



The Seeds of Wither

Lauren DeStefano

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Step into the Chemical Garden with an all-new eBook sampler!

Discover the world author Lauren DeStefano created in *Wither*, a riveting dystopian thriller. In the not-so-distant future, fallout from genetic engineering causes all females to die at age twenty, and all males to die at twenty-five. Kidnapped from her home and torn from her twin brother Rowan, sixteen-year-old Rhine is forced into a polygamous marriage and taken to live in her husband's mansion. She has everything she wants—except for freedom. But her plans to escape and return home are complicated by a devious father-in-law, as well as Rhine's growing attraction to Gabriel, a servant who works on the estate. Read the first 100 pages of *Wither* and be captivated by Rhine's journey.

This eBook sampler includes an EXCLUSIVE, never-before-published short story by Lauren DeStefano! "The First Bride" reveals the events leading up to *Wither*, from the point of view of the bride that came before Rhine.

Delve even deeper into *Wither* with a map of the wives' floor, the *Wither* book trailer, and a video that takes you behind the scenes of the *Fever* cover shoot.

You'll also get a sneak peak of *Fever*, the second book in the Chemical Garden trilogy, before it goes on sale 2/21/12!

The Seeds of Wither Details

Date : Published November 15th 2011 by Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers

ISBN :

Author : Lauren DeStefano

Format : Kindle Edition 77 pages

Genre : Science Fiction, Dystopia, Young Adult, Romance, Short Stories, Novella

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From Reader Review The Seeds of Wither for online ebook

hayden says

Oh, boy. This looks like it serves no purpose. They could've just published the short story on its own. That would've done just fine. But, alas, they had to make money, so they threw some other stuff in.

Believe me, I love Lauren DeStefano. I loved Fever, especially. But I don't love greedy authors, and I really hope Lauren isn't going down that path.

Betza says

mas de lo mismo, solo que rose no quiso escapar sino que enfrento su destino.

Book Sushi says

I just started this book and its already annoying me. The description says its a short on Rose's point of view as the first bride, but so far its just a big extract from Wither. So Im actually having to skip a few pages... Why they couldn't put the POV first, i dont know....

well i managed to finish this. lots of skipping till i found the short, and I am dissapointed. Seriously, this was just a money making ploy...

Deanna says

It probably would have helped if I had read the description before reading this book.

Most of the book (about 75 percent) was the first six chapters of the first book in The Chemical Garden Trilogy "Wither". As I had just finished reading Wither I didn't bother with this part.

The BONUS content was basically a map of the wife's floor, the "Wither" book trailer and a behind the scenes "Fever" cover shoot.

There was a NEW short story by Lauren DeStefano included that had never before been published. "The First Bride" is Linden and Rose's story. However, it was REALLY short...5 pages.

Also included was the first chapter of the second book in the trilogy, "Fever". Considering I already had the second book this was a bit pointless for me.

I guess for huge fans of The Chemical Garden books this may have been a fun little treat. Although this eBook was 100 pages, probably only 10-15 pages of it was new or bonus material.

I know this was published as people were anxiously awaiting the next book in the trilogy, but it just seemed like it could have had a bit more new or bonus content.

Tarsis says

Eso es el verdadero amor, dejar marchar cuando sabes que aunque lo ames, no eres buena para él.

Myndi says

Nice to be able to see how Rose and Linden came to be a couple who actually cared for each other in this world. Interesting to see Rose's thoughts and not just words to others as she spiraled towards her own imminent death. I think I could have really liked Rose had she been around a bit more in the first book.

This book also had a teaser of book 1 and a preview of book 2, but since I'd already read book 1 and I have book 2 waiting for me, I chose to just read the bonus story.

Sarah says

2.5 stars

This was a bit pointless really. 77% of it was the first few chapters of Wither (So if you've read Wither, you've obviously read these already!), then there was a very short story about Rose and Linden - literally a few pages in which she tells him to remarry, and then that's it - on to an excerpt from Fever. Pointless.

5 out of 10

Foxyreading says

This was a really short story, but I was really curious about what happened in it. I'm satisfied and hurt by this short story so much grief and mixed feelings! It was beautiful though and a good addition to the first book!

T.J. Day says

When they say "short story" they literally mean short story. But I really love Rose so I bought this sampler the other day. Rose's story is brief and simple, explaining how young she was upon meeting and marrying Linden. And the darkness that befell her after losing her child and succumbing to the virus. I wish I could have read more.

Ruth Silver says

I read *The Seeds of Wither* after finishing *The Chemical Garden Trilogy*. I had hoped that it would give some additional insight into one of the characters (specifically Rose). *The Seeds of Wither*, at 77 pages includes content from the first book *Wither* which I always find awkward considering the reader that is purchasing the novella has already read the novel. It also included a small excerpt from *Fever*, which at the time hadn't been released and made a little more sense. Though for me, I'd already read it the novel and didn't seem worth the purchase.

The new novella, 'The First Bride' Short Story as titled in the contents, is about Rose. From the first page they are married with Rose a mere eleven years old. It continues to just briefly touch on their first kiss, burying their child and then focuses more on Rose's decline in health. Rose tells Linden that he must remarry and let it be a muse - someone that will encourage him to draw again. Of the 77 pages, 13 was 'The First Bride'. Not much for new content if you've finished the series.

Included in *The Seeds of Wither* was also a map of the wives floor. Included on the final page was a link to the *Fever* Cover Reveal (behind the scenes video of the cover shoot) and the book trailer for *Wither*. I'm not sure if either of those videos are available to readers that haven't purchased *The Seeds of Wither*.

All in all, I rated the entire book *The Seeds of Wither* three stars based on content. The good it came with: a new novella, a mere 16% of the book (and a rehash of information we already knew about Rose), the wives map and two exclusive videos. For the date of its release, it included an excerpt of *Fever* which was highly anticipated by readers. The unnecessary (and the content that always annoys me to be paying for a second time after already previously purchasing the first book): several chapters from *Wither*.

Trisha says

this was a little disappointing.

Since it was only about 100 pages, I figured it would be maybe 25, 50, 25

25 pages to *Wither*

50 to new content

25 to *Fever*

Instead it was about 80 to *Wither*, 15 to *Fever*, and 5 to new content.

I was hoping for more new stuff. I would love to know Rose more.

but I'm glad to know she really did push Linden into marrying and finding a new muse. And their small amount of interaction was cute, but I'd love to know the history of her candies.....

Amber says

The Seeds of Wither is an eBook sampler I recently discovered and bought to tide me over until *Fever* is available. It includes the first few chapters of *Wither* (which I skipped since I have already read it), an exclusive, never-before-published short story titled *The First Bride*, and the first chapter of *Fever*.

The real pull of this sampler for me was the short story and the sneak peek of *Fever*. *The First Bride* was a lovely short story told from Rose's (Linden's first wife) point-of-view. Lauren DeStefano's writing flows

beautifully in the same tone she used for *Wither*. Despite the horror of the reality of this world, the language and description of simple things is beautiful. Rose is an interesting character with a beauty, poise, and calm that resonated through the few pages she had to tell us her story. I enjoyed learning more about her past with Linden as well as her grief and her selflessness. And, of course, the orange grove.

The first chapter of *Fever* was really good as well. It does pick up where *Wither* leaves off. I think that is important. The outside feels both safe and scary to Gabriel and Rhine. The chapter also comes off as surreal, especially towards the end. That is what I enjoyed about *Wither* - the surreal quality.

For fans of *Wither*!

Read the review in its original format [here](#).

Betty says

This would have been rated higher if it had been the prequel I thought it was. But the first part was the first six chapters of *Wither*, the next bit was a short story told from the perspective of a different character (which did function as a prequel of a sort), and then an excerpt of *Fever*. The *Wither* excerpt was good and made me want to continue with the book, but I already had it in the library and was planning on reading it next anyway.

The First Bride was a good read, nicely paced and a solid introduction to Linden and Rose. And it helps to understand some of Linden's behavior in that first six chapters of *Wither* that preceded it.

I haven't bothered with the excerpt of *Fever* since reading it before *Wither* is getting the story out of order even more than this collection of excerpts already has caused.

Alana says

My star rating isn't for the story itself (all five pages of it in an eighty-two page download) because the story was fine enough even if it wasn't much of anything, but my rating is for the fact that this particular e-exclusive isn't quite worth even the \$1.99. Several chapters of the existing book and only a single short chapter from *Fever*? Oh Simon & Schuster, you need just a little bit more for something like this to be satisfying.

Download this if it ever goes for free, but otherwise you can skip it.

Alexandria Nicole says

When I first bought this I thought it was a mini prequel to the series, but then I find out it's just the first couple chapters of *WITHER*. At the end there is an additional chapter from a different characters POV, which I don't think we get at the end of *Wither*, and I think a chapter of *FEVER* (the next in the series). I wish I would have know this when I bought it. I liked the story, but I feel like I should have just bought *WITHER*.

THE FIRST BRIDE (a chapter) was interesting because it gives an insight on how Rose (a minor character) and Linden (assuming major character) came together.

I didn't read the FEVER excerpt because I didn't want to spoil anything for myself.

But with the early glimpse of the next book and THE FIRST BRIDE being really the only thing you can't get from WITHER. I wouldn't say to waste your time on this unless you are really interesting in Rose and Linden's history.
