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### The Will and the Wilds

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## Book Review

# The Will and the Wilds

### Author

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### Reviewer

Karen Abbott

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### Rating

Excellent

### Level

Young Adult

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### Pages

267

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### ISBN

9781542005005

### Publisher

47North

Enna is scientifically interested in the Mystings of the nearby forest. She's fully aware of how dangerous they are, since her mother was killed by them while giving birth to her. Now the Mystings wish to kill her for the protection charm that she wears. Foolishly, Enna uses her knowledge to summon a powerful Misting for protection, binding herself to him in exchange for killing the beasts. However, the Misting ends up trapped and is slowly dying without the power of his realm to heal him. Together, she and the Misting struggle to survive and break the curse that binds them. Though a war between their worlds is imminent and their forbidden love could be torn apart, Enna's intelligence and her beast's heart allow them to defeat the powers of evil.

A beauty and her beast find love in this incarnation of a favorite tale. Enna is a strong, well-developed, independent character with a determined sense of duty. Her strong qualities make the characters around her pale in comparison. Her father developed dementia when he went into the realm of magic to retrieve Enna's bracelet, so he doesn't have a large role in the story. The beast is a bad boy, and while many love a wicked paramour redeemed by the love of a good woman, his transformation from selfish fae to caring lover is lost when he reverts to his former self. His origin story and redemption aren't deep enough to make this love story satisfying. He isn't a good match for Enna in the end, meaning this story lacks the meat and romance it needs to be a gratifying villain-to-hero adventure.

\*Contains mild violence.