

Starheart (Vale of Stars #1) By Hailey Griffiths Really enjoying the series unfortunately for my credit card! Starheart (Vale of Stars #1) I do wish I didn't take so long with this book because it is an easy and really enjoyable read. It is one of those books that is short enough to gobble up in a weekend but if you don't (like me) and take your time you won't lose where you were or forget what had happened.) Starheart (Vale of Stars #1) I really enjoyed this book - the first I've read by this author - and I'm looking forward to what the rest of the series holds for these characters. I'm looking forward to reading the prequels too! Starheart (Vale of Stars #1)



Hailey writes stories about love and magic (which are sometimes the same thing) from a comfy chair in Berlin. Step one: Get through her fake betrothal ceremony Step two: Avoid killing her mother-in-law — at least until she finally gets the secret locations of the Godstars Step three: Bond the Godstars (and their magic!) without killing anyone else... But even the best laid plans don't work out and when Elle is betrayed on the eve on her betrothal she discovers just how wrong things can go. I look forward to seeing how things pan out and will definitely sign up to the newsletter to read to prequel novellas Starheart (Vale of Stars #1) I have terrible mixed feeling about this book. I didn't know what the Mistwall was until it was broken or that there was a land outside until Pyromancers (also unknown to me but not it seems to the characters) came stomping through hurting people. It also seemed to me that the story was starting at the wrong point - those prequels seem to be required reading but leave time gap in which political maneuverings and magical changes have happened. Starheart (Vale of Stars #1) * SPFBO5 Read *This was the first book out of my assigned SPFBO mini-batch I chose to pick up because I was in dire need of some YA escapism. While I found the second half of the book a charming experience the first half was pretty difficult for me as I felt there was an unnecessary amount of fluff preventing a real sense of urgency from forming. I sense the world itself has a deep history below the surface just waiting to be discovered but many of these indications are mentioned with little to no details and those are often vague as well - almost as if there was a book I should've read before this one. All things considered I'm glad I continued through this book as that final half was exactly what I was looking for - I only wish the fascinating bits began just a tad earlier. But the beginning of this book finds her embroiled in a plot to overthrow her with those in the Synod substituting her power - the power that protects the Vale in which they live - for that of magic trinkets. When a friend is murdered Elle finally understands a mysterious pain she has been feeling for some time and embarks on a quest to mend the Mistwall the ancient protector of the Vale.

It's so exciting and the tension builds up to such a point: 5 starsLeft me hanging! I am so going to need to buy the next book! I can't decide whether it was a good or a bad thing that I read the two free prequels to this. Although the gaps between all three still frustrate me at times, (I emailed the author - the gaps are valid - I haven't accidentally skipped a book in the series:)The world is a very clever one and it was almost intriguing to have horses be a foreign concept to Elle: Somehow horses and fantasy/fairy tales seem to go hand-in-hand.

Starheart by Hailey Griffiths is a wonderful story written by a brand new author for me to read, This

is book number one in this brand new start to a brand new series that I have read, I highly recommend this book to everyone who loves reading about fantasy and romance in their stories, I received a free copy of this book via Booksprout and am voluntarily leaving a review: Starheart (Vale of Stars #1) I loved this book but in this world horses are not part of the fairy-tale kingdom. I love that Elle has this certain sassiness to her which I enjoy, She's learning herself and her own magic sometimes forgetting her worth/power but she has this sassy streak to her, She says things as it is and doesn't hold back which I liked. (Side note: the cover art for all of the author's books are truly beautiful and mesmerizing: Starheart is reminiscent of Christopher Paolini's Inheritance cycle in a way that I can't quite put my finger on and fans of those books will enjoy this. If she's not writing you can probably find her reading under a pile of snacks or on the rare occasions she's forced outdoors trying to find the best burger in Berlin. Things that weren't in Elle's plan: Invading Fire MagesDark magicSnarky ex-fiancés ...and an outlander prince who is really more attractive than anyone has the right to be, With her plan in pieces and help in short supply Elle needs to find a way to protect the Vale of Stars from the unplanned before it becomes everyone's undoing, Starheart (Vale of Stars #1)Beautiful writing and intriguing worldMy only complaint is that it's too short: The imagination behind it is so fantastical and yet and yet. It suffers from one of my biggest fantasy world-building bugbears: everyone else knows what's what and who's who but I don't not until the last minute possible: That lack of foreshadowing and lore introduction really breaks the enjoyment for me because I'm spending the whole book desperately trying to piece together how the world works: For instance at the end of the book I still don't know the names or powers of all the Godstars: Apparently t'is legend of a desert land beyond the wall but I wasn't allowed to know this until a character mentioned it over half way through the story, While doing this avoids the possibility of info-dumps it creates a frustrating reading experience of having to try and put things together from little inferences. Even having read the prequels I feel sad to say I just couldn't get the fantasy world. I felt that there were huge chunks of narrative missing in which Elle's character development and her relationship with Tainn (amongst other named characters) were absent, Not to mention her mother's death the rise of the Guild the power-plays of the mostly faceless Synod, And then we meet Kaisarian who is at first naive about his brother's plans then suddenly knows and disapproves of them? Betrays his men because: A gorgeous imagination but the narrative structure left me feeling lost, Starheart (Vale of Stars #1) Starheart is a fun fantasy perfect for tweens. The writing quality is solid and the plot carries you along on a spellbinding journey. The writing is poetic the author is clearly skilled and the imagery is also gorgeous, The only issue I had with the writing was the occasional extravagancy: This was distracting and cluttered the story when you just wanted to get on with it: The plot is well structured with a strong beginning middle and end: The excitement isn't always constant but when there is action it's fantastic and bloody: If not for some gory violence I would have thought it was a Middle Grade novel: I loved that and it's refreshing to see especially in fantasy, The author's imagination clearly has no bounds and I adored how detailed and abstract so many of the fantasy elements were. It is an enticing world - what I saw of it - but the details are vague and as a result I was confused about the setting and time for the entire novel, I never understood the politics or the ins-and-outs of the characters' titles and roles and if I had then I would have enjoyed the novel more: I wanted concrete ideas gradually introduced and then fleshed out to form a three-dimensional fantasy world. The characters are sweet although their personalities are simple. There's very little character development if any and no one's particularly memorable or three-dimensional: The good guys are easy to root for and the bad guys are easy to hate: It's a very small aspect of the novel but the love interest only comes in the last quarter and thus feels contrived, There didn't actually need to be a romance - I think Elle's journey would have been better without one. Starheart is a remarkably whimsical story defined by a uniquely enchanting world; one that is far too easy to lose yourself in: The setting is beautifully illustrated and reminiscent of one within a fairytale with surprises everywhere the eye lands: The imaginative trials faced and the wicked villains we're introduced to were among some of my favorite aspects of this book. Additionally the writing is solid the underlying mystery is alluring and it was difficult to decipher

who was friend and who was foe (something I always appreciate in a story). The characters we follow although adults seem childish and flat at times unfortunately preventing me from truly bonding with them. Starheart (Vale of Stars #1) Wonderful! Having finished reading the two prequels I went straight into this book, Elle is the Grace the blood recipient of the power of the Godstars - and possessor of two of them as the book opens. This is a fantasy land I can happily take up residence in - despite the dangers, Although the magic system employed is somewhat complex Griffiths doesn't get bogged down in it instead revealing it to the reader bit by bit in a way that is accessible. I will be looking out the next book in the series shortly. Starheart (Vale of Stars #1) 3. I think I will err on a good thing. They come from the outside. Can't wait to read book 2. The cat keeps watch to make sure she's doing it right. Elle has a plan. Reasons? I didn't get him at all. This was a lovely enjoyable read. Some sentences were extremely flowery and wordy. The story is extremely imaginative and creative. It's utterly original. My only big issue with the book is the world building. As is I was bewildered. It was all too muddled and elusive. Still it is a short story and they suit the length. It's simple which is what you need sometimes. I wasn't a fan of the romance. I simply love Griffiths's worldbuilding. I simply adore the hearthomes and. just everything about this world. Starheart (Vale of Stars #1).