



Storm Siren (The Storm Siren Trilogy)

By Mary Weber

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"There are few things more exciting to discover than a debut novel packed with powerful storytelling and beautiful language. STORM SIREN is one of those rarities. I'll read anything Mary Weber writes. More, please!" -Jay Asher, New York Times bestselling author of THIRTEEN REASONS WHY

"Storm Siren is a riveting tale from start to finish. Between the simmering romance, the rich and inventive fantasy world, and one seriously jaw-dropping finale, readers will clamor for the next book--and I'll be at the front of the line!" --MARISSA MEYER, New York Times bestselling author of the Lunar Chronicles

"I raise my chin as the buyers stare. Yes. Look. You don't want me. Because, eventually, accidentally, I will destroy you."

In a world at war, a slave girl's lethal curse could become one kingdom's weapon of salvation. If the curse - and the girl - can be controlled.

As a slave in the war-weary kingdom of Faelen, seventeen-year-old Nym isn't merely devoid of rights, her Elemental kind are only born male and always killed at birth - meaning, she shouldn't even exist.

Standing on the auction block beneath smoke-drenched mountains, Nym faces her fifteenth sell. But when her hood is removed and her storm-summoning killing curse revealed, Nym is snatched up by a court advisor and given a choice: be trained as the weapon Faelen needs to win the war, or be killed.

Choosing the former, Nym is unleashed into a world of politics, bizarre parties, and rumors of an evil more sinister than she's being prepared to fight . . . not to mention the handsome trainer whose dark secrets lie behind a mysterious ability to calm every lightning strike she summons.

But what if she doesn't want to be the weapon they've all been waiting for?

Set in a beautifully eclectic world of suspicion, super abilities, and monsters, Storm Siren is a story of power. And whoever controls that power will win.

"Weber builds a fascinating and believable fantasy world. Inventive and entertaining." -- *Kirkus Reviews*

"[F] antasy readers will feel at home in Weber's first novel . . .a detailed backdrop and large cast bring vividness to the story." $--Publishers\ Weekly$

"Readers will easily find themselves captivated. The breathtaking surprise ending is nothing short of horrific, promising even more dark and bizarre adventures to come in the Storm Siren trilogy."--*RT Book Reviews*, 4 stars

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Sales Rank: #268982 in BooksBrand: HarperCollins Christian Pub.

Published on: 2014-08-26Released on: 2014-08-26Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 8.74" h x 1.10" w x 5.87" l, 1.00 pounds

• Binding: Hardcover

• 352 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 8 Up—Nym, a slave and unlikely heroine, is plagued by guilt for the innocents killed by her superpower: dangerous weather spawned by her out-of-control anger. Along with flesh-eating horses and the shape-shifting wolf-wizard Draewulf, she considers herself one of the monsters that inhabit the war-torn world of Faelen. Together with Colin, who generates earthquakes, and handsome Eogan, who calms her storms, Nym redeems herself in a dramatic final battle. The story dabbles in exploring the nature of good vs. evil and fate vs. personal responsibility, but it will mainly appeal to romance readers. There are small glitches in the audio recording and a few sentences that are repeated, but the choice of voice actor Christine Stevens is inspired. Her even-toned narration softens the sometimes theatrical text. Stevens's style is particularly effective during the final minutes when a shocking surprise is revealed, leaving listeners howling for a sequel.—Toby Rajput, National Louis University, Skokie, IL

Review

"Readers who enjoyed Marissa Meyer's Cinder series will enjoy this fast-paced fantasy which combines an intriguing story line with as many twists and turns as a chapter of *Game of Thrones*!"--Dodie Owens, Editor, *School LibraryJournal Teen*

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'Between the beautiful words used to create this fairy—tale world, to the amazing power of the elementals, to the aspects of slavery and war, I'd say this book is a must read for any fantasy lover. It's powerful and will keep you turning pages faster than you thought possible. I can't believe this is Mary Weber's debut novel. Congratulations!' (*goodchoicereading.com*)

"Mary Weber's debut novel reflects an author sensitive to her audience, a stellar imagination, and a killer ability with smart and savvy prose." (*relzreviewz.com*)

"One of my favorite things about this novel is how the pace unfolds just like a storm. Whether that was the author's plan, given her lead character's fantastic abilities, or a crazy random happenstance, I don't know; but from the moment the reader meets Nymia on the auction block, a deep, threatening charge, held off only by Nym's grief, shame, and fear, begins to build. As the story progresses, you can almost sense the dark clouds growing, building the tension toward the ultimate storm. And when that thunderhead finally breaks? Look out! There is no escape. You are utterly drenched in the action, drama, emotion---and a few moments of calm-within-the-storm beauty and truth---before the lightning cracks again and blows the sky apart. "The last one-fourth of the novel will keep you white-knuckled, and raggedly emotional---yes, I cried!---as evil and betrayal, romance and regret, sacrifice and surprise take you right up to the final scene that will no doubt leave you, as it did me, gasping from that hanging cliff for the sequel that cannot come too soon. Don't miss this one!" (Serena Chase, USAToday.com)

"Storm Siren is an interesting take on the recent trend toward titles with teens who discover they have superpowers. What is unique about Storm Siren is the setting for the release of these powers - somewhat

medieval, with rich descriptions of the castle and countryside. Nym is seventeen when she realizes her power, still raw and untrained. Queen Adora wants her for defense, and quickly gets her into training with the handsome and enigmatic Eogan, a favorite of the queen. As an Elemental, Nym's gift is rare, especially since it is usually only passed on to male children from one or both parents. Faelen, Adora's kingdom, is in bad shape, having been at war for many many years. The only way to change this is to mount a lethal attack on Drust. Brother and sister Colin and Breck quickly befriend Nym, and Colin makes no secret of his attraction to her. Breck, who is blind, serves as Nym's chambermaid the confidante, helping her maneuver through the way of the royal court. But there are secrets connecting the two kingdoms, and not all of Adora's loyal servants are what they seem to be. Readers who enjoyed Marissa Meyer's Cinder series will enjoy this fast-paced fantasy which combines an intriguing storyline with as many twists and turns as a chapter of Game of Thrones!" (Dodie Owens, School Library Journal Teen)

"In the kingdom of Faelen, 'Elementals' have always been male and killed at birth. With powers reminiscent of X-Men's Storm, 17-year-old Nym considers herself a monstrous fluke, tormented by guilt over her deadly abilities. After letting loose her powers in public, she becomes slave to petty Adora, who offers two unappealing options: execution or training as a weapon to save their kingdom. Life consists of being trussed up by maid and new friend, Breck, for parties populated with lusty, conniving members of the elite High Court and slightly less dangerous outdoor training by secretive and attractive Eogan, along with Breck's cheeky brother Colin, who literally moves earth. The heroes and plot come in to action in the last third of the book. A bittersweet ending teases happiness, but the rug is pulled from under Nym and readers alike in the final pages. The language is occasionally jarring, using a tone typical of medieval tales, with occasional quips or thoughts coming across as too modern. Nym is distinct while the other characters are archetypes. Still, this adventure, in the vein of 1980s fantasy films, has readers rooting for the heroes to smite the wicked baddies. Buy where fantasy flies." (Danielle Serra, School Library Journal)

"Nym has been a slave for 14 different masters when a noblewoman named Adora buys her, although as an untrained Storm Siren in a kingdom that kills Elementals at birth, Nym is lucky to be alive. In her new home, Nym finds that Adora is one of the king's advisors trying to stop Faelen from being invaded, and she plans to use Nym's powers as a line of last defense against the armies of the body-snatching Draewulf. Meanwhile, Nym can't stop thinking about Eogan, her trainer, whose touch brings a calm the likes of which she's never experienced before. Nym's struggles don't exactly tread new ground, so fantasy readers will feel at home in Weber's first novel. The romantic subplot falls a little flat, but a detailed backdrop and large cast bring vividness to the story. Nym's friend and fellow magic-user Colin, for example, keeps the mood light with his good humor without being reduced to comic relief alone. The story takes a surprisingly dark turn as the narrative pieces fall into place for the next book in this planned trilogy." (*Publishers Weekly*)

From the Author

Jay Asher and Mary Weber: A Fun Author Interview

JAY ASHER: I have to ask this because it's been bugging me ever since I read your book. Your story and characters are great, and your writing is so beautiful without ever distracting from the story. Do you ever look at other authors and feel a little bit greedy?

MARY WEBER: *laughs* Aw, thanks for the compliment! And no, but there are about a HUNDRED authors I seriously ENVY. Including this one guy who wrote a series of books about an impetuous boy and his very dangerous tiger... (inserts pic of CALVIN & HOBBES) Maybe you've heard of him?

JAY: I love Watterson! I mean, he's no Schulz, but we'll get to that later. So, how did you get into writing YA? Because I have a theory, if you'd like to hear it.

MARY: Does your theory have anything to do with zombie unicorns? Because if it does that's amazing. Also - true story: I was at my first writers' conference four years ago sitting behind this row of authors, when one of them got jealous of me complimenting his friend's beautiful hair and proceeded to demand I compliment his as well. Turns out this guy was apparently famous for a YA book called 15 Reasons Why or something. Anyhow, he and I became cool friends. Fast-forward a few years later and I was approached by a HarperCollins publisher with the prospect of writing a YA book. When I told my 15 Reasons Why friend, he grinned as if he'd suspected I'd eventually go this direction all along!

(But seriously - does your theory involve zombies?)

JAY: Zombies? No. But I do remember the awkwardness of you two ladies fawning over each other's hair while, simultaneously, about a dozen of mine were falling out. Anyway, I'm cool with it now! When I met you, you were writing a paranormal adult novel. You invited me to speak at the monthly gathering of a local writing group, where every month they have a different speaker. I used to belong to that group and have since rejoined, and my talk was the least attended of any I've seen. My theory is that you don't like speaking in front of large groups, so you saw the attendance for my talk and thought, "I need to write YA!"

MARY: Okay, ignore my answer to your previous question because, yes, this is exactly how it happened. Except I wasn't thinking "I need to write YA." I was thinking "I wonder if that guy got to have free coffee because he's a guest speaker? Can I get free coffee? Do all guest speakers get free coffee?"

JAY: It's one of the perks.

MARY: By the way, how did YOU get into writing YA? Inquiring minds here...

JAY: I was at a writing conference, too, but trying to write middle-grade. I noticed that a lot of YA authors were losing their hair, just like me, so it made sense to join them. No, that's not true. But I really was writing middle-grade, with no thought of writing YA. One day, the premise of Thirteen Reasons Why just came out of thin hair. I mean, thin air.

Anyway... Speaking of men and hair, you call your husband Wolverine. I know that's because he does look like the superhero, which I think is so cute! But I've always wondered if at some point you actually just forgot his name (I can tell you if you need to know).

MARY: Okay, I totally just told him you said that. His response was, "What?! Jay said I'm CUTE??!!!" Yes, yes, he is. (*shameless photo plug*) And I'll let you in on a secret. Wolverine is actually a cover name for his REAL secret identity, WONDER JACK FLASH. Who, ahem, MAY have been known to dress up in spandex and a cape all throughout high school. You know - showing up at opportune times to set students free. Such as during Assembly. Or graduation. And yes, it was totally upon the discovery of this that I promptly married him.

JAY: Okay, now that's cute! Is there a certain element of storytelling that is the most fun for you?

MARY: Definitely creating the characters. And I'm not saying it's because those characters are based on any specific people I know, but...if Adora's dead squirrel rings as slightly familiar to anyone... Ahem. And now I'm curious - what's YOUR favorite part of storytelling?

JAY: Brainstorming. Any element is fun to brainstorm. I could think about plot twists and foreshadowing for

days and days. And then I realize...reality check!...now I have to write it.

Speaking of writing! Your initials, if you repeat them, remind me of the squiggle on Charlie Brown's shirt: MWMWMWMW And as I hinted before, I love Charles Schulz and PEANUTS! So that makes me kind of jealous. What do my repeated initials remind you of? JAJAJAJA

MARY: Definitely the sound onions make when they're frying in a pan. Why?

JAY: They do not! Take that back!!!

MARY: ...

JAY: George Lucas claims Star Wars, which is science-fiction, was heavily influenced by a different genre: westerns. Your book is fantasy, but I could also feel an influence of the best parts of westerns. Is that accurate?

MARY: Wait, how did you guess? Okay, so I've never told anyone this, but here's the thing - Storm Siren's original cover totally had a shirtless Fabio on it carrying a pair of six-shooters. Sadly, due to copyright issues we had to change it. However, if you look real close you can see that my main girl Nym on the front is actually still Fabio - just turned around.

JAY: (Dang it! I totally scrolled back up to check.)

MARY: But since you mentioned it...has anyone ever commented on the similarities between The Future of Us and the movie Sharknado? Just wondering...

JAY: No, no one's ever said that before. Usually, they say it's similar to Breakin' 2: Electric Boogaloo (which is a huge compliment). Another thing that tipped me off to a possible western influence is that STORM SIREN MARY WEBER is an anagram of MAYBE MIRROR WESTERNS.

MARY: It's also an anagram of WINTERBERRY SMORES, MA. Which sounds like a western girl asking her mom for an awesome dessert, so win-win!!

JAY: Since this is your debut book, what has been the most exciting part of this journey so far (other than this interview)?

MARY: Well...after 87 rejections for that paranormal adult novel, I think the most exciting part has been each of the moments when I realized the "yeses" for this YA book were ACTUALLY HAPPENING. Along with that, my favorite bits have simply been celebrating this journey with my husband and kids and an amazing community of friends and other writers whom I could not have done this without. Thank you for being a part of that community, Jay!

JAY: And thank you for agreeing to this interview, Mary. If you want, I have connections with a local writing group that meets every month. It'd be great if you came to speak!

MARY: Okay, but do they serve free coffee?

JAY: Now that you're published, it's one of the perks.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Sylvia Kirby:

Book is to be different per grade. Book for children till adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important for us. The book Storm Siren (The Storm Siren Trilogy) has been making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It is quite advantages for you. The publication Storm Siren (The Storm Siren Trilogy) is not only giving you a lot more new information but also being your friend when you truly feel bored. You can spend your spend time to read your book. Try to make relationship with all the book Storm Siren (The Storm Siren Trilogy). You never experience lose out for everything in case you read some books.

Antonio Nelson:

Hey guys, do you desires to finds a new book you just read? May be the book with the concept Storm Siren (The Storm Siren Trilogy) suitable to you? Typically the book was written by well-known writer in this era. The particular book untitled Storm Siren (The Storm Siren Trilogy) is the main one of several books this everyone read now. This book was inspired many men and women in the world. When you read this book you will enter the new way of measuring that you ever know just before. The author explained their plan in the simple way, and so all of people can easily to comprehend the core of this guide. This book will give you a large amount of information about this world now. To help you to see the represented of the world within this book.

Russell Hardison:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Are you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. If you need to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day every day to reading a book. The book Storm Siren (The Storm Siren Trilogy) it is very good to read. There are a lot of people who recommended this book. These folks were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore very easily to read this book from a smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book provides high quality.

Delaine Valencia:

That publication can make you to feel relax. This specific book Storm Siren (The Storm Siren Trilogy) was vibrant and of course has pictures around. As we know that book Storm Siren (The Storm Siren Trilogy) has many kinds or category. Start from kids until youngsters. For example Naruto or Investigation company Conan you can read and think that you are the character on there. Therefore, not at all of book are make you bored, any it offers you feel happy, fun and relax. Try to choose the best book for you and try to like reading that.

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