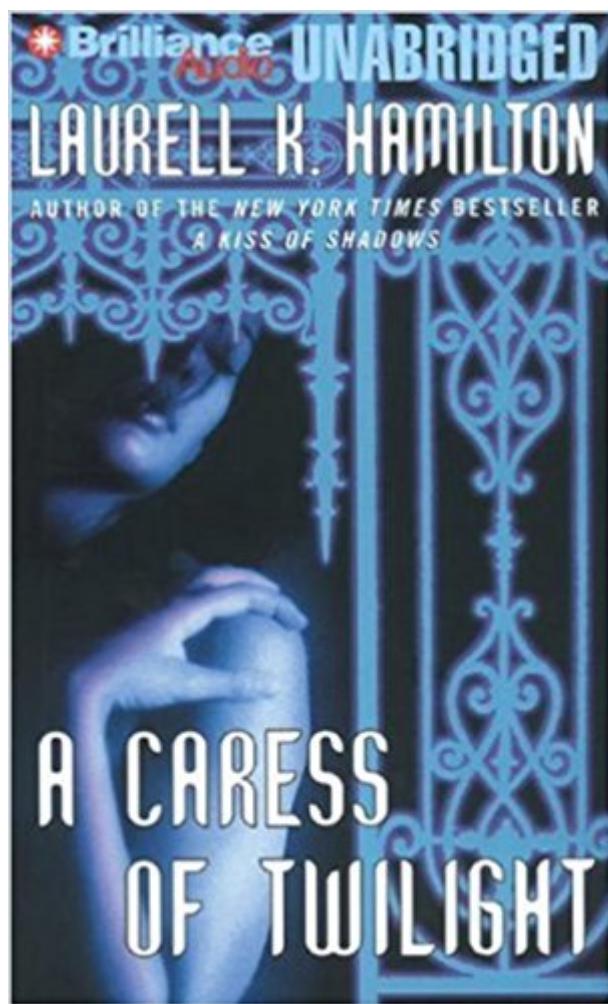


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# A Caress Of Twilight (Meredith Gentry, Book 2)



## Synopsis

I am Princess Meredith, heir to a throne - if I can stay alive long enough to claim it. My cousin, Prince Cel, is determined to see that I don't. As long as we both live, we are in a race for the crown: Whichever one of us reproduces first gets the throne. So now the men of my royal guard - frightening warriors skilled with blade, spell, and gun - have become my lovers, auditioning with pleasure for the role of future king and father of my child. And they must still protect me from assassination attempts - for unlike most fey, I am part human, and very mortal. All this royal backstabbing makes it difficult for me to pursue my living as a private investigator in Los Angeles, especially since the media made sure the whole world knows the Faerie princess is alive and well in sunny California. Now, in the City of Angels, people are dying in mysterious, frightening ways. What the human police don't realize is that the killer is hunting fey as well. Havoc lies on the horizon; the very existence of the place known as Faerie is at grave risk. So now, while I enjoy the greatest pleasures of my life with my guardians, I must fend off an ancient evil that could destroy the very fabric of reality. And that's just my day job...

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Faerie princess and private detective Meredith Gentry juggles love, sex, intrigue, magic, and more in this witty and sensual novel from Laurell K. Hamilton. Merry has her hands full: she's desperate to conceive a child and thereby claim the Unseelie throne; she's the target of intrigue from both the Seelie and Unseelie Courts; her newest client is an exiled goddess with a secret that could get them all killed; and a hideous fey force that alarms even her formidable lover-warriors is loose in Los

Angeles. *A Caress of Twilight* is infused with Hamilton's characteristic appealing blend of sex, magic, wit, and romantic dilemma. The mystery takes a back seat to the concerns of Faerie power and politics, making the book less balanced, but Merry's growth in leadership and power, along with a bang-up ending, won't leave fans disappointed. Readers new to Hamilton might be advised to start with *A Kiss of Shadows* or the extremely popular Anita Blake series. --Roz Genessee --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

In the second R-rated outing (after 2000's *A Kiss of Shadows*) from bestseller Hamilton to feature bright and winsome faery princess Meredith Gentry, the unlikely shamus, who runs an L.A. detective agency with a staff of faery musclemen (plus a pet goblin), seems to spend almost as much time pondering her position in the fey world as attending to her client, glamorous film star Maeve Reed, actually a Seelie goddess, who needs Meredith's help in getting pregnant. Meredith does what she can for Maeve, although she has troubles enough of her own in the conception game. As one of two possible heirs to the Unseelie throne, the other being her nasty cousin, Prince Cel, Meredith must produce her own child and then, by faery tradition, marry her partner. It isn't easy, since any father must be kingly material, but our heroine is a game lass, and her failure is not for lack of trying. In an exciting climax, the LAPD Bureau of Human and Fey Affairs summons Meredith to battle a fearsome, crawling, tentacled and slobbering monster, the Nameless, which was too blithely created by opposing faery courts her own, the Unseelie, ruled by her millennium-old aunt, Queen Andais, and the Seelie, ruled by the ruthless and equally ancient King Taranis. More attention to the detective motif might have made the story more fun, but steamy prose and Meredith's obsessive personal conflicts should keep the faithful turning the pages. (Apr. 2)Forecast: With a 10-city author tour, national print advertising and the success of last year's *Narcissus in Chains* and other novels in her Anita Blake vampire series, Hamilton should make another run at the bestseller lists. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Merry is back working for the Grey Detective Agency in L.A. along with some of her guards. Her one bedroom apartment is too small for the five guards plus Kitto, the small snake goblin she's taken on for six months in order to have the goblins as allies. It's difficult to find a place they can afford for so many people. Maeve Reed, a prominent Hollywood actress for fifty years and a former goddess of the Seelie Court, wants a favor from Merry, which she'll only agree to if Maeve will share the secret to why she was banished, and the reason could rock the balance of power. Politics and the mystery

of what has been unleashed by the sidhe and how to stop it take up the majority of this second story. Merry has to negotiate with the demi-fey, a number of members from the Seelie Court as well as her aunt. Each of the different courts and types of fey has their own cultures and rules. And because she's trying to get pregnant and keep all of the guards--who'd been forced to be celibate under their queen--happy, sex is a common activity. Sex with Doyle for the first time is especially eventful. Action, humor, mystery, politics and sex round out this story that fit a number of genres. We learn more about the guards and the world of the fey. A great job at character and world building.

I enjoy the action and budding romance. Good versus evil is alive and well with a side of magic and erotica thrown in. I love Merry and the storyline. I don't like the overexplanations, but in the next breath, it helps me to visualize the characters and settings. When things are intense, I find myself skipping parts of paragraphs or jumping ahead and going back because it becomes a bit tedious. Overall, I'm thoroughly enjoying the series as I did Anita Blake and that whole series.

My wife introduced me to this series and I was hooked almost immediately. So far I've only read the first few books, but luckily I have many more to go. I've also brought multiple other people in to the fandom and they love it.

Still needs to limit the PAGES of descriptions. We get it, no need for these excessive details of the characters, hair, eyes, body, clothes, weapons, etc etc.

Once again LKH has done it...not that there was any doubt though. I don't know which I liked more, this one or the first. One thing they both contained was the knack to survive...which I really liked. Merry and her boys are hell bent on one thing and that is keeping Merry alive...well okay two. The other is making her with child. Just as there was in the first, there is action, betrayal, romance, alliances, growing and development and tons of lust. Things that made me sit on the edge of my seat in the first one were quenched in this one and now I have new thirst and anticipations. If you liked the first you will like the development in this one was well. The only thing bad I can say was that it ended a little to easily, some parts seemed a little rushed and it wasn't long enough.

"A Caress of Twilight" was every bit as dark and delicious as "A Kiss of Shadows." I strongly agree with the other reviewers who said that the plot gets weighed down by lengthy explanations and unnecessary conversations. There were at least three conversations that I skimmed over because

Meredith just kept saying the same thing over and over again. It made it seem like Hamilton was trying to draw the story line out and I personally would have liked a little less dialog and little more action. (Which ever direction that may be) The only thing that kind of irritated me was Merry's refusal to sleep with Sage. Don't get me wrong, I understand politically why she refused, but I don't understand why she wasn't willing to 'take one for the team' in order to cure Galen. I mean.....she's sleeping with Nicca who we know is part demi-fey AND she just had sex with Kitto!! Are you seriously telling me that she considers a goblin higher up on the list of sexual partners than a butterfly?? Now--it was definitely wrong of Queen Niceven to send Sage there under false pretense, but I also know how much Merry loves Galen and I was a little taken back that she protested it. I'm also starting to get a little irritated that everyone Merry encounters tries their best to manipulate her; Maeve, Taranis, Niceven, Andais, sometimes the guards, etc. She is beginning to understand what it is to be a Queen and I can tell she's beginning to change into a great leader, but it does become a little predictable which direction the conversation is going to go when she encounters someone new. That's knit picky, but that's how I feel about it. With that said, this story was great!! One of the things I love about Hamilton's writing is her ability to develop her characters. Even her side characters are so well developed that it's hard not to obsess over them. The story line had just enough action to keep you engaged without being overwhelming and the sex was like Mr. Pib and Red Vines.....it's crazy delicious!!! I love that Meredith pushes herself both mentally and physically. She is a force to be reckoned with and I have a feeling she hasn't even begun to come into all her magic!!! If you enjoyed "A Kiss of Shadows" you will definitely enjoy "A Caress of Twilight." There are a couple of twists that will keep you guessing what's going to happen next!! Can't wait to get started on the next one!!

Like all her books, Mrs Hamilton knows how to word things so you are unable to put down her works. It has her passion woven into each sentence. I recommend this book and the series to anyone.

I love reading the Merry Gentry novel series. A lot of plots and ploys. I am looking forwards to reading more.

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