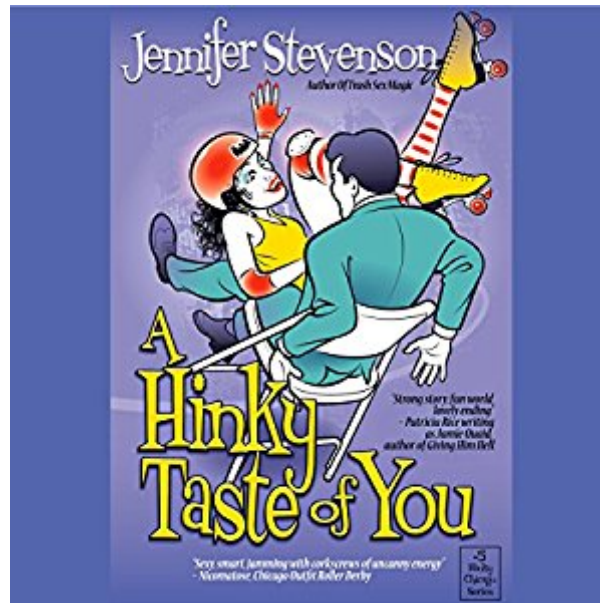


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A Hinky Taste Of You: Hinky Chicago Book 5



Synopsis

Hel became an energy vampire at seventeen and reduced her first lover to ashes. Forty years later, she still looks seventeen. Her life is teaching hyperactive boys, roller derby, and worrying about paying her mother's hospital bills. Nick Jones, federal anti-magic cop, has a secret, too. Magic turns him on, to his shame. This makes it hard for him when he's assigned to recruit Hel. Nick feels guilty for his attraction to a teenager. Hel adores Nick's yummy energy. If he learns she's a vampire, he'll send her to Hinky Guantanamo. But how can they keep their hands off each other?

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have been waiting eagerly, impatiently, hungrily for Stevenson's next book in the Hinky Chicago world and *A Taste of You* does not disappoint. I bought it one afternoon last weekend, read it that night without putting it down, and now... I'm waiting again. I can't get enough of this world. You might think, what with all the books these days about zombies, vampires, werewolves, ghosts and the whole panoply of things that go bump, that every possible variation on the paranormal theme had pretty much been done. Not so; Stevenson's Hinky Chicago owes nothing to any existing magic-touched world. It's the freshest and most creative concept imaginable... and the most convincing. Not only that, the writing is intelligent, snappy, and utterly absorbing, the plot is fast-paced and enjoyably wild, and the characters are fun to be around. This is wonderful stuff. Wonderful. Encore! Encore!

Jennifer Stevenson's take on the world where things go bump in the night is very interesting.

Instead of vampires needing to suck blood to stay alive, her main character, Hel, is an 'energy' vampire. By day she teaches 'problem' children, by night she is a Roller Derby girl. Hel is a likable character, middle aged, trying to be a good, morale, law-abiding citizen. She tries to take the 'prana', or energy only in places where they generate new right away. This was an easy, fun read. I highly recommend it to anyone who wants to laugh.

This book sucked me in after a few pages. It is a refreshing take in the genre. Hel is a Prana (life force) vampire, instead of a blood sucking one. Great take on it. This book was very entertaining. It made me laugh out loud at some points. I will be reading more from this author. I couldn't put it down!!!

(This review previously appeared at Goodreads) I really enjoyed this book by Stevenson, but I'll be firm here - the cover, designed to match the Brass Bed books? Not right. This is not a romance, and not a comedy, although there is love and a lot of humor in the book. But there's also dark power, pain and despair, scary and strong magic, and a deeply sensual look at the mind of someone with morals who has survived as an energy vampire for decades - and now she's hanging on by her psychic fingernails. Hel Nagzy disintegrated her first boyfriend at 17, and decades later, she can't even risk petting her cat. Teaching ADHD and autistic kids and competing in roller derby keep her (mostly) fed and sane. But Hel wants more - she wants a real life, she wants a way out of her aging, alcoholic mother's massive medical bills, and she wants to love and be loved. She's surviving in a strange, alternate world where the cops of Chicago are pretending that things are normal while entire parts of major world cities are disappearing into magical no-man's-lands. Then the Feds find out she's been reading New Age web sites, looking for people researching the current weird upshift in magic. Nick, an anti-magic cop, shows up. They need her help flushing out a magical threat, though they don't seem to know what she is. The cop has his own problems, plus the presence of magic arouses him, and he thinks Hel must be underage, which is making him feel lousy about his attraction to her. What is going on is not quite what you're probably expecting, the hints of how magic is working are intriguing, and yes, the ending is hopeful. So - A Taste of You is overall enjoyable, well done, magical, truly romantic in numerous ways, and worth reading! But if you're looking for category anything, it's probably not your cup of tea. Recommended!

This book follows Helen 'Hel' as she tries to figure out ways to suck energy from people without doing them any harm. She is an energy vampire and if she is not careful, she can suck energy from

someone until they turn into nothing but dust. Not all energy tastes the same. Bad people with bad thoughts give off bad tasting energy, so sucking energy during her subway rides is bottom of the barrel picking, but something Hel does to keep from getting too hungry and possibly hurting someone she loves. In this world being magic of any kind is a bad thing, so she hides her true self from everyone. When Agent Nick shows up at her work and wants her to help uncover someone who may be using magic, Hel samples his energy and he is soooooo delicious! Since he is an anti-magic cop, she has to be very careful when she is around him so he doesn't find out what she really is and have her arrested. This is my first book by this author and I really enjoyed it. I didn't like that Hel was so crybaby all the time, but I guess going without love (or sex) for 40 years or so would tend to make someone a bit on edge. I enjoyed all the roller derby action and the cool names the girls had given themselves. I especially enjoyed all the names for the different moves the girls would put on people. I would have enjoyed learning a bit more about the different characters and what was going on with them. There were references to her shrink, Dr. Springe, not looking right and that she had a possible link to Dr. Katterfelto then nothing was ever mentioned again. There were mentions of different magics in the world, but only a few mentions as to what they were or how they were being used. ** Note ** I received this book free from LibraryThing Early Reviewers program in exchange for an honest review. I received no chocolate or any other compensation in exchange for my review.

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