

Venators: Promises Forged

Devri Walls

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In Devri Walls's gritty young adult fantasy *Venators: Promises Forged*, three teens settle into a magical world and face life-or-death circumstances.

Rune, her brother Ryker, and her friend Grey have entered the fae world of Eon through a gate that connects it to Earth. They have learned that they, too, were meant to be a part of this world: Rune and Grey are Venators, protectors of the realm, and Ryker is a werewolf. When Ryker and Grey are kidnapped—Ryker by a succubus with mixed intentions for Eon, and Grey by a fae queen who is slowly draining him of his soul energy—Rune negotiates with a court that does not trust her to secure the means of rescuing them both. In a world populated by vampires, goblins, wizards, and more, Rune, Ryker, and Grey work to save each other. In the process, they discover who they really are.

While their reasons may not be clear without reading the first book in the series, the three main characters are invested in saving Eon. They rarely show any signs of missing Earth or those they left behind. Eon, its safety, and their newfound abilities and responsibilities mean everything to them.

Each of the leads has a rounded personality that has been shaped by their experiences and that influences their actions and their relationships: Grey is self-sacrificing, Ryker is confused and worried, and Rune is determined to save them and develop her strengths. Other characters bring grit, emotional tension, and exciting plot obstacles. Suspenseful dialogue and swift-moving scenes amp up the suspense.

Venators: Promises Forged is a darkly spirited young adult novel that prompts eager anticipation for the next book in the series.

AIMEE JODOIN (May/June 2019)

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