

## **Kingdom of the Wicked**

**By author, Kerri Maniscalco**

**Reviewed by: Grace Kamau 14**

**Star Teen Book Reviewer of Be the Star You Are! Charity**  
**[www.bethestaryouare.org](http://www.bethestaryouare.org)**

After the tragic murder of her twin sister, Emilia, a daughter of a long line of powerful witches goes on a quest to find the murderer. Even though it takes forbidden dark magic and allying herself with a prince of hell, Emilia will do whatever it takes to avenge her sister's death. Throughout the story Emilia finds out that not only was her sister killed, but others as well. The more she follows the clues her sister left behind; the more lies are uncovered. Emilia tries not to lose herself, her loved ones, and her soul in the process. In the end she will discover the truth behind everything, but in return Emilia must make a great sacrifice.

This young adult fantasy book is definitely a good read! Throughout the story we see how Emilia's character grows emotionally. A nice piece of the book is that the little bit of romance tied in the book. The romance story line does not overpower the main story line, but instead supports it. Throughout the book we see the author, Kerri Maniscalco, showing her cultural appreciation to her Italian heritage in the book. She does this by making the setting of the story to take place in Sicily and adds Italian words throughout the story. An addition that would be great, would be a small dictionary in the back of the book. Which would directly give the definitions for the Italian words in the story.

"Kingdom of the wicked", for the most part does not have too steamy or graphic scenes. However, there are scenes that include blood, fighting, strong words and kissing, which are not suitable for younger ages. Therefore, I would say this book is best suitable for ages 14 and up. I also would recommend borrowing "Kingdom of the Wicked" at a library, because this book is the first one of the series which are still being made. Also, this book would be great as a gift to anyone 14 and up that are interested in YA paranormal fantasy books with a touch of romance.

### **Recommended titles:**

The Cruel Prince by Holly Black

These Violent Delights by Chloe Gong

Court of Thrones and Roses by Sarah J. Mass

Shatter Me by Tahereh Mafi

A Curse so Dark and Lonely by Brigid Kemmerer