

?KINDLE? ❄️ The Witch Boy

Author Molly Ostertag –

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This was nice, the kind of gender representation that might even fly with right wing parents just because it s mostly super not declaredly but still quite clearly trans I live in Kansas These books are needed Probably not going to review it at length for now, because I have a lot of other things to review, but it might go into my SFF comics highlights of 2017 I m still working on that one.Thank you Nino for recommending it Source of the book Lawrence Public Library This book has killed me and I am dead, typing out reviews from beyond the grave because I know how to live the best afterlife.Originally, this piqued my interest because of the title and cover Witches Yes, please Boy witches Interesting Cute kid monster shadow I m in And if you like reading on the surface, that s exactly what this story is about witches and shapeshifters, fitting in or not , family, friendship, and terrible monsters.If you re of a Find the Symbolism Read Deeper ALL THE ALLEGORIES person, then you ll find a whole lot going on including gender roles, societal expectations, diversity and acceptance, as well as witches and shapeshifters, fitting in or not , family, friendship, and the making of terrible monsters and how that can be avoided.Here s what charmed me I m so clever with my words 1 The illustrations They re adorable, colorful, well rendered and, oddly, reminded me a lot of Noelle Stevenson s work, even though everything is less pointy and not as thin lined It s got a similar feeeeeel, though ok, that looks like Calvin and Hobbes but trust me, there s a Noelle Stevenson vibe running throughout, too 2 There is one gender norm pushed in this book and it s pushed so it can be shattered and all the others

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are nearly erased The protagonist, Aster, has a girl typical name and when compared to his cousins, looks effeminate But he s a boy and that only matters because he s supposed to be a shapeshifter Boys are shapeshifters, girls are witches Those are the only roles to which genders must conform in this story Otherwise, everyone is who they are Aster s mother, Holly, is the ultimate earth mother type, primal femininity, nurturing, running around barefoot in her country dress She looks like some Irish goddess Aster s aunt Iris, though, looks like she came from a punk rock band and is all emotion and reaction Other than Aster s dad, a thoughtful, family oriented, slender but strong brown man, we don t get to see as much of the male counterparts and what we do see seems typically masculine, mostly, all except Aster The other boys tease him because he sucks at doing what they do, shapeshifter stuff, athletic stuff, physical stuff, not because of his name or his looks or anything else.Aster meets Charlie, a super sporty black girl WITH THICK ANKLES who didn t even know magic really existed until she saw Aster doing witchery in her neighborhood She knows who she is, what she wants, and where she s going She is the epitome of being herself without caring what anyone else thinks about her She s also somewhat reckless, as evidenced by her broken leg It s only natural these two would fit together so well 3 Aster and Charlie s friendship is perfect There are no romantic under or overtones, they are so wonderfully comfortable with each other, they obviously love and admire one another a lot and they intentionally work together instead of doing that I have to do this alone nonsense It s beautiful and I wish friendships like this were represented often.4 There s one message that gets driven home, pointy end first The rest of them are just there, lying around for the reader to pick up either intentionally or subconsciously The cast is racially, genderly, sexually, aged ly, all the other ly s diverse And it s unquestioned Except for the storyline about defying gender norms, everything else is just accepted What a great message to plant in the mind of the younguns you re not like everyone else That s fine They re not like everyone else Also fine Find your commonalities and make friends among people with whom you connect while respecting everyone else even if you don t personally like them And this simple message is there to witness but it s not preached, not at all I loved that.I would

Goddess

Pride and Prejudice

Remember Me?

Summer Sisters

The Help

One for the Money

Something Blue

Good in Bed

Twenties Girl

The Devil Wears Prada

Eat, Pray, Love

Shopaholic Takes
Manhattan

Water for Elephants

P.S. I Love You

The Sisterhood of the
Traveling Pants

The Other Boleyn Girl

recommend this book to everyone who likes books like *Princeless* 1, *Lumberjanes*, *Nimona*, hell even *Rat Queens* 1 if you're looking for something aimed at a younger audience, and for readers who love Raina Telgemeier and or Faith Erin Hicks soooooo in reading the acknowledgements and at the end, Molly thanks her partner, Noelle, for making their house a home or something Now, aside from my sisters, I don't see the name Noelle that often so the first one that came to mind, because she was already in my mind due to the aforementioned illustration style, I wondered could Molly be talking about Noelle Stevenson I mean, they'd know each other from being in the same industry, and all I stalked them this morning and guess what They're a couple Which is kinda great because, in retrospect, I'd totally ship them even though I give no shits about people's relationships These two are too perfect and adorable to not be together and they're melting my heart I wonder if they need an aunt I only have two nieces and two nephews, there's plenty of room for two *Thick Ankles* is something that is never talked about Like, never But it's such a worry for so many kids, mostly girls but also boys, especially athletic kids You never ever see imagery of thick ankles on anyone who isn't pregnant, in which case it's shown as a symptom of pregnancy and is used to evoke sympathy or empathy, or fat, in which case it's shown as a symptom of being overweight and just think about how nice those legs would be if they didn't look like tree trunks, or old, in which case it's shown as a symptom of agedness when your body gives out and you can't be pretty any because you are ancient But not everyone has thin ankles and some people, especially people who run and kick and use their legs a lot, have strong, hearty, not thin ankles It's not a terrible thing at all, it's not shameful, it's not a symptom of anything It's a body part and unless you've got gout, you should not be worried about the size of your ankles so thank you, Molly, for bringing this up because kids need to know that ankles aren't supposed to come in one size only. In *Thirteen Year Old Aster S Family, All The Girls Are Raised To Be Witches, While Boys Grow Up To Be Shapeshifters Anyone Who Dares Cross Those Lines Is Exiled Unfortunately For Aster, He Still Hasn T Shifted And He S Still Fascinated By Witchery, No Matter How Forbidden It Might Be* When A Mysterious Danger Threatens The Other

I've Got Your Number

The Joy Luck Club

The Boy Next Door

Boys, Aster Knows He Can Help As A Witch It Will Take The Encouragement Of A New Friend, The Non Magical And Non Conforming Charlie, To Convince Aster To Try Practicing His Skills And It Will Require Even Courage To Save His Family And Be Truly Himself Such a cute little graphic novel that challenges gender constructs in a unique way Plus it s just a fun spooky magical story My only complaint was that I wish it was a bit longer and fleshed out But I really enjoyed reading it. What a great graphic novel that discusses gender roles and stereotypes, that can be used as a metaphor for sexual orientation, and is a fun and beautifully drawn journey for kids to go on Legit, I really enjoyed this story about our MC Aster, a boy who wants to do magic but isn t supposed to So thankful to Chelsea from Chelseadolling Reads for gifting this to me, I loved it. Oh sweet Billy Elliot How could I not love this book about witches, breaking gender stereotypes and magic Pure Pleasure to read Such a great read In this world, women are witches and do magic while men are shapeshifters and they protect Aster is a lovely boy who keeps trying to overhear the secret women s teaching He is drawn to it and not to the shapeshifting side He keeps being pushed to connect with shapeshifting and he tries and tries and he can t I started reading this and I could not put this down I was so pulled into the story I love Molly s work and I will keep my eye on her and her work She is a fantastic storyteller I love her story and I love her art She had good characters and a well driven plot What a joy to read It s also a fast read I can t wait to read the next volume I think it comes out next year This was a pleasure to read. Esse sou eu lendo quadrinhos para tentar bater a meta de leitura de 2017 hehe The Witch Boy uma hist ria m gica sobre uma fam lia de mulheres bruxas e homens metamorfos Aster um menino que quer aprender bruxaria mas ningu m na fam lia quer ensin lo porque ele n o deveria ser t o interessado em coisas de menina O roteiro bem simples e tudo acontece dentro do esperado mas muito bonito ver o arco de desenvolvimento do Asper A mensagem de seja quem voc quer ser que a hist ria passa colocada de maneira muito respons vel e pode ser aplicada pra muitas reas da vida Falando sobre t cnica, as ilustra es s o maravilhosas, cen rios incr veis e cores muito muito lindas O tra o da Molly Ostertag do tipo que me inspira muito e essa hist ria me deixou

morrendo de vontade de escrever um quadrinho em um futuro próximo. Fairly straightforward but heartfelt tale about the toxicity of rigid gender roles, with lovely art because Molly Knox Ostertag is amazing. It's the story of Aster, a boy growing up in a society where women do magic and men shapeshift, and that's that. Except it isn't, because Aster does magic and doesn't shapeshift. What I particularly appreciated is Aster's confidence building friendship with a girl outside his community who also doesn't follow gender norms, b The diversity of skin color among the magical community, and c the magic system, because I would love to talk to a tree with a cool looking symbol and have it give me an apple. The resolution with Aster's parents was bittersweet but realistic given that they're fundamentally good people but severely blindered by their culture. Hopefully every library in the entire country has this on the shelves, it's both entertaining and sorely needed. This works very well as a standalone. I don't feel as if there are unanswered questions or elements missing. Still, I wish to read books about Aster and his magical community. The characters are strong. They all play a certain role in the story. It's when you can't imagine a book without its different characters that you realize they've left an impression on you and are worthy of being in the story. Aster is so relatable. In his world, women are witches who manipulate magic and men are shape shifters who turn into a certain animal and protect the community. But Aster can't shape shift, and anyway, he doesn't want to. It's not him. Witchery calls to him instead. His situation is similar to many other people's situations, even in our contemporary society without magic. These feelings of wanting to be whoever we are but fearing ostracism are universal. It wasn't hard for me to connect with Astrid, and I believe it won't be hard for other readers either. The illustrations are **SPLENDID**. My advance copy only had a few pages in color, but I'm sure the final book will be **MAGNIFICENT**. Very interesting story and formidable diverse characters. Too bad I have to say goodbye to them so soon. Blog Youtube Twitter Instagram Google Bloglovin This was fantastic. Magic diverse characters beautiful art my kind of graphic novel.

