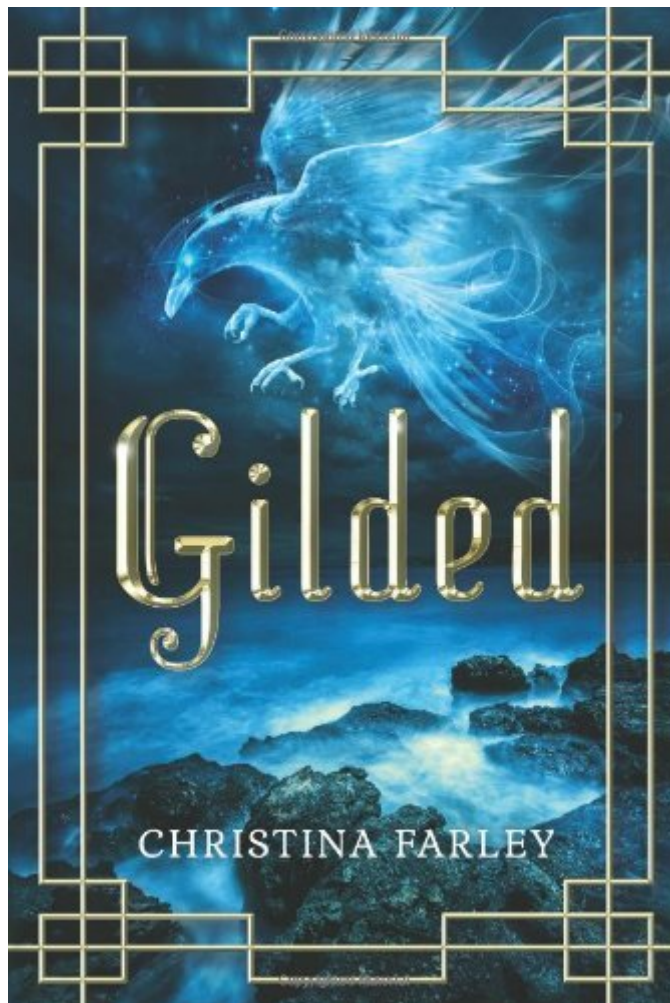


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Gilded (The Gilded Series Book 1)



Synopsis

Sixteen-year-old Jae Hwa Lee is a Korean-American girl with a black belt, a deadly proclivity with steel-tipped arrows, and a chip on her shoulder the size of Korea itself. When her widowed dad uproots her to Seoul from her home in L.A., Jae thinks her biggest challenges will be fitting into a new school and dealing with her dismissive Korean grandfather. Then she discovers that a Korean demi-god, Haemosu, has been stealing the soul of the oldest daughter of each generation in her family for centuries. And she's next. But that's not Jae's only problem. There's also Marc. Irresistible and charming, Marc threatens to break the barriers around Jae's heart. As the two grow closer, Jae must decide if she can trust him. But Marc has a secret of his own—one that could help Jae overturn the curse on her family for good. It turns out that Jae's been wrong about a lot of things: her grandfather is her greatest ally, even the tough girl can fall in love, and Korea might just be the home she's always been looking for.

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Customer Reviews

As usual I didn't pay anything for this book but instead received it for free. This time via the courtesy

of the Kindle Firsts program. Despite that kindness I give my candid thoughts below. Oh, and I do not include a plot summary so no spoilers of any kind; you can read the book description for that. Firstly, this is a YA novel so the criteria I apply differ from those of a standard adult novel. The first thing I look at is whether I'd want my own children to read this book from a moral standpoint. Joyfully, I report that this book contains nothing really sexual in nature, unless you count some occasional kissing. Further there are no drug references or anything else untoward. It should be noted that this is pretty standard youth escapism fiction though so the usual defiance of parental authority is in evidence. In short though, I have no concerns. This is good clean stuff. The second question I look at is whether this book teach the reader anything. Again, in this case I would reply strongly to the affirmative. The narrative is deeply entwined with Korean mythology and culture. It even goes so far as to include a lengthy glossary in the back so you know this is outside the standard dragons, elves and dwarves motif. Further, for the first time I've seen in a book of this sort, the protagonist faces a problem and actually has the help of her extended family. This isn't the usual situation in which a problem arises and the kids have to go it alone. The whole family is involved and working together. That in itself is a great lesson. Lastly, I ask whether the reader will be entertained. To that I say, simply, that even as an adult I was entertained. The action is fast-paced and moves along brilliantly and has enough complexity to keep the reader thinking. So in summary, this is another fine example YA literature that not only entertains but educates at the same time. Highly recommended from a reviewer who almost always finds something to complain about. In this case... I got nothing. Absolutely brilliant.

This one was yummy! Ignoring the few typo mistakes in the finished copy this book was wonderful to read. To me it felt like another retelling of Persephone which I'm sure that each culture had their own version of the myth. I found via the author that it's interesting that these two cultures would have a myth that was similar to each other as they would have not interacted. The setting of this book is South Korea which was great to learn about. It had a great blend of both myth and real setting. There wasn't a love triangle and the book didn't end on a cliff hanger. I really want to see what the author has in store for the next book coming out in Sept. as this story was pretty much wrapped up. I loved all of the descriptions of the Spirit World as well as the real world around Jae. I do wish that the book would have had a pronunciation guide but there is a nice little glossary about what each word means. The characters in this story have to be some of the best that I've read about. I think each one was fully developed, sneaky, and kick butt awesome! I do think that Jae could have used the tiger creature early on. As he was supposed to be her protector. (sorry forgot his name) That is

really the only other issue I had with this book. But, of course in the heat of a fight remembering to call out a name could slip your mind as you are dealing with staying alive. Jae starts out as a great kick butt girl and ends the book a hero that every Teen Ya girl can look up to. This book and story was a great blend of contemporary and fantasy it will keep you reading until the last page. And it shouldn't be missed!

This series must be read in order. This is the first book. Jae just wanted to be ordinary and have friends like she did at home. Her mother died and her father moved her to South Korea.. Seoul to be exact. She used to live in L.A. and be an ace student. Now she is struggling in her classes and dealing with family drama. Jae likes her new friends and she loves Seoul and how crime free it is and she really likes the popular gorgeous guy who keeps popping up everywhere she is... If only school weren't so much harder! Too bad those aren't her real problems... And too bad she doesn't know that! What is up with the weird things she keeps seeing and feeling? Why is her father so angry at her grandfather? What ill omen overshadows her family so badly her father won't even talk about it? Marc has secrets and he is a bit obsessed with Jae ... Or at least that's the way it seems. He pops up trying to help every time she turns around. He is popular and wicked smart with impossibly good grades ... So why is he always around? What is he hiding? Why is he so into Jae? Is he interested in dating her or is it something else entirely? This amazingly vivid paranormal fairytale twist urban fantasy is suspenseful and riveting. I felt like I was there the whole time living all the thrills and solving all the mysteries right along with Jae and Marc! The little bit of romance only accentuated the pulse pounding terror that Jae experienced more often than not. I think this story really illustrated the ideal of never giving up no matter how insurmountable the odds and I can't wait to read the next book! Silvern (The Gilded Series Book 2) to see what the Gods have in store for Jae next! Action and nightmarish adventure have never been so funny or ironic !***This series is suitable for mature young adult through adult readers

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