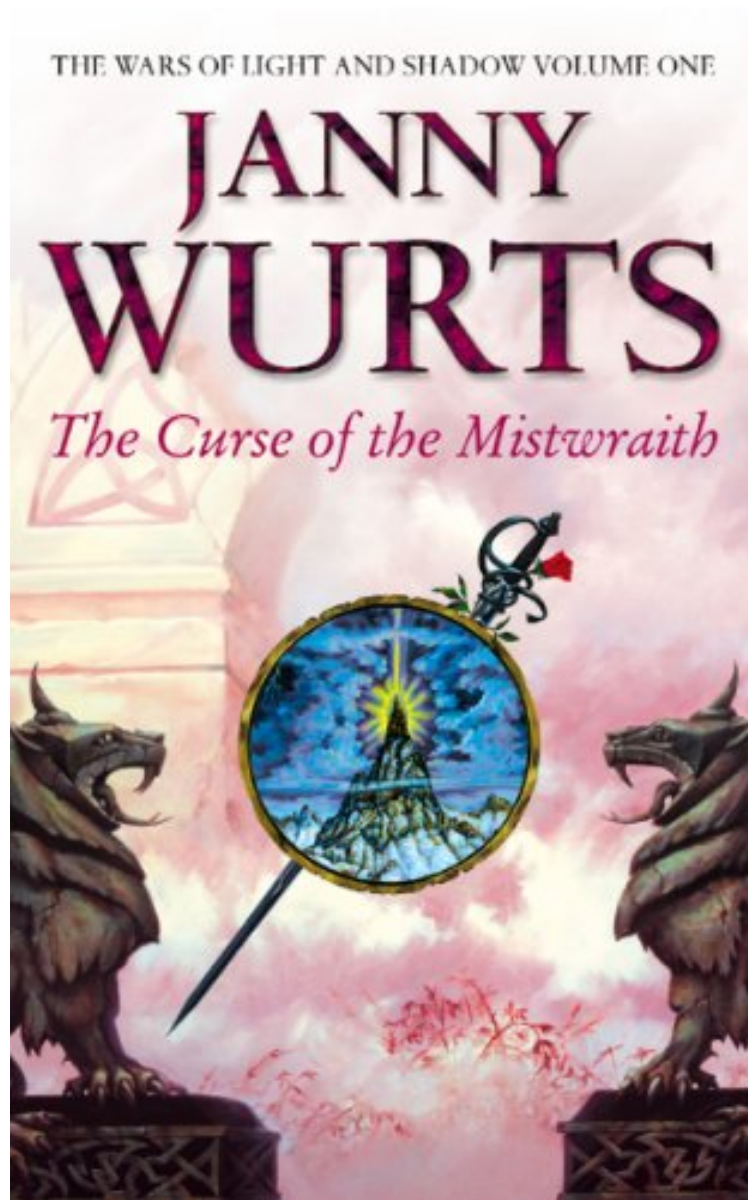


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Curse of the Mistwraith (The Wars of Light and Shadow, Book 1)

Von Janny Wurts

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Von Janny Wurts : Curse of the Mistwraith (The Wars of Light and Shadow, Book 1) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Curse of the Mistwraith (The Wars of Light and Shadow, Book 1):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. great

fantasy! Von UTX Reader I stopped being indiscriminate about the fantasy I read long ago... I found I hated rehashed sword and sorcery, quests, all that... but when I read this story, I was amazed at how the author got me involved in the lives of her characters. I by the time I finished this book, I really cared about what happened to these princes, particularly Arithon, the agnst ridden prince of shadow. Just the idea of two people who can't control their own destiny and he chaos that ensues is heart breaking. I can't wait to finish this series out. If only she would write a little faster!

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. 'Curse of the Mistwraith'? I curse the day I bought it Von Ein Kunde It seems that people either loved or hated 'Curse of the Mistwraith'. I'm leaning towards the latter. It's going to be hard for me to tell you why I didn't like this book because I myself don't really know why. The following are the only reasons I can think of to justify my intense dislike for this book. First of all, I'm not a big fan of the Many-Worlds-Connected-By-Gates type of fantasy (which this is), especially when that system isn't explained at all. It seems that Athera has 4 Gates and Dascen Elur only has 1. Is Athera the hub of a 5-Planet wheel? How/Why are there magical Gates connecting different planets? Who knows. Second, Ms Wurts doesn't bother to explain the nature of anything (the Sorcerers, magic, the old races, etc, etc) on Athera in more than a paragraph. Maybe her intent was to describe everything so vaguely that it would all seem unknown and therefore mysterious and magical. If that's the case, it didn't work at all. Thirdly, and most damning of all, I slowly came to realize that I didn't care what happened to the 2 heroes, Lysaer and Arithon, at all. If I'd turned the page and read that they'd both just died, I would've thought, 'Oh well'. Reading this book was akin to stumbling across a desert with the sun boring down on you, no end in sight and no water. Maybe all my questions are answered in the next 4 or 5 books in the series but I just don't have the energy for that.

1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Hang in there for the rest ... Von Phome Like many people, it cost me a lot of effort to "plow" through this book. Nevertheless, I was completely swept away by the powerful characters and fascinating story line. This book is unlike any other fantasy book I've read. Although the plot is based on the usual good vs evil, Ms Wurts uncovers very complex themes and heros. One moment you like Lysaer, the next you know that he's turning but you don't want to admit it, and then finally you have to face the fact that he's really not likeable at all. Arithon is equally difficult to make out at first, and needs to grow a reader's trust and respect as he's ever elusive. Yet, although we never find out enough about him, Arithon sweeps us off our feet, like the mysterious boy next door. The Fellowship of Seven are hilarious old men, and my grandpa would have fit right in. This is a complex book, with many details and it's easy to miss changes in the plot unless you read carefully. However, it is a brilliant set up for the rest of the series, where the characters are further explored, their humanity uncannily realistic and grow into personalities. Readers will learn to love some characters, sympathise with others and dislike a few, as you would in real life. If you can grit your teeth and cling on to follow the plot through the verbose jungle, then you find your energy and time well spent ... for the rest of the series.

Kurzbeschreibung The stunning first volume in Janny Wurtss epic tale of two half-brothers cursed to life-long enmity. The world of Athera lives in eternal fog, its skies obscured by the malevolent Mistwraith. Only the combined powers of two half-brothers can challenge the Mistwraiths stranglehold: Arithon, Master of Shadow and Lysaer, Lord of Light. Arithon and Lysaer will find that they are inescapably bound inside a pattern of events dictated by their own deepest convictions. Yet there is more at stake than one battle with the Mistwraith as the sorcerers of the Fellowship of Seven know well. For between them the half-brothers hold the balance of the world, its harmony and its future, in their hands.

From Publishers Weekly What promises to be a rather standard epic fantasy commences with this book, volume one in a series called The Wars of Light and Shadow. In this installment, two magic-wielding half brothers are forced by an evil geas (a delayed compulsion spell cast by the incorporeal but sorcerously potent Mistwraiths) to battle each other, nearly ripping their kingdoms asunder in the bloody fray. Arithon, Master Mage and keeper of the shadow-half of the royal magic, is a compassionate man who is constantly battling his sensitive musical nature as he struggles to come to terms with the job of ruler, which he does not want. His brother Lysaer has the power to focus light; a charming man and born ruler, he becomes cunning and devious after the Mistwraith's spell is activated. Events in the heavily foreshadowed plot conspire against the royal duo, until they are forced to pit jaded townsmen against noble barbarians in a punishing and debilitating war. They are aided in their travails by a young enchantress, Elaira, a spunky role model sure to become beloved as the series progresses, and by many wise and quirky sorcerers. Forced to do duty as a harbinger of many volumes, this tale is plot-heavy, but there are hints of the appearance of unicorns and other mythical, crowd-pleasing wonders in later installments. Veteran epic-writer Wurts (Mistress of Empire) brings the breadth of her experience to bear in an entertaining and readable--though not outstanding--story. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Booklist For more than 500 years the Mistwraith has darkened the world of Athera. Where once were fields, flowers, and unicorns, there now are bareness, poverty, and desperation. The curse can be lifted only by the combined powers of two half-brothers who have been raised apart as enemies. Blond Lysaer, who grew up in the castle, is a born diplomat with a strong sense of justice and latent powers of light. Dark-haired Arithon, called the Master of Shadows, is skilled in music and magic and possesses an overwhelming empathy for all living

things. When the two are thrown together in exile, an uneasy bond begins to form between them, and under the guidance of the Fellowship of Sorcerers, they work toward lifting the bane. But the Mistwraith fights back by twisting their talents and turning them against each other, plunging the kingdom into a bloody conflict. Strongly sympathetic characters and a well-conceived setting will hook readers of epic fantasy, who will be pleased to note that this is the first volume of a projected series, *The Wars of Light and Shadow*. Candace Smith