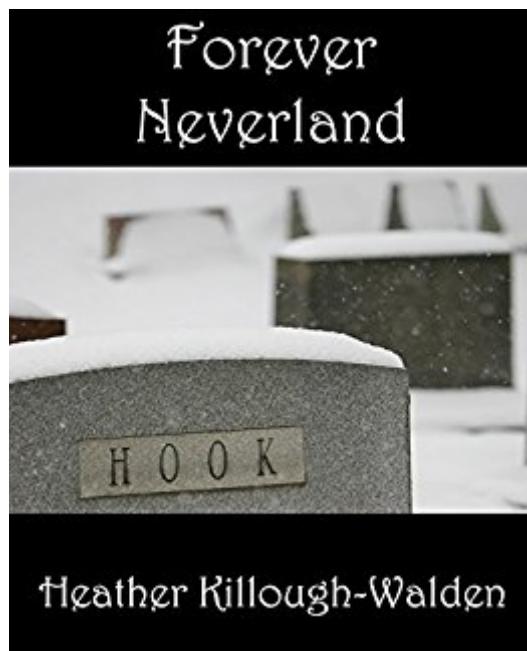


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Forever Neverland



Synopsis

It has been five years since Wendy Darling and her brothers returned home after a harrowing ordeal in which they'd "gone missing" for several days and nights. To Wendy, they returned by fairy magic, fresh from the fight with Captain Hook, a little mussed up but none the worse for wear. But to the rest of the world, Wendy and her brothers were abducted and put through such a traumatic experience, Wendy has subconsciously taken to hiding the truth from her brothers and herself by making up stories. Fairy stories â “ about a boy named Peter Pan and a world called Neverland. Life is anything but a fairy story for them now. Wendy is being subjected to unwanted psychiatric therapy, her brothers are bullied at school, and the family is falling apart. Then, one mist-filled night, a billowing black flag parts the clouds in the sky like the fin of a shark. It bears the stark white symbol of a skull and crossbones upon it. Wendy has been forced to leave Neverland behind. But it is far from finished with her. In the blink of an eye, her world is once more turned upside down by a pixie in human form, a one-handed captain far more handsome and intriguing than she remembered him to be â “ and by a little boyâ | who grew up after all.*****Heather Killough-Walden is a California native currently living in Texas with her husband and child. She is the New York Times and USA Today bestselling e-book author of the Big Bad Wolf series and the October Trilogy, as well as the print and ebook Lost Angels series which includes ALWAYS ANGEL (available now) and AVENGERâ ™S ANGEL (available November, 2011).

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Customer Reviews

I find it hard to explain my torn feelings when it comes to this book. In some ways I loved it, like her being with Hook instead of a tights wearing boy who never wants to grow up! I also liked how the book started off with everyone as young adults. It is understandable that Peter would have the hardest time coping with this change, since he has spent countless years in adolescence. As well as, Hook feeling almost resigned and weary of the burden in having to always be the villain to a young boy and his fantasy world where he can never win. I also loved that Wendy was more than just arm candy and completely dependent upon the guys in this world. She plays a major role, if not the most important role in the story of Neverland. I loved how this fairy tale woven by the words of the Storyteller came to a conclusion with an interesting twist at the end. There is somewhat of a cliffhanger, but it isn't a too bad since it really couldn't end any other way. Which brings me to what I disliked about the book, and it would seem like there couldn't be much left not mentioned about the tale that I could name. I just couldn't get into the story, especially the romantic aspects. I just don't think the author's words flow well. At one point I'm in Wendy's head, then I'm in Hook's, next I'm in one of her brother's or Peter's. It's too much jumping around, and everything, even the plot lines are so disjumbled and broken that I am still having problems remembering exactly what happened in the climax or any other scene for that matter... I'm going to read the next book, bc I can't start a series and not finish it. However, I'm beginning to wonder if it's not the story I dislike, but the author's writing style.

What a great fairytale-- with the moral being that true characters are more than just the role they've been assigned & no one is only good or evil. Great characters with good moments; great action & adventure. This is supposed to be the sequel to the classic tale. It did a good job of borrowing from elements of the Disney version. It is no children's tale though--this is about Peter, the Darlings & the Lost Boys growing up and trying to find meaning in a world of and beyond Neverland. A tad indulgent to write a story about the power of a storyteller, but it was so well done I can't fault the author. This was well-written & I can't wait to start the next book.

This is a wonderful imagining of a sequel to the beloved Peter Pan story. It brings to life Peter, Hook, Tinkerbell, Wendy, and her brothers. Though it does feel odd to have the story suddenly thrust into the modern world when Wendy and her brothers were originally from the Victorian Age. Though had Wendy grown into a young lady from that time period, we wouldn't have been treated to scenes of Wendy going toe to toe with the pirates. (One also wonders how Peter got alcohol since he wouldn't have even had an ID with not being a legal citizen). Though this version is very much a product of this decade when so many of the retellings and inspired sequels now try to humanize Hook since pirates have captured the adventurous hearts of the modern audience, especially when women nowadays are enraptured by rogues and bad boys with a potential to have an underlying heart of gold while just misunderstood (such as Jack Sparrow in Pirates of the Caribbean, but more akin to this is Captain Hook, hero Emma Swan's romance interest in Once Upon a Time). But with Hook as the hero, it ultimately turns Peter into the bad guy (just like in Once Upon a Time), which is distressing to see happen to a beloved character. The only other option being to add in a new villain (in the movie Pan, they added in Black Beard). It will be interesting to see in future volumes where the author takes the characters to and how much they grow past the archetypes already set by the famous original story. (For further reading, I would recommend Hook & Jill by Andrea Jones which reminded me of the Hook and Wendy relationship in this one, and Tink in the modern world reminded me of Elle Strauss's wonderful Love, Tink series).

I was excited to read this book. I love stories about Peter Pan and Hook. Anything I can get my hands on I read. I love variations. This one had some great ideas that I was interested in seeing how it all worked. Basically, Wendy and her brothers have been home from Neverland for 5 years and things aren't going well. Everyone thinks they just imagined everything. Wendy is in therapy, John doesn't believe anything happened, and Michael lives on the stories Wendy tells. Meanwhile Peter has been stuck, unable to get back to Neverland, due to a promise he made to make sure all the lost boys were happy before going home. Anyways things progress from there and it is crazy. Now I liked the ideas and the story. I thought the author did a pretty good job. I just didn't love it. I was never drawn into the story. I wasn't able to immerse myself in it. I think the reason was the switching point of view. It was switching between so many characters. It wasn't confusing but just jarring. Overall the story was interesting, but I just couldn't stay interested for long. I will not be reading the second book. This first one was worth trying though. Point of view is just a preference for me rather than a reason not to try it.

It's been a few months since I started reading this book and honestly I can't stomach the thought of finishing it. I don't claim to be an illustrious author, but I've read enough books in my life to know bad writing when I see it. I'd like to say the book would be great after some significant editing, but it's mostly crap. There's almost no character building, no cohesive plot, and a weird budding romance between a modern day Wendy and Captain Hook. Even though I'm a little over halfway through this book, I still can't tell you who the protagonist is supposed to be. If you like stories that expand/retell the story of Peter Pan I suggest you find some good ol' fanfiction and save yourself the \$3.

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