to avenge his treachery. Nothing could protect him from her rage. True, he had provided her with a rare opportunity. Betrayal was rare when one was a recluse of gods and mortals. Revenge was an elusive treat. And this night, after ten years of careful planning, she had returned to cast the perfect curse, a layered trap of death, suffering, ruin and catastrophe; a cruel, complex, and horrific work of art. Her best and most satisfying creation yet. Had the proud lord really thought he had avoided retribution? Had he expected any less than what he got? He must have, because he pleaded with his eyes and wailed like a pathetic fool while she wrote the curse with his blood. The pleasure she got from casting the curse was so obscene it should have been forbidden. The enjoyment she would get in the years to come thrilled in advance. She had been meticulous in her preparations, deliberate in her provisions, fierce like the Goddess herself. Practicality was a sign of genius. Diligence upfront saved time. And now, to the last part of the plan. The need for preemptive action had brought her to this orderly kitchen, where a thousand scents mingled to entice the nose, including the lingering perfume of sweat, toil and exhaustion. What would it be like to live in a place like this? How would it feel to welcome guests every day, catering to their needs and listening to their stories? How would her life have turned out if she had devoted her talents to cooking, tending to the gardens, laundering the linens, mixing this, testing that, catching a few hours of sleep only to begin the same backbreaking routine all over again the next day? A waste of time, a squandering of her creative genius. A dreary existence that no one could possibly relish, let alone want. Destroying a life condemned to such a fate could have been seen as merciful, if one believed in such a thing as mercy. Good was to bad as seed was to sprout. Mercy was a waste of time. She went about the kitchen, lighting the lamp, stuffing it with drying rags, until a nice little fire burned on the tabletop. She felt quite diligent as she fed the fire more kindling, a bundle of dried flowers, a bunch of rushes from the floor, some logs and twigs from the stack by the fireplace, and a jug of oil, which she splattered liberally over the place, until the fire was large enough to lick the ceiling beams and ignite the walls. Nobody in this place would survive the fire. Call it overkill, because the casting had been done and death was the only possible outcome. She was in a mood to celebrate. She sat at her desk and smiled. After rubbing her hands together, she dipped her precious quill in the ink pot and pressed it against the vellum. The realms needed to beware. Her best curse was now loose upon the world. And so, she began. I am the curse giver. Chapter One Dread stared at Lusielle from the depths of the rowdy crowd. His stare was free of the hatred she had gotten from the others, but also devoid of mercy. She had always been meant for the fire. They treated her as if she were a common thief. The brute who had conducted her torture shoved the cobbler aside, tying her elbows and wrists around the wooden stake. She remembered his name. His bearded face might have been handsome if not for the permanent leer. Had he been granted more time, he might have succeeded at extracting the false confession he wanted, but the magistrate was in a hurry, afraid of any possible unrest. Orell yanked on the ropes, tightening her bonds. The wound on her back broke open all over again. She swallowed a strangled hiss. It was as if the thug wanted her to suffer, as if he had a private reason to profit from her pain. But she had never seen him until three days ago, when he and the magistrate had shown up unannounced, making random accusations. But she also knew better than to express her opinion. Ruin and tragedy trailed those who dared to criticize the king. What had she done to deserve this fate? And why did they continue to be so cruel? True, she

had resisted at first. Out of fear and pride, she had tried to defend herself. The mock hearing had been too painful to bear, too absurd to believe. Aponte swore before the magistrate that Lusielle was a secret practitioner of the forbidden odd arts. But they did, they believed him as he called on his paid witnesses and presented fabricated evidence, swearing that he himself had caught her at the shop, worshipping the Odd God. Burning torch in hand, the magistrate stepped forward. But nothing could have prepared her for what happened next. The magistrate offered the torch to Aponte. Instead, he accepted the torch and, without hesitation, put the flame to the tinder and blew over the kindling to start the fire. But Aponte had never wanted her affection. He had wanted her servitude, and in that sense she proved to be the reluctant but dutiful servant he craved. Over the years he had taught her hatred. His gratification came from beating and humiliating her. His crass and vulgar tastes turned his bed into a nightmare. She felt so ashamed of the things he made her do. She had served him diligently, tending to his businesses, reorganizing his stores, rearranging his trading routes and increasing his profits. His table had always been ready. His meals had been hot and flavorful. His sheets had been crisp and his bed had been coal-warmed every night. Perhaps due to all of this, he had seemed genuinely pleased with their marital arrangement. Aponte had to have some purpose for this betrayal. He was, above all, a practical man. The scent of pine turned acrid and hot. Cones crackled and popped. The fire hissed a sinister murmur, a sure promise of pain. The nearing flames thawed the pervasive cold chilling her bones. Flying sparks pecked at her skin. Pain teased her ankles in alarming, nipping jolts. They were really going to burn her alive. Lusielle shut her eyes. When she looked again, the stranger was gone from the crowd. A commotion ensued somewhere beyond the pyre. A vile stink filled her lungs. Her body shivered in shock. She coughed, then hacked. It made Severo proud to hail from one of the last bastions standing against Riva, the Free Territory of Laonia. Severo was damn good at sly and sneaky. He was as good as invisible in a crowd.

Chapter 2 : The Curse Giver - ePub - Dora Machado - Achat ebook | fnac

The Curse Giver is a fantastical tale that will capture the readers interest at the start. Bren, the cursed Lord and Lusielle, a remedy mixer fated to die by being burned at the stake, betrayed her greedy and cruel husband, is rescued by Bren, but only to use her end the curse.

Brennus, Lord of Laonia is the last of his line. He is caught in the grip of a mysterious curse that has murdered his kin, doomed his people and embittered his life. To defeat the curse, he must hunt a birthmark and kill the woman who bears it in the foulest of ways. Lusielle bears such a mark. Stalked by intrigue and confounded by the forbidden passion flaring between them, predator and prey must come together to defeat not only the vile curse, but also the curse giver who has already conjured their demise. I cannot tell you how much I enjoyed this book. I warn you now, this may be my lengthiest review yet! The first thing you need to know about The Curse Giver is that Machado will keep you guessing. She is a genius at providing tantalizing hints. Similar to her Stonewiser series, she continually surprised and delighted me as she revealed more and more about the characters and the world of this story. She excels at writing relationships! She sheds the emotional shackles of her terrible past and, refusing to be beholden to anyone ever again, becomes the master of her own destiny. What am I getting at? What to say about him? What is it in me that loves an angst-ridden male? Well, aside from being cursed and thereby tortured and haunted by the heinous acts he has committed in his efforts to break the curse, and his volatile mood swings, he has brief, shining moments when he shows his hopeless romantic, could-she-ever-truly-love-me, side. Other characters I really loved were just to name a few: A myriad of additional characters go hand in hand with an abundance of intrigue. And of course, true to form, the world Machado has created is beautiful and dangerous. The Dismal Bog also gives passage to Golden Monarchs – beautiful butterflies who fly in a place of vile darkness and, when startled, escape in a puff of golden dust. Whereas, the city of Teos, where the Chosen and lords of the land meet to pay tribute, boasts stunning architecture, gorgeous shrines, and more. Obviously, as one could deduce from the title of the novel, there is the magic of the curse that was set upon the Lord of Laonia. There are also gods and goddesses, including those who fell from grace. The Chosen have their own nifty power over the airs. However, the one that was most striking was the power Lucielle wielded. Machado takes a simple thing like mixing herbs and remedies and turns it into a system so complex that it has to be magic to work! Dora Machado is the award winning author of the epic fantasy Stonewiser series. She was born in Michigan and grew up in the Dominican Republic, where she developed a bilingual fascination for writing, a preference for history, and a taste for Merengue. After a lifetime of straddling such compelling but different worlds, fantasy is a natural fit to her stories. She lives in Florida with her indulging husband and three very opinionated cats.

Chapter 3 : Download/Read "The Curse Giver" by Dora Machado (web, epub) for FREE!

The Curse Giver is a magnificent story that carries the reader into a world of curses, myths, gods and goddesses, and magic. I am not normally a fan of Fantasy. Usually this is because there are so many point of views, so many characters that you have to keep track of, it just is confusing.

Adult While the sex scenes in this book are not super-explicit, I would say that the book is intended for a mature audience. Brennus, Lord of Laonia is the last of his line. He is caught in the grip of a mysterious curse that has murdered his kin, doomed his people and embittered his life. To defeat the curse, he must hunt a birthmark and kill the woman who bears it in the foulest of ways. Lusielle bears such a mark. Stalked by intrigue and confounded by the forbidden passion flaring between them, predator and prey must come together to defeat not only the vile curse, but also the curse giver who has already conjured their demise. The Curse Giver is an action-packed epic fantasy with intriguing characters and fantastic world building! Lusielle has been falsely accused by her husband! Just before she is burned at the stake, she is rescued by a mysterious highborn stranger. However, she discovers that her life may be in just as much danger as it was before – this stranger is supposed to kill her because of the mark on her back, though no one will tell her why. Lord Brennus of Laonia is cursed. The only way to stop this curse from destroying his homeland is to find and kill the woman with the mark. But when he finds her, he discovers that killing her is not so simple – and first he must save her from the evil forces that would like nothing more than for the curse to be realized. Took time to draw me in. Mysteries of the curse are unfolded very slowly. This is actually directly related to my first point. I was very intrigued by the curse and its devastating results and definitely interested in its details. But it felt like bits of information about the curse were few and far between at first. And then, toward the end of the book, it feels like all of this information is being given to you all at once – it was almost overwhelming. This is really just a personal preference, though, and might not bother other people at all! I thought that Machado did an excellent job of creating a fantasy world that felt real and was captivating. One of my favorite scenes of the book was when she extracted a giant parasite from a horse with a dangerously foul-smelling concoction and had to stave off an attack from the creature! Lusielle is an amazingly strong and intelligent heroine. Not only that, but she inspires others to be better – nobler, stronger. Her sense of pride, her strength and her selflessness are pretty much amazing. Just like Lusielle, Bren shows incredible strength of character. But he is tortured by guilt and pain because of what he feels forced to do by the curse. He believes himself to be a horrible man – unredeemable – but with Lusielle he somehow starts to see the possibility of redemption. His character is incredibly complex as are his motives for his actions, which adds an incredible richness to the story! This makes for a lot of heart-stopping, hold-on-to-your-seat action sequences! The Curse Giver is a wonderful example of high fantasy, written with heart and intelligence. While this story is definitely complete, the epilogue hints at a possible story for future installments? This book was provided to me by the author in exchange for an honest review. No other compensation was given.

Chapter 4 : The Curse Giver by Dora Machado

The Curse Giver. Winner of the Silver IndieFab Book of the Year Award. Finalist in the Fantasy category of the USA Best Book Awards. Finalist for the ForeWord Book of the Year Award for SF/F.

The Midianite Curse by Lois The fifth of the seven curses that parallels the giver gift is called the Midianite curse. The identify lie is, "I can provide the resources for other to possess their birthright. At a particular time of the year, things are devoured for no apparent reason, other than the time cycle. The blessing is also related to time, and that is the freedom to accumulate resources from year to year and from generation to generation, so that there are enough assets to leverage major change. Time is the first thing which you created on the first day, therefore it is the first-fruits of your creation. And the first-fruits of everything, is dedicated to you, and thereby it is made holy. So I proclaim, that since I am a child of God, your intent was that I walk in holy time. It was not your intent that the seasons of my life be devoured, yet I acknowledge that the defilement and the devouring is my fault. I ask you to open the books to my family line and I reject and renounce the spirit of control in every branch of my family line. I repudiate the spirit of faithlessness that has kept some of my forefathers from possessing their birthright. I reject the god of comfort and security and I proclaim that you are able to give tremendous comfort to your people when they possess their birthright. And we confess, reject and renounce the deception from the enemy that it is right for us to postpone rejecting our birthright, until a more convenient time. Lord, I reject and renounce running ahead of your time and behind your time. I ask you to cleanse my generational lines of those iniquities. I ask you Father, to take the Midianite curse from off of my life, my family, my physical and spiritual seed. Nail that curse to the cross of Christ and render it null and void. And now Father, I proclaim my dependence on you and yet in the same breath we acknowledge that we fear the flesh. I remind you that the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. I want to walk by faith. I want to be dependent on you. I want to possess my birthright but we have a lifestyle of fear, we have a history of seeking comfort. So just as you did the miracle for Gideon and you sustained him when nobody would sustain him, I ask you to sustain me when I have to pursue my birthright and nobody understands and sustains me. I proclaim my dependence on you and I ask you to save me not only from the enemy, but from myself. And now Father, at every place which the enemy used to curse, where you desire to release blessings, let your will be done. I ask that the blessings which you decreed for me will be released in the seasons which you decree. Father, I ask for Israel, that you will protect them from the evil one and that you will bring them to true spiritual liberty, from all seven of these curses. I thank you in advance for the sanctifying of time, for me, and for my generations, in Jesus name. I recommend it highly.

Chapter 5 : Review & Giveaway “ The Curse Giver by Dora Machado ” Feed Your Fiction Addiction

Hints, Guides and Discussions of the Wiki content related to Curse Giver should be placed in the Discussion Topic. If the topic isn't already created (i.e. the link brings you to an empty search) then you must create the topic, using the topic naming convention explained here.

But first, let me tell you a little about the story. Stalked by intrigue and confounded by forbidden passion, predator and prey must band together to defeat not only the vile curse obliterating their lives, but also the curse giver who has already conjured their ends. Please forgive me if I seem a little on edge. Perhaps we can start with the basics. What should I call you? Curse giver is fine. Why would you want to know my name? Well, for easy reference, I suppose. Have you been cursed lately? Why do you ask? People who want to know my name usually have an agenda. What do you mean? There are people who say that one way of defusing a curse is to learn the name of the curse giver. Like I would tell you. My given name is Jalenia. Jalenia, how old are you and where do you live? Suffice to say that I travel the land of the Thousand Gods, east and west of the great river Nerpes. Okay, well, do you want to tell us a little about your occupation? I make my living casting curses in the human realm. Why did you agree to do this interview? But I was curious about you. After all, you wrote me. You must have some redeeming qualities. Maybe you or one of your readers needs my services? How about we talk about the book? Do you feel like I did a fair job portraying your character? Creatures like me are never fairly portrayed. We are secretive, devious and mysterious by nature. We believe in wickedness over goodness. We enjoy doing evil. We have to cast curses to exist, and yet people fear us because we do our job so well. Face it, villains never get fair press. So you felt like I was unfair in the way I portrayed you? I mean, I like being evil, and you got that part down. Oh, yes, you wrote me devious and powerful, just the way I am. So what if the readers loathe me? In the story, why did you curse the Lord of Laonia with such a virulent curse? He deserved to be cursed. He and his entire line deserved to suffer, all the way to the last of his sons, Bren, whose tragic story you tell in *The Curse Giver*. He was a fighter, that one. His sense of duty was as impressive as his endurance. It almost sounds like you admire the Lord of Laonia. I really enjoyed stringing him along. He waged a good fight. I relish what I do and I enjoy a worthy opponent every so often. Heroes like Bren are hard to come by in my business. Fear usually neutralizes the cursed. He refused to be neutralized. He made it interesting for me. Did you ever feel any compassion for him? Death is nourishment, craft is breath, work is life, grief is gold. You wrote those words into my dialogue. You ought to know better. Did you have any positive emotions towards the Lord of Laonia? Did you at any time regret his suffering? Loathing, hatred and revulsion are thrilling, satisfying emotions worth living with and for. I cherished the Lord of Laonia as my enemy because he refused to forget and forgive. He knew that I was dangerous and would always remain so. He was a creature after my own heart and I will forever relish the scent of his scarred soul. Did you at least feel bad for all the suffering you caused Lusielle? The remedy mixer had it coming. She thought maybe she was going to be able to defeat me with her potions, to heal the curse from the very man that was trying to kill her in order to save his people from destruction. Little did Lusielle know about how foul and terrible her death would be at the hands of the man she tried to heal. Little did she know about the terrible secret that the Lord of Laonia kept from her until the very end. What are your virtues? I want nothing to do with virtues. Okay, let me rephrase the question. What are your strengths? I can command the elements, travel swiftly through astonishing means, and kill the strongest man with but a twist of my wrist. These are the traits that make me the most powerful curse giver in the realms. What are your weaknesses? Shudder when you hear my name. Did you fall in love in the book? Those two fought off the forbidden attraction growing between them almost as hard as they fought their enemies and me. What did Lusielle see in the bitter, wretched lord fated to die by my hand? Why would she want to heal the very man who was destined to kill her? I mean, what kind of madness fuels that type of compassion? I never did figure all of that out. If you ask me, love is a pretty disgusting ailment. It makes the heart weak and the mind feeble. Lust, on the other hand, is a bit more interesting, something that perhaps I might consider to ease my boredom from time to time. Are you interested in anyone in particular? Was there a point in the book when you were

afraid that your curse was going to be defeated? She ended up being stronger, more skilled and resilient than I had anticipated. Perhaps I should have taken care of her early on. Until he found Lusielle, the Lord of Laonia was all brawn, wrath and desperation, easy to tease, mock and mislead. But together, they tried to defeat my curse. She gave him hope. Hope is another disgusting emotion, a dangerous delusion. You ought to try it sometime. Spoilers aside, did you like the way the story ended? Some might think the ending curious, but I think that it reflected the true measure of my power and strength. Doomed and damned are the souls of the cursed. Useless are their struggles. Do you have any words of wisdom for me, if I decided to write another book with you in it? Embrace the wickedness within and you will find me; relish it and you will understand me. Thank you for this interview, curse giver Jalenia. Will we ever see you again? Perhaps if *The Soul Chaser* has a story to tell, you will include me in it, for cursed souls rarely live for long and the soul chaser must come.

Chapter 6 : The Curse Giver (Audiobook) by Dora Machado | blog.quintoapp.com

To defeat the curse, he must hunt a birthmark and kill the woman who bears it in the foulest of ways. Lusielle bears such a mark. Stalked by intrigue and confounded by the forbidden passion flaring between them, predator and prey must come together to defeat not only the vile curse, but also the curse giver who has already conjured their demise.

I just finished reading *The Curse Giver* last night at 3: I started reading it hesitant, I ended up absolutely enthralled, but ultimately very disappointed. I will try to keep this as unspoilerish as possible! Where the author really shines is character development. She actively participates in and drives the story, which is a rare thing. Good natured, but short tempered. He is respectful of Lusielle and treats her like an equal. Together they make a fascinating duo to read about, they have sparkling banter and irritate and amuse each other in equal turns. I loved the first pages of approx in my version of the ebook of the novel that seemed to be a character piece about these two, their relationship, and the microcosm of their classist society they represented. I devoured that first pages in a single weekend! Then the novel fell off the rails for me. This book was a classic bait and switch in the worst possible way. This usually consists of two characters engaged in a dialogue that sounds like this: That might be a bit on the nose. That becomes endlessly frustrating as his plight is the central conflict of the book and it is, time and time again, skipped over to dwell on much more boring aspects of the plot. She was very strong as a person who, despite humble beginnings, proves to be more dedicated, more thoughtful and more witty than anyone is willing to give her credit for. I think pages in is the point at which Machado decided she wanted to write a sequel and that she needed to flesh out her world. Were that the case, the wiser thing to do would be to revise the story from page one to better incorporate the epic elements. The two main characters the very thing that kept this book going are separated for almost pages. It took two weeks to read less than I had in one weekend. I found myself getting angrier and angrier with how the last act of the book was mishandled. By far the most frustrating thing about *The Curse Giver* besides the title villain herself who shows up for a grand total of 40 pages and is deeply uninteresting with no clear motive for her villainy--which dilutes the emotional punch of the ending, in which Lusielle actually comes up with a clever and refreshingly positive way to save the day is that I can see the better book lying right there between the lines. I can see how with better editing and more narrative focus this could have been rollickingly good right to the end. I think Machado has a better book in her yet, and I look forward to reading it. I hated this in particular.

Chapter 7 : Books similar to The Curse Giver

Best books like The Curse Giver: #1 Entreat Me #2 Danegeld #3 The Winter King (Weathermages of Mystral, #1) #4 The Mark of the Tala (The Twelve Kingdoms).

Chapter 8 : The Curse Giver by Dora Machado | These are but Shadows

The Curse Giver by Dora Machado is a finalist in the ForeWord Book of the Year award in the category of fantasy as well as a finalist in the Fiction: Fantasy category in the USA Best Book Awards.

Chapter 9 : The Curse Giver - Dora Machado

The Curse Giver is a memorable adventure for fans of fantasy and one I can certainly recommend. Find out more on Amazon or from Twilight Times Books. Read my interview with the author here on.