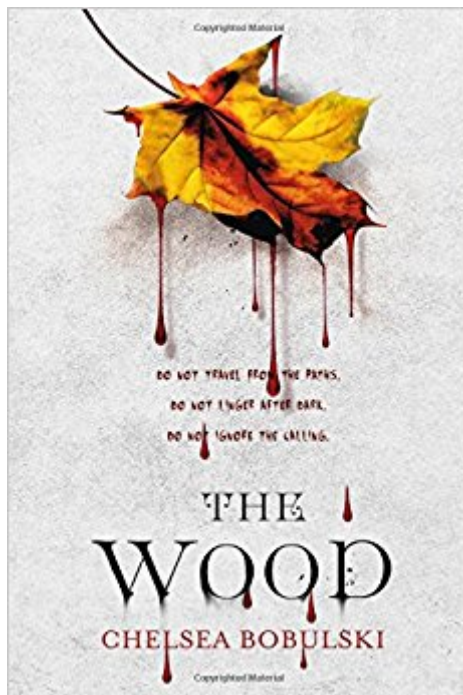


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The Wood



Synopsis

An enchanted wood poisoned at the roots. A girl bound by an inherited duty. And the lost traveler from another time who might help her uncover the truth. From debut author Chelsea Bobulski comes *The Wood*, a YA novel filled with dark mystery and atmospheric fantasy. Winter didn't ask to be the guardian of the wood, but when her dad inexplicably vanishes, she's the one who must protect travelers who accidentally slip through the wood's portals. The wood is poisoned, changing into something more sinister. Once brightly colored leaves are now bubbling inky black. Vicious creatures that live in the shadows are becoming bolder, torturing lost travelers. Winter must now put her trust in Henry—a young man from eighteenth century England who knows more than he should about the wood—in order to find the truth and those they've lost. Bobulski's beautiful and eerie young adult debut, is a haunting tale of friendship, family, and the responsibilities we choose and those we do not.

Book Information

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Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Self Esteem & Reliance

Customer Reviews

"Henry and Winter share flirtatious repartee and a sizzling chemistry, but the wood takes center stage as the main character and driving force of the plot. This interesting twist in storytelling makes this title a standout. VERDICT This provocative debut is a must-have for collections where fans of time travel are looking for their next fix."—School Library Journal
"The concept is intriguing, and this is a good buy for larger collections."
—Booklist
"An ill-fated but still powerful romance, a warped good/bad guy with honorable but flawed intentions, and time travel

portals there, it's plenty to recommend in this clever novel." "BCCB" This well-written debut is sufficiently eerie and fast-paced. Readers will enjoy Winter's confidence and cunning as she seeks the truth. Hand this to readers craving exciting and enjoyable twists on time travel." VOYA

Chelsea Bobulski is a graduate of The Ohio State University with a degree in history. Although she grew up in Columbus, Ohio, with a possibly magical wood behind her house, she now lives in northwest Ohio with her husband, daughter, and dog. Chelsea is the author of *The Wood*.

Sean's wife here :) ... great book! Couldn't put it down once I started. Read it all in 2 days and I can't tell you the last time I did that because of my busy schedule. As an Ohioan, I loved all the nods to Ohio - the Olentangy, OSU, 315, etc. Very imaginative and well-written. Should be a movie!

Great read!

Absolutely thrilling! I was in the edge of my seat the entire book. I would highly recommend *The Wood* to anyone who loves a mystery, fantasy, and love story because it has all three! Fantastic read!

THE WOOD is a unique and alluring and beautifully written tale that grabs hold from its very first page and won't let go until its last. It invites readers into a world that is enchanting and magical, yet hints of darkness and danger. It is thrilling. It is haunting. It is completely captivating. It is an extraordinary read that promises to leave readers clamoring for a sequel. When Winter Parish finally learned the secret of the wood and her responsibility for it and for the people who would sometimes find their way in and get lost, she was ecstatic. She'd always been curious about the wood behind her home and she was fascinated by these accidental travelers who needed protection. She felt a connection to the wood and she loved its beauty and its magic and was happy to serve as its guardian someday. But when her father supposedly strayed from the path - breaking one of the wood's most important rules - and vanished from her life, she wasn't sure how she felt about having to step into his shoes. Not that she had any choice, but she hadn't yet learned all she needed to, she didn't have any answers about her father's disappearance, and she didn't feel quite as safe as in the wood as she once did. Desperate for

answers, she might have to break one of the rules herself and allow a traveler into her world. A decision that could put not only herself, her mother and the wood in danger, but the past, the present, the future, the world as she knows it. Especially if it turns out that this traveler can't be trusted. Chelsea Bobulski delivers a refreshingly different and incredibly suspenseful read. From the mysterious disappearance of Jack Parish, to the darkness that is infecting the wood, to the strange traveler from Brightonshire that knows more than he should, the author spins a stunning tale that is absolutely riveting. And with a quick pace, a touch of romance, an immensely likable heroine, a sinister foe, and an ending that leaves open the possibility for more, *THE WOOD* is a must, must, must read that is guaranteed to be unputdownable.

The Wood is one of those here and now books with a whole paranormal other world thrown into the mix. Chelsea Bobulski wove such a beautiful story around an intricately built world. When the book ended, I wanted more of that world. Sadly, this book is a standalone novel but at least I have the ability to reread it as many times as I want. If you have read and enjoyed *The Archived* by Victoria Schwab, just add a tiny bit of Harry Potter Death Eaters into the mix, and you've got yourself a book you are bound to enjoy. Winter is our main character. Her name is pretty awesome and I think it fits her personality. There is no way this girl could ever be a Sarah or a Ashley. Winter is a guardian for *The Wood*, a realm of thresholds where people from all over the world and all over the past, present and future accidentally find themselves if they stumble upon the wrong area. It is Winter's job to make sure these people find their way back home safely. These people are called Travelers and if they end up going back through the wrong threshold they would end up in a different time and place and that could possibly alter the entire world. So Winter is tasked with making sure that never happens. The job is passed down through a family line. Winter's father was the guardian before her and would still be the current guardian if it wasn't for one tiny thing. He kind of went missing one morning while he was on patrol. That left Winter, fairly young at the time, with the title of guardian weighing on her shoulders. So there are the Guardians, who are human, The Old Ones, who are immortal and watch over the Guardians, and then you have the council which is basically just Old Ones who are older and wiser. Together, this group of individuals make up the people who guard and protect *The Wood*. But, somewhere among all of them, there are traitors who don't like the way things work and want to take it all for themselves. Enter Henry. Because of this disturbance in the force (sorry, couldn't help myself), Henry's parents have gone missing and he crosses over thresholds in search of them. Henry meets Winter and after some smoother talking convinces her to help him. Did I mention Henry is probably 300 years old in Winter's time? Together, they find out

what is going wrong with The Wood and go in search of answers. They don't really go anywhere besides The Wood, and a weird high school bonfire, but I was entirely okay with that. I enjoyed the book having a straightforward path with no stupid side issues or filler. The pair spends most of their time hunting down a journal and scouring other journals looking for answers to why The Wood is changing and becoming malevolent. Once Winter and Henry have figured everything out there is a big fight between the good guys and the bad guys. Someone extremely close to Winter ends up being a horrible person and Henry has to go home, leaving both him and Winter very sad. Maybe they will be able to see each other again some day. Maybe they won't. The book teaches you that those little 'what if's' can be extremely dangerous. That is what ended up pushing so many people to form new allegiances. But, tell me why, this book left me with so many what ifs. You would think I'd have learned my lesson. Especially when the book had me leaking tears at the end. Over two little words. Ugh. Is ugh even a word? Can I even use it in a review? Well, I'm using it. Ugh. That is how this book left me feeling. In the end, I loved this book so much. It wasn't this massive tome with an adventure story to rival all adventure stories. It was just a simple story that was written very well and captured my heart. Overall, I gave the book 4.5/5 stars.

This book was so unique. The premise is fantastic - a swath of enchanted woods with portals to different times, and the girl who is in charge of seeing the travelers who fall through home safely. I really loved the story, and the main character Winter, who is trying to live a normal life while knowing that she will never be able to live a normal life. THE WOOD reminded me of the TV show Charmed, which I couldn't get enough of. This book is a stand alone, but I would like to read many more books set in this world!

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