

The Bookish* Newsletter!

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Check out updates on my good reads progress, upcoming titles, lists, and reviews.

[ARC Review] Strange Bedfellows

Amanda Mortlock [FANTASY ♦ ROMANCE ♦ PARANORMAL]

Thank you to Net Galley and Atria/Emily Bestler Books for the advance copy of this title.

When I accepted this title via email, it wasn't something I would normally gravitate toward, but the cover and brief synopsis caught my attention.

With so many ARC titles on my reading list, I somehow missed that this was a romance (or romantasy), a genre I typically steer clear of. However, in hindsight, I've been trying to broaden my reading horizons beyond horror, so why not?

I know this book will appeal to some readers, but by the 20% mark, I was already thinking, "This isn't for me."



Initially, the story was interesting, but once we got into Cleo and Wes's relationship, it started to feel a little too saccharine for my taste. I mean, dripping with it! And then there was the gratuitous sex, seemingly for the sake of having sex scenes. We know you're having sex. We don't need every intimate detail.

Which brings me to another question: Why do we always have to wait until the 45% mark to get to the witches?

I understand some of the buildup was necessary to explain the connection between Wes and Cleo, but once Bailey and Ollie entered the picture, things finally got interesting. ✨ ✨ ✨ ✨ ✨



More Updates & Reading Progress!

☆ Review CONTINUED ☆

We learned more about the families, their past tragedies, and the mystery of what happened. I enjoyed watching Bailey, Ollie, Wes, and Cleo work together to uncover those secrets the most.

I don't think *Strange Bedfellows* is a terrible story by any means. There are certainly readers who will gravitate toward its dark academia atmosphere, fantasy elements, and romance.

Unfortunately, the parts I found most intriguing took too long to develop, while the romance occupied much more of the story than I would have liked.

Ultimately, this title just wasn't for me, and that's okay. Not every book will be a winner for every reader.

I gave it 2.9 stars. ✨

READ IN OCTOBER



- Please Enjoy Your Stay, Tara Goedjen
- *Strange Bedfellows*, Amanda Mortlock
- Public Access Afterworld, Jane Schoenbrun

Wish Listed ARC Titles

- *You Are What You Eat*, Carey Starling
- *The Spare*, Annie Neugebauer
- *The House on Garnet Hill*, Logan Spurgeon
- *Spellman Rising*, Lisa Lutz
- *People I'd Like to Kill*, Robin Davies
- *We Don't Call Them Cages*, Luke Dumas
- *This Is Not An Exorcism*, Ivy Fang
- *Mercy for the Dead*, Marilyn Medlock

☆ Currently Reading ☆

- *The Maid*, (PAUSED) Nita Pros
- *Revenge Plot*, Stephanie Wrobel
- *Mercy House*, Adam Cesare

Book Sources

BookTrib [<https://booktrib.com/>]
 Goodreads [<https://www.goodreads.com/>]
 Book Riot [<https://bookriot.com/>]
 NPR [<https://www.npr.org/books/>]
 Literary Hub [<https://lithub.com/>]
 Booktrovert [<https://booktrovert.com/>]
 Fable [<https://fable.co/>]

November Reading Challenge!

"Read an audiobook!"

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