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Rose Petal Graves (The Lost Clan Book 1)



Synopsis

The Vampire Diaries with faeries. Welcome to Rowan...Founded two centuries ago by a powerful tribe of Gottwa Indians, Rowan was a quiet town, so quiet that I fled after graduation. Staying away was the plan, but Mom died suddenly. Dad said she suffered a stroke after she dug up one of the ancient graves in our backyard, which happens to be the town cemetery. Creepy, I know. Creepier still, there was no corpse inside the old coffin, only fresh rose petals. As we made preparations for Mom's burial, new people began arriving in Rowan, unnervingly handsome and odd people. I begged them to leave, but they stayed, because their enemies—my ancestors—were beginning to awaken. Fans of Karen Marie Moning's Fever series will adore Wildenstein's new faerie-tale.

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Customer Reviews

Very good read. Found it hard to put down.

4,5 starsI had never read anything written by Olivia Wildenstein but this book won't let me go

be my last, beginning with the second book of this series! I love her writing and the tense undertone she conveys throughout the story. Her plot is solid with new characters and secrets added progressively all helping to make me read page after page. I must confess I was first attracted by the pretty cover. I love gorgeous covers and this one fits the role perfectly. Then I read the blurb and it seemed right up my alley. I love PNR/fantasy and this one promised an awakening. Why not give it a chance? Now I can say I am a really happy reader as this book had so many ingredients I am looking for in PNR/Fantasy stories: -mysteries and secrets. You will have them aplenty beginning by who Catori, our main female character is. She will be the first surprised. -old legends resurfacing and disturbing a whole community; -different fantasy characters (I don't want to spoil the book so I'll stay mute on this point) and a developed universe revolving around a quiet small town; -said quiet won't last long and soon enough new incomers and events will awaken the sleepy town; -the writing creating a tense undertone. The story was creeping up on me, leaving my shoulders tense with fingers gripping my book; -strong characters, well portrayed with some "meat" around the skeleton; -steady pace. You will have adventure but you can breathe between one drama and the next. It's never boring and the pace is just right for this story. Catori, our main character is certainly not a doormat nor will she win the contest of any Southern Belle. She is opinionated, strong willed, wary and has built walls around her heart. She can be fiercely protective of her loved ones but she does not love easily. Smart but also reckless at times she has many contradictions: loving fiercely but not willing to be tied yet; mistrustful but following strangers. As she said: "I decided I had a serious problem with self-preservation. What had happened to the Catori who prided herself on being street smart? Maybe that was my problem: I didn't seek gratification; I sought thrills. And apparently putting my life in strange men's hands thrilled me. I was seriously deranged." When her mother died a whole new world opened up to her. She was as rational as you can be and what will happen next turns her world on its axis. "Open your eyes, Catori. Open your eyes and look around. Your normal died with your mother." She will face everything head on and will adapt to her new reality. Every ordeal will be a blow to her soul but she is determined to protect her father and family at all costs. "Even though my eyes burned, I didn't cry. My heart had begun to thicken, padding itself with protective layers to weather the chaotic storm raging across my life. I sensed this wasn't the last death

on my horizon. *Brick by brick* Olivia Wildenstein build this fantasy universe introducing us to many side characters, some more important than others, some hiding astonishing secrets but every single one adding one more layer and color to the story. Some don't like having many characters in a story but I love it when they serve a purpose and help setting the scenery. It worked just really well for me. I also loved having blurred or mixed feelings for many side characters. I love nothing more than "grey" characters not Manicheans ones. It makes a story so much more interesting! I did not know if they were friends or foe. Depending on their version of the story I could not help having understanding for them. I came to like these characters just to be unsettled in my beliefs by some of their actions or other "version of events". Do I have to root for Catori's ancestors or "the others"? Who are Catori's allies and friends really? The jury is still out. So would I recommend this book? In a heartbeat if you're looking for an original plot in Fantasy supported by a strong willed heroine and a whole bunch of side characters.

I struggled between giving this a 3 and 4 stars because on one hand, this is a new obsession, but on the other, there were a lot of doubts in my reading experience. I made the mistake of looking at reviews before getting this and a lot of the lower ratings were talking about it being unbelievable and inconsistent? But I absolutely love this book (and series). I could follow Catori everywhere she goes, there's just something about this- whether it's the story itself, the plot, the idea, the writing style, a piece of the author's soul? -that makes me want to buy the whole thing when it comes out. Rowan is a sort of VIP town for the paranormal. The faehunters are buried in a place untouchable to the fae, and with Cat's family guarding the graves, it's sorta cool to get into. You have these two different sides saying one thing and another, and Catori's got to figure out which side to trust in, but it's hard when both lie to her! The problems I had were believing the unlikely actions and reactions of the people. I didn't really agree with what other reviewers were saying but I did come across a few things that made me feel like I was reading really great fanfiction (where anything is possible) rather than a believable UF/UP type book, if that makes sense. So aside from that, I still enjoyed the RH (?) vibes with all these interesting characters coming into Catori's life. It was exciting, I devoured every WORD. Definite recommend if you click with this.

Rose Petal Graves by Olivia Wildenstein is a thoroughly entertaining and a delightfully unique blend of Native American folklore and fae mythology. A sharp, well written and at times emotional read

guaranteed to entrance from beginning to end. Founded centuries before by a powerful Native American tribe, the small town of Rowan is where college student Catori Price grew up, the daughter of the town's undertaker and funeral director. Studying medicine in Boston, Cat finds herself returning home after the heartbreaking death of her mother. Cat's family are struggling to deal with their unexpected loss, while Cat is determined to prove her mother's death wasn't of natural causes. When the young medical examiner arrives to examine her mother, Cat's senses start telling her the handsome young man isn't who he appears and as Cat begins to delve into her family's Native American roots in an effort to learn the truth about her mother's death, she'll discover some shocking truths about the town of Rowan and the creatures whose history is as tied to Rowan as they are her own. I have to say I was pleasantly surprised by Rose Petal Graves. Heading into the novel, I wasn't sure what to expect as the description doesn't give too much away but I have to say, I really loved the story I discovered within its pages. I'm a big faerie lover and Rose Petal Graves was a fresh and exciting take on them in my mind. Olivia Wildenstein weaves together some unique faerie abilities with Native American folklore and imagined history in this story—it made for some really interesting reading. Cat is a strong and likable main character to follow who is understandably grief stricken from her recent loss, but also very fiery as she navigates this new supernatural world she's discovering and the dangers that come with it. Weaving a lot of mystery into the story as Cat uncovers the truth about her mother's death and Rowan's history, Wildenstein introduces a whole cast of different characters from all walks of life. Something I really loved about this novel, is the way Olivia Wildenstein really made me care about all the characters in the novel as Cat finds herself questioning who are the good and who are the bad guys. With the ancient hunters and fae at war with one another, Cat interacts with both sides of the divide and Wildenstein writes them all very complex and complicated where you as the reader find yourself liking, empathizing and understanding everyone involved. Cruz won me over very quickly, but then so did Ace who continues to be the "bad" boy and appears untrustworthy while continuing to do things that surprise you as the reader. And then there's Kajika whose very existence cost Cat someone she loved and yet whose story is so very heart breaking. There's moments of romance between Cat and two of the three men who are becoming focal points in her life, although I couldn't help but detect chemistry

between her, Cruz, Kijika and Ace. Normally some kind of love triangle is my worst nightmare, but in Rose Petal Graves, I loved all three of the guys so I'm finding it really hard to pick someone I would prefer Cat to choose. That being said, at this point it could go either way and it's too soon to really pinpoint where Cat's heart is leaning. I'm eager to see what happens down the track as my heart already hurts for all those involved. Mysterious and intriguing, Rose Petal Graves is a highly entertaining read that will impress you with its unique fae mythology and leave you ready for more. A great read. I can't wait to see what Olivia Wildenstein has in store in the sequel!

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