



Recipe for Magic

Agatha Bird

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Connor Roth is a fire mage who's going places. He's powerful, popular, and he has a plan. But his plan for fame and glory is disrupted when the Oracle sticks him with Landyn Glendower for Senior Trial. This is an act unprecedented in their school's history. Landyn is a water mage, and everyone knows mages with opposing elements can't work magic together.

Connor is left with a choice: work alone and fail or swallow his pride and work with Landyn to find a way to combine their magic in a display the Archmages will never forget—if they don't get kicked out of school in the process.

Recipe for Magic Details

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Author : Agatha Bird

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From Reader Review Recipe for Magic for online ebook

Susan says

This book seemed to be shorter than I thought it was going to be. I was really starting to enjoy it and then it was over. A quick, fun read though.

Suki Fleet says

Adorable story. I was pretty much smiling the whole time I read it. Would love to read more in this world.

I've read some fab free reads by this author, and I can't wait to read more of her published works :)

Recommended!!!

Tess says

Loved it!! Short and sweet Y/A romance.

Deleboy says

Oh Agatha Bird! What an exceptional tale. I don't know if I'd like a sequel, but I can say with certainty that this was one the best short story I ever read.

The setting is not original as magic and elements are used copiously, but anyway this tale was so romantically cute I might even overlook Connor's clichéd unawareness.

I hope I'll find some of her other stories.

Michael says

3.5 Stars rounded up. As I usually do with a short story I wish it had been a little longer because I really liked both characters but all in all a sweet young adult coming of age story.

Ami says

Agatha Bird is not a new author to me. Before she had a published book, I read a few of her wonderful free online fiction (even one of her fan fiction). I really enjoy Bird's narrative which is why I was excited when I saw this one listed at Dreamspinner Press's coming soon page.

Recipe for Magic dwells in a world of a magic school – where mage students are paired by the Oracle to display their power at the Senior Trial. Connor Roth is a fire mage, he comes from a great family of magic; his father is a First Mage of the King’s council. Connor has plans ... one of them is to succeed at the trial and becomes the youngest mage to ever sit in the King’s council. Except on the day of the pairing, Connor is paired with Landyn Glendower. A water mage. Two mages with opposing elements are unprecedented. It never happens. It is like a sign that he is doomed.

At first Connor is acting all “woe-is-me”, being attached to a water mage, who is not popular, heck, Connor doesn’t even know if Landyn is good at his magic. It just ruins his plan and his popularity. He becomes a pariah because of this pairing. However, slowly Connor finds out more about Landyn and he realizes who his friends truly are. And that sometimes opposites attract and can be bound for great things.

I found this a very solid enemies-to-lovers story – with a message of trying to look for other people’s qualities beyond the surface. Connor learns that Landyn is more than meets the eye. He opens his eyes to others who may not value the same things he does, who may not really care about popularity or showing off power just because they can.

I really loved their banter – and their private sessions of training their magic and their attempts to know each other. I loved the quiet times too, when they were in the kitchen, working together to make a great meal (because Landyn sometimes forgets to eat and Connor needs to feed him). It is wonderful little tale, filled with youthful emotion. There is also a great display of magic dragons – which I thought would be perfect if translated to visual platform.

My biggest complaint for this story was the rushed ending. I thought it would have been nice if Bird extended the ending just a few more pages to highlight the Trial. I felt rather dissatisfied with how it ended.

Overall, I totally loved this first published novella of Agatha Bird. Here’s to more in the near future, Ms. Bird!

PS: *For my smutty-lover friends, this story contains no-sex scenes. Only kiss. Consider this an advisory for your reading pleasure :)*

Brice Jale says

This was a **4.5** stars for me, but I'm rounding it up because I am a **sucker** for elemental mages and this was no exception!

When two mages from opposite elements get paired together, things are bound to get amazing especially when those two mages are just so perfect together!

The book had such a sweet and adorable plot and characters and I just couldn't help myself giggling and crying and getting my emotions unstable. This is a book I shall read again someday.

Hollis Shiloh says

So cute! Would read more in this world, or about these guys.

Catherine says

Let's be clear: I generally have no interest in reading YA novels. Or fantasy books. Or ones about fire mages and Oracles (really, I'm not even sure what those are, but they just don't really seem like my "thing").

What I *am* interested in is reading anything by Aggy Bird because she's friggin' hysterically funny and talented. So, dammit, it looks like I'm gonna be reading a YA fantasy book about Oracles and mages sometime in 2015 (maybe I'll finally figure out what they are).

wesley says

I love this side of YA. Would love to read more about this world in the future.

Borderstar says**3.5 stars**

This was a sweet, romantic little YA read. Nice idea and it was written in an easy-to-read style that I zipped through in an hour or so.

Unfortunately it's short length led to a few downsides - we don't really get much world-building, back story or development of characters and we are kind of dropped in to see only a snippet of time in this world where we don't know much about what went before and we are left with nothing much wrapped up - but I guess it's consistent with other stories with a similar page count.

I must admit, I should have looked at the book length before buying this, as it was just over £3 for only 62 pages on kindle, which I thought was a bit expensive.

Chris, the Dalek King says

I had totally skipped over this book originally because I had seen that it was YA, and that really isn't something I go out of my way to check out. But a few weeks later I was looking around for something

different to read, and this book came up again, so I thought I would give it a closer look. I loved the cover, and the blurb sounded interesting, so I figured it wouldn't hurt to give it a try. It's only 60 pages, so what's the worst that could happen?

Thankfully this book turned out to be really good. And I would have happily read for another hundred pages. In fact, I hope that Agatha Bird decides to write more stories in this world, because not only were the MCs really good, the world and magic here are worth a closer look.

Connor has a bit of an ego problem, to begin with, seeing as how his father is some bigwig mage who works closely with the King. And just about everyone expects him to do as well, if not better than dear ol' dad. He was a bit of a ass to Landyn in the beginning, but as the story goes along, and Connor sees exactly what his 'friends' are made of, they start to have something resembling a friendship (and maybe a bit more) growing between them.

The enemies-to-lovers aspect of this book was very well done. And I quite enjoyed the magical hissy-fits they threw at each other. With them being of opposing natures magically, they are quite evenly matched (much to Connor's consternation), but it is their more personal natures that are quite similar. They work very well with each other once they get over themselves, and while the whole Misunderstanding at the end felt a tad bit forced, the solution was rather cute. And much in keeping with their growing feelings for each other.

I might not read a lot of YA, but I do know what I like when I read it. And this I like. Even if YA is not really your thing, I would suggest giving this a look.

This book was provided free in exchange for a fair and honest review for Love Bytes. Go there to check out other reviews, author interviews, and all those awesome giveaways. Click below.

Serena Yates says

What a great novella! I love it when characters really learn something in a story, and boy, Connor has a lot to learn. As they say, "pride goes before a fall" and that is what happens here. Once Connor has been removed from his opinionated and egocentric pedestal, so to speak, help comes from the most unexpected direction and someone Connor wouldn't ever have considered worth his time. Yes, Connor is that sort of a teenager before the Oracle interferes and puts him in a situation where he will either learn to be himself or sink into obscurity (as Connor would put it).

Connor, in his mind, has already won everyone's praises before he has even passed his Senior Trial. He is selfish, believes he has a right to be adored, and has his life mapped out for himself. If he were an adult, I wouldn't bet on him being able to change, but he is a teenager and there is hope. The Oracle gives him a task worthy of a coming-of-age challenge, and for quite a while, it looks as if Connor might fail. I loved watching the slow steps he takes as he sulks his way through self-pity, then anger, then finally understands what he is supposed to learn. Yes, he is a pretty nasty bastard in the beginning, but with a father like his? I'd expect him to have some issues.

Landyn is, in many ways, Connor's opposite. He is a water mage to Connor's fire talents, he is quiet where Connor is loud and in-your-face, and he is lonely where Connor is surrounded by friends—at least until

Connor falls from grace and ends up a pariah. But Landyn is also a great mage, much more advanced than many of his peers. I suspect most of that is due to him having no social life and spending all his time studying. Landyn is also a very warm and loving boy, and someone who is loyal once he's made a friend. Someone Connor can rely on to have his back—once he lets go of his preconceived ideas about what a great mage is really like.

If you like stories about young men finding their way in life, if enemies-to-lovers in a world full of magic is an idea that appeals to you, and if you're looking for a read that is passionate, funny, and full of youthful enthusiasm, then you will probably like this novella. I think it's very creative and I loved the way the Senior Trial turns out – including Connor and Landyn's unexpected, but very cleverly designed presentation of their talents.

NOTE: This book was provided by Harmony Ink Press for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Meep says

Conflicted on rating this so not going to.

On one hand it's AGGYBIRD and I adore Aggybird's fics I don't think it'd be possible for me to not buy any published fic of hers! On the other hand while I liked it, I can't say I loved the book.

It's a short Y.A. read. The characters and what we see of their world is interesting, I thought the ending was predictable but also very endearing. But it is Y.A. not sure what age group it's aimed at but there wasn't enough depth for me, not enough tension. Aggy is known for her quirky characters and pun throwing and compared to her usual fare this felt restrained, not sure if that's due to it being a published work or the fact it's a Y.A.

Appealing but I think I'd have liked it more in first person where I'd have felt more connected. The characters are interesting but I kept feeling we were barely touching them. There's a youthful message about true friendship and acceptance and what really matters - but I couldn't help wanting more. The trial at the end seemed mostly off-page which felt a bit of an anti-climax.

Overall the story's pleasant but not trail blazing. I think though, that my expectations were too high; I was reading it as an Aggybird and not adjusting my expectations for it being a Y.A. story. It's good and I'm really excited to see Aggy getting published, but it's not *all that!* I'm not the target audience.

MLE says

A sweet, and fun story. I liked that even though Connor was a jerk Landyn wasn't a pushover, and gave just as good as he got. I liked seeing things from Connor's perspective because I was able to understand why he was the way he was, and it was nice to see his growth over the course of the story. Their final project made

me smile. A really good ya story.
