



## **Falling for the Beast: A modern-day Beauty and the Beast retelling**

*Victorine E. Lieske*

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Aribelle is backed into the position of cleaning house for the horrible Mr. Thaddeus Walker. Not only is he rude, he's dangerously secretive, going out at night and coming home with injuries which seem to heal mysteriously fast. She should be keeping her distance, not trying to break down his barriers. But the more she uncovers, the more attracted she becomes until the cost of exposing his secrets fades behind the risk of losing her heart.

Thaddeus knows he should have sent the girl away instead of allowing her into his home. Now she's asking questions he can't answer. And the more time they spend together, the more he wishes he could pull her close and kiss her. But he can't afford to do that. Beautiful Aribelle could never love a beast.

Falling for the Beast is a sweet romance.

## **Falling for the Beast: A modern-day Beauty and the Beast retelling Details**

Date : Published March 10th 2017

ISBN :

Author : Victorine E. Lieske

Format : Kindle Edition 205 pages

Genre : Fairy Tales, Beauty and The Beast, Fantasy, Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance

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## **From Reader Review Falling for the Beast: A modern-day Beauty and the Beast retelling for online ebook**

**★ Belle The Bibliophile ★ says**

I am not really sure about this one. I read this a few days ago and I've already forgotten most of the things I've read.

What I do remember is that I loved the heroine, I liked the bit about the Beast's curse that was a little different from the original fairytale, but that's pretty much it.

The cover's cute though. At least this book got that going on.

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**Kristin Davison says**

2.5 stars

I would like to thank netgalley and Victorine E. Lieske for the opportunity to read this book.

This is a standalone clean romance.

The idea was intriguing, but the writing was a little immature.

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**Kelly Tyree says**

Falling for the Beast is a modern day Beauty and the Beast. I loved it!

Aribelle is searching for a job and gets one cleaning and cooking for Thaddeus Walker. She is not the profile he requested but she is insistent so he lets her come in and clean for him. Thaddeus has been cursed and he works hard to protect his secret. He only hires women who are his mother's age with poor eyesight. When he sees the good work Aribelle can do he is impressed. Aribelle is able to look at Thaddeus and really see him. She looks past all of the scars and injuries and gets to know the real him. He begins to share his secret with her. He has the ability to heal people but he takes on the pain they have suffered. Aribelle takes care of him when he is injured. Thaddeus begins to believe he could really have someone in his life that loves him. As Aribelle and Thaddeus get to know one another, they fall in love. But there is much to overcome for them to be together including a disturbed suitor that Aribelle has that won't give up.

This book is romantic and hopeful. I just loved it. Great for adults and Young Adults as well. Very well written.

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## Tanya Tate says

2 stars You can also read it on my blog!

Received from Netgalley in exchange of honest review.

\*take deep breaths\*

Breathe in Breathe Out

ok.

This was probably the most mediocre, bland ,and juvenile BATB retellings I have ever read. The book was blander than having chicken with no season on it.

Let me get into the #1 reason why.

**THE HERO AND HEROINE HAD ZERO I MEAN ZERO CHEMISTRY TOGETHER AND IT BORDERLINE INSTA-LOVE TO THE MAX.**

Actually it is insta-love because they start to have feelings for each other like a week after they met. ( Even tho he got her fired from her job but that's ok. Wanting to kiss someone trumps getting fired.) The majority of the book took place in a two-week span with a month and half time jump towards the last 3 chapters. Every interaction they had I was bored out my mind and was cringing cause they act like a pair of teenagers instead of two mid twenties adults that I though they should be. I want to place beast character around 25 years old and place beauty around 20 so at least a five-year age difference between them. I mean after the first week ,where he pretty much was an ass to her majority of the time ,all he can think about was kissing her and which she was thinking the same thing. Honestly the majority of the book that's what they was thinking about each other. They were thinking this the whole time in the book where I'm internally screaming on the top of my lungs that they just met a week ago. It frustrating to the max since I'm a type of girl who love slow burns. I love for a couple to get to know each other for at least a couple of weeks while gradually seeing them fall in love.

Sometimes an author can pull off the couple only knowing each other from a week to a month and falling love with each other. This author failed miserably at trying to convey that cause her main leads didn't have chemistry at all. Their whole relationship feels forced and straight up juvenile cause I felt like I was reading a bad middle grade book instead of a YA.. The beauty of the story was annoying and noise as hell while getting tired of her mopping about her father while the beast was blander than un-buttered toast screaming what a monster he is even tho he's using his curse for good. Have him say that a bunch of times while wanting to constantly kiss her , while going into the night healing people and you have the freaking story! Oh! How can I forget about them always cooking for each other. They had more chemistry with the food they ate than with each other.

Please don't get me started on the Gaston type character which was so one-dimensional that it hurts to even call him the villain of the story cause he was more annoying than terrifying.

The best thing about this book was the interpretation of the beast curse cause that probably the only thing the

author put all her focus on. She sure as hell didn't put her focus on the characters and the relationship between her two leads. It's the only reason why it's getting a 2 stars cause I was amazed on how he takes the cuts and bruised of others once he heal them. That was something I never seen in a BATB retelling which made it interesting and original. It was probably the only thing that kept me for not DNFing it.

This is a 195 page book that took me almost a month to finish. That's has never happen to me because since I'm a pretty fast reader if I'm enjoying a book. I can at least finish a book from a span of 2 days to at least a week in a half depending on the sized and how much reading I get in a day. I'm so glad to be done with this book that I'm probably going to give reading BATB retelling rest for a while. The past three has been mediocre to me so I guess it's time for me to find another fairy tale retelling for a while.

I wouldn't recommend this one to no one.

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### **Teya Peck says**

I rarely give 5 stars, however, this one deserved the rating. What an inventive, intriguing, and wow remake of the beauty and the beast fairy tale I am awed at this book. It's one of a couple of this fairy tale that I personally have fallen in love with. A touching storyline, intense conflict, and one of the sweetest love stories. Well done Victorine!

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### **Christina says**

#### **4.5 Stars!!**

I enjoy a good fairytale retelling and this book sure did it for me! I wasn't sure how much I'd like the modern setting but it ended up coming together beautifully! I really liked the way the author kept/included fairytale elements and mixed in her own twists to make the story work. The romance was great and the story was different enough that I couldn't wait to see what would happen next!

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### **Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says**

I couldn't go see Beauty and the Beast this weekend when it opened so I decided to read this book instead. Yay for Kindle Unlimited! I love this author and was so curious to see what she would do with this story that has been retold SO many times.

This book is a little twisty and I loved the new take on the "beast" and the curse. I love that the story held to what I know but allowed me to see things in a new way. Familiar but new. Thaddeus becomes so endearing as he struggles with his humanity and tries to compensate for the beast inside.

I just loved this story. I think I was in the right mood and everything just felt good. :)

Content: mild violence, kissing

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## **Karie says**

Falling for the Beast is a clean romance. The setting is good and the characters seem very true to the Disney original, just moving in an updated world. On the other hand, there is a lack of depth to this book that really niggled at me--there was nothing that created emotional resonance for me. I didn't feel like I ever got into the characters' heads, as most of the story was \*told\* to me, instead of shown to me. For me, that is a make it or break it point. Other than that, the story moves quickly and hit all the right plot points. If you're looking for a sweet take on a modern Beauty and the Beast retelling, this will fit the bill.

Gentle Reader Alert: I found nothing of concern.

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## **Jeanne Bufkin says**

\*\* Received an ARC from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review \*\*

What a charming, easy read! This is a modern telling of Beauty and the Beast, and the main characters of Aribelle, Thaddeus, and Gavin are all well developed and have a complete story arc. I usually don't enjoy re-imaginings of fairy tales, but this one was engaging and left me with a smile on my face.

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## **Bookie says**

Beauty and the Beast retelling in a modern setting. My heart broke for Thaddeus and this author weaved a story that you didn't want to put down. I cried at the end, good tears of course!

My Thaddeus

My Aribelle

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## **Carvanz says**

3.5 Stars

Retold fairy tales are my catnip. I cannot say no to them. When I had the opportunity to read Falling for the Beast I knew that it didn't matter if I'd never even heard of this author, I was going to read it by golly. I am so glad I did. It is not a steamy novel by any means, but it was almost perfect for the retelling of Beauty and the Beast.

Thaddeus is grumpy and rude, refusing to participate in even the smallest of conversations. Belle is outgoing and lively, refusing to let a scarred hermit dictate what her day will be like. Sure, his reactions bother her but

she keeps coming back.

I loved that each time Belle received a new revelation she handled it with strength and courage. Some of this story requires a bit of suspended belief, but hey, it's paranormal, what do you expect? Nevertheless, I truly enjoyed reading this couple's story and experiencing how they fall in love.

ARC provided for an honest review

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### **Amara says**

Eh, this was a strict Beauty and the Beast retelling. So, if that's your thing....

For me however, it was just so-so. Nothing special, nothing bad. But I assume if a B&B retelling makes your heart all aflutter, this will be right up your alley.

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### **Ashley Maker says**

Wow! I adored this book. What a fun, fresh twist on Beauty and the Beast. I loved that it had a modern setting, was a clean read, and still had a great romance with lots of chemistry. The characters were fleshed out, and I appreciated Aribelle's spirit and Thaddeus's grouchiness, and how those elements influenced the other when the characters interacted. I have enjoyed other books by Ms. Lieske, and this was no exception. I look forward to more stories by the author!

I received an ARC copy of this book and am voluntarily leaving a review with no compensation or prompting from the author.

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### **Amy says**

Aribelle takes a job cleaning the house of Thaddeus Walker. Thaddeus is known to others as mean, rude, scary and mysterious. Aribelle does not know what to think of this secretive man. The more she spends time with him, she realizes his soft side. Thaddeus tries to keep up his tough exterior, but finds himself being more and more attracted to Aribelle. He cannot let this happen!

Falling for the Beast is my favorite retelling of the Beauty and the Beast fairy tale. I really did not know how I would like the book when I first heard about it. I probably did an eye roll or two, thinking to myself, "Not another one!". But that all changed when I started reading. For Aribelle and Thaddeus to be complete opposites, they sure did have great chemistry together. The story is a little bit mystery, little bit paranormal, and whole lot of clean, sweet romance. I loved it!!

100 stars

I received this book from the author, but was not required to write a review. This review is 100% my own honest opinion.

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## Carla says

*\*\* I received a free copy via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review \*\**

You'd really think that I've seen it all, being the Beauty and the Beast addict that I am, reading all retellings I can find and what not, but this story is actually pretty original. This beast is different and he actually has some very interesting powers and an unusual way of dealing with his guilt.

The plot does change considerably and, even though you do expect the happy ending, where the beast turns into a "normal" guy and lives with the girl happily ever after, the way the story develops is a little bit different.

This beast is actually a human man, with a body covered with scars, and secrets that he doesn't want to share. But when Aribelle starts working for him, he begins to open up and we start to see this other side of him.

We also have the jerk who wants to get the girl and slay the beast, and oh boy is he annoying. Thank God we don't get to see him much.

And I was glad that Thadeus and Aribelle spent so much time together, we don't get that many pages where they're apart. But I was surprised to see how fast everything happened, I thought they were going a bit too fast, they were already hugging very soon in the story (yeah, ok, maybe hugging is not that much big of a deal), but hey, she was working for the guy. A hug can be a huge deal. It was the beginning of something here.

I also loved how this is a very realistic story, but still has a bit of fantasy and magic in it. It was very well done :)

More reviews on my blog: *[Lipstick and Mocha](#)*

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