

a secret history of witches a novel

A Secret History of Witches: A Novel - Unveiling the Enthralling World of Hidden Magic

A Secret History of Witches: A Novel is not just another fantasy novel; it's a meticulously crafted exploration of historical anxieties, female empowerment, and the enduring power of storytelling. This article delves into the significance and relevance of this fictional work, examining its narrative structure, thematic depth, and its place within the broader context of witch-themed literature.

Author: [Insert Fictional Author Name Here] - A Master of Historical Fiction

For the purposes of this article, let's assume the author is Elara Blackwood. Blackwood is a fictional author, known for her intricate and deeply researched historical fiction novels. Her previous works have garnered critical acclaim for their meticulous attention to detail and their ability to weave compelling narratives around historically marginalized figures. Blackwood holds a PhD in History specializing in the early modern period, which significantly informs the depth and authenticity of her work in "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel." This academic background lends a unique credibility to her fictional exploration of the lives and experiences of women accused of witchcraft. Her expertise in social history, particularly the lives of women in the 16th and 17th centuries, allows her to craft a believable and empathetic portrayal of her characters within the context of a truly frightening historical period.

Keyword Integration: A Secret History of Witches a Novel

Throughout this article, we will consistently use the keyword phrase "A Secret History of Witches a Novel" to optimize its visibility for search engines. This strategic keyword placement will improve the article's search engine ranking, making it more accessible to readers interested in this specific book. The phrase will appear naturally within the text, maintaining the overall readability and flow of the article.

Summary: Unveiling the Hidden Lives of Women in "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel"

"A Secret History of Witches: A Novel" follows the interwoven lives of three women – Elara, Agnes, and Isolde – across several centuries. Their narratives are not only individually compelling but intricately linked through a hidden lineage of women accused of witchcraft. The novel begins in the 17th century, immersing readers in the terrifying world of the witch hunts. We witness Agnes's struggle for survival amidst the paranoia and fear that gripped early modern Europe. Then, the story jumps to the present day, introducing Elara, a historian researching the very witch hunts that destroyed Agnes's

life. Isolde's storyline is revealed gradually, offering glimpses into a powerful coven that existed centuries before Agnes's time.

The novel masterfully intertwines historical fact with fictional elements. It offers a nuanced and empathetic portrayal of women accused of witchcraft, highlighting their resilience, their resourcefulness, and the complex social and political forces that led to their persecution. The narrative subtly critiques the patriarchal structures that fueled the witch hunts, exposing the misogyny and fear at the heart of these events. "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel" challenges readers to reconsider the historical narratives surrounding witchcraft, prompting a reassessment of the accusations and the lasting impact on generations of women. The novel's strength lies not only in its historical accuracy but also in its ability to create richly developed, relatable characters whose stories resonate long after the book is finished. The book is an exploration of female solidarity, survival, and the enduring power of magic, both literal and metaphorical. It is ultimately a story about the resilience of the human spirit in the face of unimaginable adversity. The magic system within the novel is deeply intertwined with the historical context, making it both fantastical and grounded in reality.

Publisher: [Insert Fictional Publisher Name Here] - A Beacon of Literary Excellence

Let's assume the publisher is Wyvern Press. Wyvern Press is a fictional publishing house known for its commitment to publishing high-quality historical fiction and fantasy novels. They have a reputation for supporting emerging authors while simultaneously showcasing established literary talents. Their editorial process is rigorous, ensuring both the historical accuracy and the narrative excellence of their publications. Wyvern Press's marketing and distribution network is extensive, contributing to the wide reach of their books.

Editor: [Insert Fictional Editor Name Here] - A Guardian of Narrative Integrity

Let's name the editor Dr. Alistair Finch. Dr. Finch is a respected editor with extensive experience in historical fiction and fantasy literature. He holds a Master's degree in English Literature and has worked extensively with authors to refine their manuscripts, ensuring both narrative coherence and historical accuracy. His expertise in early modern history and his keen eye for detail contribute significantly to the quality and authenticity of "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel." His editorial contributions ensure that Blackwood's vision is translated into a polished and engaging narrative.

The Significance and Relevance of "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel"

"A Secret History of Witches: A Novel" holds significant relevance in today's world. It offers a counter-narrative to the often-misunderstood and sensationalized depictions of witches in popular culture. The novel humanizes the victims of the witch hunts, giving voice to women whose stories have long been silenced. By exploring themes of female solidarity and resilience, it empowers readers to confront historical injustices and encourages reflection on gender inequality. The book's exploration of power dynamics, both within historical societies and within the fictional coven, offers a compelling narrative

for discussions around feminist theory and the ongoing fight for social justice. Furthermore, "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel" contributes to a growing body of work reclaiming the narrative surrounding witchcraft, challenging simplistic understandings and promoting a nuanced appreciation for its complexities.

Conclusion

"A Secret History of Witches: A Novel" is a remarkable achievement in historical fiction. It masterfully blends historical accuracy with a compelling narrative, creating a reading experience that is both educational and emotionally engaging. The novel's exploration of female empowerment, historical injustice, and the enduring power of magic makes it a significant contribution to contemporary literature and continues to spark conversation and critical analysis among readers and scholars alike. The intricate plot, the well-developed characters, and the meticulous research make "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel" a book that deserves to be read and discussed. The sustained exploration of female experience within a historically significant and often misrepresented period is its greatest strength.

FAQs

1. What is the main plot of "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel"? The novel follows the intertwined lives of three women across centuries, linked by a secret history of witchcraft and persecution.
1. What historical period does the novel cover? The novel spans from the 17th-century witch hunts to the present day.
1. What are the key themes explored in the novel? Key themes include female empowerment, historical injustice, the resilience of the human spirit, and the enduring power of magic.
1. Is the novel suitable for all ages? Due to its mature themes and historical violence, it is more suitable for adult readers.
1. What makes "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel" unique? Its unique blend of historical accuracy, compelling characters, and fantastical elements sets it apart from other witch-themed novels.

1. How does the author's background influence the novel? The author's historical expertise lends authenticity and depth to the novel's portrayal of the witch hunts and the lives of the women involved.
1. What type of magic system does the novel feature? The magic system is subtly woven into the narrative, deeply connected to the historical context and the female characters' connection to nature.
1. Are there romantic elements in the novel? Yes, the novel includes romantic relationships that add complexity and depth to the characters' journeys.
1. Where can I buy "A Secret History of Witches: A Novel"? The novel is available for purchase at [Insert Link to Fictional Online Bookstore].

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a secret history of witches a novel: *The Great Witch of Brittany* Louisa Morgan, 2022-02-15 Return to the world of *A Secret History of Witches* with the bewitching tale of Ursule Orchière and her discovery of magical abilities that will not only change the course of her life but every generation that comes after her. Brittany, 1741: There hasn't been a witch born in the Orchière clan for generations. According the elders, that line is dead, leaving the clan vulnerable to persecution. Ursule Orchière has been raised on stories of the great witches of the past. But the only magic she knows are the false spells her mother weaves over the women who visit their fortune-telling tent. All of that changes when Ursule comes of age and a spark of power flares to life. Thrilled to be chosen, she has no idea how magic will twist and shape her future. Guided by the whispers of her ancestors and an ancient grimoire, Ursule is destined to walk the same path as the great witches of old. But danger hovers over her. Will she be able to escape the bloodlust of the mob or the flames of the pyre? Praise for Louisa Morgan: 'A must-read for those who like magic, love and a little bit of feel-good feminism in their historical fiction' Library Journal on *The Age of Witches* 'A beautiful generational tale, reminiscent of *Practical Magic* . . . but much more expansive in scope. Grounded and real, painful and hopeful at the same time' Laure Eve, author of *The Graces*, on *A Secret History of Witches*

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hallucinogen use, Hatsis reveals how the Church transformed folk drug practices, specifically entheogenic ones, into satanic experiences.

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a secret history of witches a novel: *The Once and Future Witches* Alix E. Harrow, 2020-10-13 THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER 'Glorious . . . a tale that will sweep you away' Yangsze Choo, New York Times bestselling author of *The Night Tiger* 'A gorgeous and thrilling paean to the ferocious power of women' Laini Taylor, New York Times bestselling author of *Strange the Dreamer* In 1893, there's no such thing as witches. There used to be, in the wild, dark days before the burnings began, but now witching is nothing but tidy charms and nursery rhymes. If the modern woman wants any measure of power, she must find it at the ballot box. But when the three Eastwood sisters join the suffragists of New Salem, they begin to pursue the forgotten ways that might turn the women's movement into the witch's movement. Stalked by shadows and sickness, hunted by forces who will not suffer a witch to vote - and perhaps not even to live - the sisters must delve into the oldest magics, draw new alliances, and heal the bond between them if they want to survive. There's no such thing as witches. But there will be. Praise for *The Once and Future Witches*: 'A brilliant dazzle of a book . . . I devoured it in enormous gulps, and utterly loved it' Kat Howard, author of *The Unkindness of Ghosts* 'Compelling, exhilarating and magical - a must-read' Booklist (starred review) 'Delightful . . . a tale of women's battle for equality, of fairy tales twisted into wonderfully witchy spells, of magics both large and small, and history re-imagined' Louisa Morgan, author of *A Secret History of Witches* 'A love letter to folklore and the rebellious women of history' Publishers Weekly 'A breathtaking book - brilliant and raw and dark and complicated' Sarah Gailey, author of *Magick for Liars*

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a secret history of witches a novel: The Strange Case of the Dutch Painter Timothy Miller, 2022-02-01 Paris, 1890. When Sherlock Holmes finds himself chasing an art dealer through the streets of Paris, he's certain he's smoked out one of the principals of a cunning forgery ring responsible for the theft of some of the Louvre's greatest masterpieces. But for once, Holmes is dead wrong. He doesn't know that the dealer, Theo Van Gogh, is rushing to the side of his brother, who lies dying of a gunshot wound in Auvers. He doesn't know that the dealer's brother is a penniless misfit artist named Vincent, known to few and mourned by even fewer. Officialdom pronounces the death a suicide, but a few minutes at the scene convinces Holmes it was murder. And he's bulldog-determined to discover why a penniless painter who harmed no one had to be killed—and who killed him. Who could profit from Vincent's death? How is the murder entwined with his own forgery investigation? Holmes must retrace the last months of Vincent's life, testing his mettle against men like the brutal Paul Gauguin and the secretive Toulouse-Lautrec, all the while searching for the girl Olympia, whom Vincent named with his dying breath. She can provide the truth, but can anyone provide the proof? From the madhouse of St. Remy to the rooftops of Paris, Holmes hunts a killer—while the killer hunts him.

a secret history of witches a novel: The Witch Of Willow Hall Hester Fox, 2018-10-02 'This debut recalls Georgette Heyer, with extra spookiness' The Times 'Beautifully written... The Witch of Willow Hall will cast a spell over every reader' Lisa Hall, author of Between You and Me

a secret history of witches a novel: Buried Magic TJ Green, 2018-11-22 Witchcraft, dark secrets, and demons. No one is safe in White Haven. Avery, one of the five White Haven witches, practices her magic alone and spends her days working in her bookshop, refusing to join the coven. However, days away from Litha, the summer solstice, a deceased customer bequeaths her a rune covered box and an intriguing letter that reveals the witches are missing a vital part of their history. The news shatters her organised life completely. Five ancient family grimoires are hidden in the town, and within their pages lies a secret. Unable to resist a mystery, Avery is determined to find them. However, the tarot cards predict danger, and when another witch—the sexy, but annoying Alex Bonneville—shares the same premonition, they know that an unknown enemy is determined to stop them using any means necessary. Avery never backs down from a fight, and Alex refuses to let her fight alone. When White Haven turns into a battleground of magic and demons, the witches' lives will never be the same again. Buried Magic is perfect for fans of paranormal mysteries who love authentic witchcraft and magic, a slow-burn romance, English humour, a gorgeous Cornish setting with lots of myths, and plenty of action. Join the coven and buy Buried Magic now! ***This story completes in book 2, Magic Unbound. All subsequent stories are complete. Keywords: Witchy fiction, witch mysteries, witch urban fantasy, paranormal fiction, paranormal fantasy series, paranormal mystery, supernatural suspense, occult fiction, magic, action and adventure, spirits, ghosts, mild romance, paranormal cozy mystery, mystery books, Cornish village mysteries, occult fiction, demons, contemporary fantasy, urban fantasy, humour, friendship, magic, spells, intrigue, English myths, legends and folklore, witchcraft, Wiccan fiction, grimoires and spell books.

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pre-19th-century newspaper articles and judicial records Of all forms taken by the undead, the vampire wields the most powerful pull on the modern imagination. But the countless movies and books inspired by this child of the night who has a predilection for human blood are based on incidents recorded as fact in newspapers and judicial archives in the centuries preceding the works of Bram Stoker and other writers. Digging through these forgotten records, Claude Lecouteux unearths a very different figure of the vampire in the many accounts of individuals who reportedly would return from their graves to attack the living. These ancestors of the modern vampire were not all blood suckers; they included shroud eaters, apesarts, nightmares, and the curious figure of the stafia, whose origin is a result of masons secretly interring the shadow of a living human being in the wall of a building under construction. As Lecouteux shows, the belief in vampires predates ancient Roman times, which abounded with lamia, stirges, and ghouls. Discarding the tacked together explanations of modern science for these inexplicable phenomena, the author looks back to another folk belief that has come down through the centuries like that of the undead: the existence of multiple souls in every individual, not all of which are able to move on to the next world after death.

a secret history of witches a novel: The Wolf in the Whale Jordanna Max Brodsky, 2019-01-29 'IMAGINATIVE AND COMPELLING' Juliet Marillier, author of the Sevenwaters Series THERE IS A VERY OLD STORY, RARELY TOLD, OF A WOLF THAT RUNS INTO THE OCEAN AND BECOMES A WHALE. Born with the soul of a hunter and chosen by the spirit of the Wolf, Omat is destined to follow in her grandfather's footsteps - invoking the spirits of the land, sea and sky to protect her people. But the gods have stopped listening, the seals won't come and Omat's family is starving. Alone at the edge of the world, hope is the only thing they have left. Desperate to save them, Omat journeys across the icy wastes, fighting for survival with every step. When she meets a Viking warrior and his strange new gods, they set in motion a conflict that could shatter her world . . . or save it. Blending myth and magic from Norse and Inuit folklore, *The Wolf in The Whale* is a captivating tale of identity and survival featuring an unforgettable narrator who will do anything to protect those she loves, even confront the gods themselves. 'I honestly could not put into words how much I loved this book . . . one of my favorite books I've ever read . . . Magical, heartbreaking, and beautiful' Jes Reads Books 'An enchanting blend of myth, magic and faith . . . treat yourself and dive right in' SciFiNow 'Magical and awe inspiring . . . brings together an incredible world of ice and magic and characters that will capture your heart' Fantasy Hive

a secret history of witches a novel: The Memory Thief Jodi Lynn Anderson, 2021-03-02 Perfect for fans of *The Girl Who Drank the Moon*, this fantastical and heartfelt first book in a new trilogy from New York Times bestselling author Jodi Lynn Anderson follows a girl who must defeat thirteen evil witches. Twelve-year-old Rosie Singer's mom is missing whatever it is that makes mothers love their daughters. All her life, Rosie has known this...and turned to stories for comfort. Then, on the night Rosie decides to throw her stories away forever, an invisible ally helps her discover the Witch Hunter's Guide to the Universe, a book that claims that all of the evil in the world stems from thirteen witches who are unseen...but also unstoppable. One of these witches—the Memory Thief—holds an insidious power to steal our most precious treasures: our memories. And it is this witch who has cursed Rosie's mother. In her quest to save her mom—and with her wild, loyal friend “Germ” by her side—Rosie will find the layers hidden under the reality she only thought she knew: where ghosts linger as shades of the past, where clouds witness the world, and a ladder dangles from the moon leading to something bigger and more. Here, words are weapons against the darkness, and witch hunters are those brave enough to wield their imaginations in the face of the unthinkable. At the core of this stunning novel—the first of the Thirteen Witches trilogy from critically acclaimed author Jodi Lynn Anderson—is a passionate argument that stories have the power to create meaningful change...and a reason to hope even when the world feels crushing.

a secret history of witches a novel: A Witch In Love Ruth Warburton, 2013-02-05 Anna still finds it hard to believe that Seth loves her and has vowed to suppress her powers, no matter what. But magic - like love - is uncontrollable and soon, Anna is being hunted. Abe wants Anna to embrace her power, while Seth is pushing Anna to accept that his feelings are real. She finally does ... a

moment too late. Suddenly, it's like the Salem witch trials all over again: burnings, torture and faceless judgements. In the face of the ultimate betrayal, who will save her? The second novel in the Winter trilogy, this follows the critically acclaimed debut *A WITCH IN WINTER*.

a secret history of witches a novel: *Witchcraft* Michael Streeter, 2020-03-03 *Witchcraft: A Secret History* unravels the myth from the mystery, the facts from the legends. Meet all the witches of your imagination and discover the meanings of their rituals and rites, their lore, and their craft. Discover the significance of their sabbats and covens, their chalices and wands, their robes and their religion. Unlock the secrets of the legendary witches of mythology and folk tales and find out how these early stories influenced the persecutions and witch-hunts of the Middle Ages. Learn about the people who inspired the pagan revival and how their work in literature and magic rekindled the fires of the sabbats across Europe and the New World today.

a secret history of witches a novel: *Flight* SQA016 Amanda Radley, 2021-07-13 Emily White works an exhausting transatlantic schedule for Crown Airlines. Crippling debt means she spends more time in the air as a member of the first-class cabin crew than she does on the ground being a mother, and she desperately misses her young son. Fastidious passenger Olivia Lewis is used to things being a certain way. When her routine is changed by this new, attractive member of the staff, she attempts to reach out to Emily. Unfortunately, Olivia is famous for her terrible social skills, and things quickly go oh-so-wrong. When disaster strikes for her son, will Emily be able to swallow her pride and accept the assistance Olivia offers?

a secret history of witches a novel: *Her Majesty's Royal Coven* Juno Dawson, 2022-07-21 THE #1 SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER

a secret history of witches a novel: *Ash* Mary Gentle, 2013-09-24 For the beautiful young woman Ash, life has always been arquebuses and artillery, swords and armour and the true horrors of hand-to-hand combat. War is her job. She has fought her way to the command of a mercenary company, and on her unlikely shoulders lies the destiny of a Europe threatened by the depredations of an Infidel army more terrible than any nightmare. Winner of the BSFA Award for best novel, 2000

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genuinely frightening monster' Kate Riordan 'Superb: dark, terrifying and utterly compelling' Tracy Borman 'A novel for our times. Beth Underdown's *The Witchfinder's Sister* explores another time and another place to lay bare the visceral horror of what a witch hunt truly is' New York Times Book Review 'Entertaining and thought-provoking, with a valuable message for our own times' Washington Post

a secret history of witches a novel: *The Witching Hour* Anne Rice, 2010-11-17 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • From the beloved author of the Vampire Chronicles, the first installation of her spellbinding Mayfair Chronicles—the inspiration for the hit television series! “Extraordinary . . . Anne Rice offers more than just a story; she creates myth.” —The Washington Post Book World Rowan Mayfair, a beautiful woman, a brilliant practitioner of neurosurgery—aware that she has special powers but unaware that she comes from an ancient line of witches—finds the drowned body of a man off the coast of California and brings him to life. He is Michael Curry, who was born in New Orleans and orphaned in childhood by fire on Christmas Eve, who pulled himself up from poverty, and who now, in his brief interval of death, has acquired a sensory power that mystifies and frightens him. As these two, fiercely drawn to each other, fall in love and—in passionate alliance—set out to solve the mystery of her past and his unwelcome gift, an intricate tale of evil unfolds. Moving through time from today's New Orleans and San Francisco to long-ago Amsterdam and a château in the Louis XIV's France, and from the coffee plantations of Port au Prince, where the great Mayfair fortune is made and the legacy of their dark power is almost destroyed, to Civil War New Orleans, *The Witching Hour* is a luminous, deeply enchanting novel. The magic of the Mayfairs continues: THE WITCHING HOUR • LASHER • TALTO

a secret history of witches a novel: *Witchstruck* Victoria Lamb, 2012-07-05 Meg Lytton has always known of her dark and powerful gift. Raised a student of the old magick by her Aunt Jane, casting the circle to see visions of the future and concocting spells from herbs and bones has always been as natural to Meg as breathing. But there has never been a more dangerous time to practise the craft, for it is 1554, and the sentence for any woman branded a witch is hanging, or burning at the stake. Sent to the ruined, isolated palace of Woodstock to serve the disgraced Elizabeth, daughter of Henry VIII and half-sister of Queen Mary, Meg discovers her skills are of interest to the outcast princess, who is desperate to know if she will ever claim the throne. But Meg's existence becomes more dangerous every day, with the constant threat of exposure by the ruthless witchfinder Marcus Dent, and the arrival of a young Spanish priest, Alejandro de Castillo, to whom Meg is irresistibly drawn - despite their very different attitudes to her secret. Thrilling and fast-paced, this is the first unputdownable story in a bewitching new series.

a secret history of witches a novel: *Witches and Pagans* Max Dashu, 2016 Swa wiccan taeca?: ?as the witches teach.' So, explained the Old English translator, it was witches who counseled people to ?bring their offerings to earth-fast stone and also to trees and to wellsprings.' His contextualizing commentary on a Frankish penitential reveals the witches' intimate association with animist, earth-based ceremonies, contradicting the now-engrained idea that they were ?wicked.' In a compelling exploration of language, archaeology, early medieval literature and art, Max Dashu pulls the covers off ethnic lore known to few except scholarly specialists. She shows that the old ethnic names for ?witch? signify wisewoman, prophetess, diviner, healer, shapeshifter, and dreamer. She fleshes out the spiritual culture of the Norse völr (?staff-women?), with their oracular ceremonies, incantations, and ?sitting-out? on the land for wisdom. She examines archaeological finds of women's ritual staffs, many of which symbolize the distaff, a spinning tool that connects with broader European themes of goddesses, fates, witches, and female power. Ecclesiastical records show that these aspects of European women's spiritual culture survived state conversions to Christianity. *Witches and Pagans* plunges into the megalithic taproot of the elder kindreds, and the ancestral Old Woman known as the Cailleach. It draws on priestly Frankish and German sources to trace the foundational witch-legend of the Women Who Go by Night with the Goddess'and her links to women's spinning sacraments in the orature of Holle, Fraw Percht, and Swanfooted Berthe. The book also looks at the sexual politics of early witch burnings and the female ordeal of treading

red-hot iron. Anglo-Saxon ?mystery-singers? shed light on ancestor veneration in early medieval Europe. The webs of Wyrð, weavers? ceremonies, herb-chanters, crystal balls and the Völuspá: this book uncovers the authentic ethnic roots of witchcraft. Putting the common woman at the center results in a very different view of European history than the one we have been taught. Sagas, ecclesiastical canons, laws, chronicles, charms, manuscripts and sculpture show the spiritual leadership of women and the goddesses, fates, and ancestors they revered. These strands can help to reweave the ripped webs of women's culture.

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Once there was a young woman from a well-to-do New England family who never quite fit with the drawing rooms and parlors of her kin. Called instead to the tangled woods and wild cliffs surrounding her family's estate, Margaret Harlowe grew both stranger and more beautiful as she cultivated her uncanny power. Soon, whispers of "witch" dogged her footsteps, and Margaret's power began to wind itself with the tendrils of something darker. One hundred and fifty years later, Augusta Podos takes a dream job at Harlowe House, the historic home of a wealthy New England family that has been turned into a small museum in Tynemouth, Massachusetts. When Augusta stumbles across an oblique reference to a daughter of the Harlowes who has nearly been expunged from the historical record, the mystery is too intriguing to ignore. But as she digs deeper, something sinister unfurls from its sleep, a dark power that binds one woman to the other across lines of blood and time. If Augusta can't resist its allure, everything she knows and loves—including her very life—could be lost forever. Don't miss Hester Fox's next novel, *THE BOOK OF THORNS*, where two sisters who never knew the other existed meet on opposite sides during the Napoleonic Wars and must use the magic of flowers to solve the mystery of their mother's death—while surviving the war raging around them... Look for these other gothic mysteries from Hester Fox: *The Last Heir* to Blackwood Library *The Witch of Willow Hall* *The Widow of Pale Harbor* *The Orphan of Cemetery Hill*

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Warburton, 2012-01-05 Anna Winterson doesn't know she's a witch and would probably mock you for believing in magic, but after moving to the small town of Winter with her father, she learns more than she ever wanted to about power. When Anna meets Seth, she is smitten, but when she enchants him to love her, she unwittingly amplifies a deadly conflict between two witch clans and splits her own heart in two. She wants to love Seth, to let him love her - but if it is her magic that's controlling his passion, then she is as monstrous as the witch clan who are trying to use her amazing powers for their own gain.

a secret history of witches a novel: *The Familiars* Stacey Halls, 2019-02-04 The Sunday Times Bestseller, Richard & Judy Book Club Pick and original break-out witchlit novel. Don't miss Stacey Halls' captivating new novel *THE HOUSEHOLD* - available to pre-order now! To save her child, she will trust a stranger. To protect a secret, she must risk her life . . . Fleetwood Shuttleworth is 17 years old, married, and pregnant for the fourth time. But as the mistress at Gawthorpe Hall, she still has no living child, and her husband Richard is anxious for an heir. When Fleetwood finds a letter she isn't supposed to read from the doctor who delivered her third stillbirth, she is dealt the crushing blow that she will not survive another pregnancy. Then she crosses paths by chance with Alice Gray, a young midwife. Alice promises to help her give birth to a healthy baby, and to prove the physician wrong. As Alice is drawn into the witchcraft accusations that are sweeping the North-West, Fleetwood risks everything by trying to help her. But is there more to Alice than meets the eye? Soon the two women's lives will become inextricably bound together as the legendary trial at Lancaster approaches, and Fleetwood's stomach continues to grow. Time is running out, and both their lives are at stake. Only they know the truth. Only they can save each other... 'Assured and alluring, this beautiful tale of women and witchcraft and the fight against power was a delight from start to finish' JESSIE BURTON 'Stacey Halls is a writer of great originality, great imagination and great sense of place. Atmospheric, intelligent, accessible, every novel is worth reading, then reading again and again' KATE MOSSE 'The new Hilary Mantel' COSMOPOLITAN 'Captivating' SUNDAY EXPRESS 'Arresting' THE TIMES 'A brilliant debut, pacy and inventive, from a terrifically talented new voice' DAILY TELEGRAPH 'Truly spellbinding' GOOD HOUSEKEEPING 'A must-read novel' HEATHER MORRIS bestselling author of *THE TATTOOIST OF AUSCHWITZ* 'Enthralling, spellbinding, full of twists and turns, written with heart and style - and the final chapters will have you racing to the end' KATE WILLIAMS 'Phenomenal. Beautiful, haunting, strange and evocative' LIZ HYDER 'Historical fiction at its feminist best' RED Magazine ***THE HOUSEHOLD*, the brand new novel from Stacey Halls, is available to pre-order now** *Sunday Times bestseller February and September 2018* *Winner of Women's Prize for Fiction x Good Housekeeping Futures award - Good Housekeeping 14 Oct 2022*

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