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Von *Lauren DeStefano*
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Von Lauren DeStefano : Wither (The Chemical Garden, Book 1) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wither (The Chemical Garden, Book 1):

Kurzbeschreibung A stunning debut YA novel, destined to blow the dystopian genre wide open. The Handmaid's Tale for a new generation. Sixteen-year-old Rhine Ellery has only four years left to live when she is kidnapped by the Gatherers and forced into a polygamous marriage. Now she has one purpose: to escape, find her twin brother, and go home before her time runs out forever. What if you knew you exactly when you would die? In our brave new future, DNA engineering has resulted in a terrible genetic flaw. Women die at the age of 20, men at 25. Young girls are being abducted and forced to breed in a desperate attempt to keep humanity ahead of the disease that threatens to eradicate it. 16-year-old Rhine Ellery is kidnapped and sold as a bride to Linden, a rich young man with a dying wife. Even though he is kind to her, Rhine is desperate to escape her gilded cage and Linden's cruel father. With the help of Gabriel, a servant she is growing dangerously attracted to, Rhine attempts to break free, in what little time she has left.

Pressestimmen [A] thought-provoking debut, reminiscent of *The Handmaid's Tale* with a touch of *Big Love* . . . Rhine's fight for freedom against the clock--and the dissecting table--will leave readers eager for the sequel. Give this one to fans of *The Hunger Games* trilogy or Ally Condie's *Matched* (2010). - "KIRKUS, "February 1, 2011" Creepy and elegant, shocking and romantic, dreadful and rewarding, and delivers unexpected twists. It'll leave you longing for book two." --Lisa McMann, New York Times bestselling author of the *WAKE* trilogy and *CRYER'S CROSS* "I really enjoyed *Wither*, I just couldn't put it down! Rhine is such an amazing main character. She is strong, passionate and determined.... *Wither* is nothing short of breathtaking." --sparkling-reviews.blogspot.com "[Rhine] proves herself to be a heroine who faces her situation with spirit and cleverness. The trapped bride and mysterious husband are straight out of Gothic romances. By stirring in elements of sheer creepiness with dystopia and the hot topic of polygamy, DeStefano creates a story that should have broad appeal." --"School Library Journal" "Wither" is an exceptional novel that begins with a bang and doesn't let you go--it's gut-wrenching, shocking, incredible, and completely and utterly absorbing all at once.... DeStefano is a fearless writer, and though it is firmly its own book, "Wither" will remind readers of Margaret Atwood's "The Handmaid's Tale". --TheCompulsiveReader.com "This beautifully-written debut fantasy, with its intriguing world-building, well-developed characters and intricate plot involving flashbacks as well as edge-of-the-seat suspense, will keep teens riveted to the plight of Rhine and her sister wives. The compelling cover will draw them in and the cliffhanger ending will leave them eagerly awaiting volumes two and three of "The Chemical Garden Trilogy". This thought-provoking novel will also stimulate discussion in science and ethics classes." --VOYA "This absorbing page-turner may remind some readers of Suzanne Collins' "Hunger Games" with its fearless heroine, sinister villain, bleak landscape and poignant romance. "Wither" is less violent but is in many ways even more terrifying as DeStefano proves herself a master of plot, setting, character and psychological suspense." --"The Buffalo News" A "harrowing debut . . . DeStefano has an observant and occasionally pitiless eye, chronicling the cruelties, mercies, and inconsistencies of her young characters. . . . It will be intriguing to see how DeStefano develops [the larger world] as this promising trilogy progresses." - *PW STARRED review, January 10, 2010 "Lauren DeStefano crafts an all too believable future. I loved the world, the romance, the writing -- exactly the kind of book I've been craving to read." --Carrie Ryan, New York Times bestselling author of *THE FOREST OF HANDS AND TEETH* "This beautifully-written debut fantasy, with its intriguing world-building, well-developed characters and intricate plot involving flashbacks as well as edge-of-the-seat suspense, will keep teens riveted to the plight of Rhine and her sister wives. The compelling cover will draw them in and the cliffhanger ending will leave them eagerly awaiting volumes two and three of *The Chemical Garden Trilogy*. This thought-provoking novel will also stimulate discussion in science and ethics classes." --VOYA "I really enjoyed *Wither*, I just couldn't put it down! Rhine is such an amazing main character. She is strong, passionate and determined. *Wither* is nothing short of breathtaking. sparkling-reviews.blogspot.com "Wither is an exceptional novel that begins with a bang and doesn't let you go--it's gut-wrenching, shocking, incredible, and completely and utterly absorbing all at once. DeStefano is a fearless writer, and though it is firmly its own book, *Wither* will remind readers of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*. TheCompulsiveReader.com [A] thought-provoking debut, reminiscent of *The Handmaid's Tale* with a touch of *Big Love* . . . Rhine's fight for freedom against the clock and the dissecting table will leave readers eager for the sequel. Give this one to fans of *The Hunger Games* trilogy or Ally Condie's *Matched* (2010). - KIRKUS, February 1, 2011 "[Rhine] proves herself to be a heroine who faces her situation with spirit and cleverness. The trapped bride and mysterious husband are straight out of Gothic romances. By stirring in elements of sheer creepiness with dystopia and the hot topic of polygamy, DeStefano creates a story that should have broad appeal." --School Library Journal "This absorbing page-turner may remind some readers of Suzanne Collins' *Hunger Games* with its fearless heroine, sinister villain, bleak landscape and poignant romance. *Wither* is less violent but is in many ways even more terrifying as DeStefano

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