



Secret Unleashed

Sierra Dean

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The darkest secrets are the hardest to unearth.

After her last mission tested the limits of her humanity and took her out of this world, Secret's friends, determined to keep her safe from her old nemesis Alexandre Peyton, keep ushering her from one babysitter to the next.

Couch surfing would be a lot more fun if Alexandre would let up on her long enough to allow her to get in some alone time with her lovers. Including Holden, her self-appointed shadow.

As if living out of coffin isn't bad enough, Secret literally brings down the house while hunting a rogue, causing the council to exile her from New York—for her own safety, of course.

With her list of people to trust getting shorter and shorter, Secret ends up embroiled in a mystery to find a vampire warden gone AWOL and a missing artifact. Things go from bad to worse when she falls into the hands of a man who will prove that humans can be the worst monsters of them all.

Warning: Contains a cross-country journey, an unexpected family reunion, heated lovers' embraces and a hell of a lot of trouble.

This book was previously released by Samhain Publishing.

The new edition contains minor word changes but no story changes.

Secret Unleashed Details

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From Reader Review Secret Unleashed for online ebook

Merideth says

Honesty I felt like the whole book could have taken place in a couple of chapter instead of a book. The bad man is after Secret so she gets ship out to California to deal with a problem that just happens to involve her father who just happens to have been made by one of Sig children. So Secret and Sig have a closer relationship then we ever knew. I don't think anyone was surprised by that news. Holden and Secret get kidnapped and tortured by a different bad guy then they get saved and go home the end.

I didn't see any character growth Secret is still a lost cause when it comes to relationships. The reader does not get any new information except about Secret's father. For me it was not worth the read.

Stacy says

This is such a fun series. It's not hard to get caught up in Secrets life and the drama it brings as it unfolds. SECRET UNLEASHED kicks off shortly after the events of book 5, a lot happens and it will leave you mentally drained by the end.

Secret always ends up caught in the middle and I love the way she thinks and handles every situation thrown at her. Secret's love life is crazy. There is Desmond and Holden, they are both sexy, supportive, and love Secret like they should. I am so conflicted, I don't know who I want Secret to love! She will just have to continue to love both of them. There were some really scary points in SECRET UNLEASHED. I didn't think everyone would make it out alive and I was right. There is no way that Secret won't be forever changed by the events that occurred. SECRET UNLEASHED also manages to bring us a good bit of fast and hard answers to some of our most sought after questions. Where is Secret's Dad? Who really is Sig and why is he so interested in Secret?

There really isn't anything I don't like about this series. The characters, the flow of events, the plot, the world, it is all well written and keeps me coming back for more. What could possibly happen next? Who knows but I will be on the roller coaster every step of the way.

Linda says

Any book that keeps me reading until 3 a.m. to find out what happened deserves 5 stars. Secret travels from NY to LA at the request of Sig, the Vampire Leader of the East, to find out what has happened to one of his 'children.' What she finds out is more than he bargained on. First, she is kidnapped AGAIN but this time by a mad doctor bent on studying supernatural beings. He wants to find out how they are made up, how long does it take for them to heal, how much pain they can stand, and other nice things you wouldn't want your doctor to try on you. While captured by this mad man, which is less than 10 days, she and Holden are tortured, and Max, their guide from the LA Tribunal suffers. The twist toward the end is quite a twist so I don't want to reveal what happens but just know that Secret survives. Desmond plays a role and their three way romance is in full bloom. Two books to go. What could possibly go wrong?

Ivie ☆Born to Magic-Forced to Muggle☆ says

Dean does it again. I've read this book a while ago but just got to the point of writing the review.

I love this woman for the way she writes, in every other series with reoccurring characters you find that by this point it all gets watered down a bit, but not with Dean, she just keeps on bringing out the awesome.

in this particular novel we deal a bit with Sig, a helluva opening there for the next one. Sig the pervy uncle....lol. Did not see that one coming, did you????

And Lucas godamn Rain, keep going back and forth with him, half hoping he will sort his shit out, and half wanting to dropkick him in the nuts. Well at least Dean sticks to her characters in a very real way that people don't change that often, or so easily or we would all live magic lives.

Hope Des gets some attention soon, he's my fave guy here and i feel like he's been neglected a bit. *sad face*

What is there left to do???? But sit and wait for the next one????

Jenni Lea says

I survived!

Man, that was rough. I think it's my favorite of the series though.

(Tori-Smexybooks) smexys_sidekick says

Originally posted at <http://smexybooks.com/2013/10/review-...>

Favorite Quote: "If I wanted questions going unanswered, I could just watch Lost."

Never has a book been so aptly titled than Secret Unleashed. Number six in Sierra Dean's dark and wickedly sexy urban fantasy Secret McQueen series. In this installment, Secret learns some secrets that will leave her and readers reeling from the implications.

Recap from book five.

In book five, Grave Secret, Secret was challenged on many levels. She is forced to go to the Fae to retrieve her arsehat husband's sister, is still trying to gain Desmond's forgiveness, sleeps with Holden, investigates her bff for murder, and learns her mother will do anything to take the title of queen from her. And we learn exactly what anything entails. Also, as always, previously bad decision making on Secret's part left her with a huge bill to pay...and she pays in spades here. The ending left us with a broken heart and Secret with a whole new appreciation for life.

Secret Unleashed starts off with the repercussions from Bridget's death. As the key to keeping Secret's

nemesis, Alexandre Peyton in prison, Bridget's death means his freedom. Secret finds herself being smothered by her friends and lovers as they seek to keep her safe while the Tribune tries to recapture Peyton. When a job goes bad and Secret lands in herself in jail, Sig has had enough and decides to send Secret to investigate a mystery for the California Vampire Tribune. Someone has stolen a valuable relic from them and they want it back. Piece of cake right? Not so fast. Before heading out to Cali, Secret learns some interesting and disturbing background information about the thief and why Sig is so interested in her. Grabbing Holden, Secret travels to California to begin her search for the missing relic. From there she uncovers a twisted mess of lies and deceptions that makes Secret long for the days when she was nothing more than an enforcer. I do want to note that I wouldn't recommend starting here if you haven't read the previous books. This arc is long reaching and each book picks up where the last one leaves off with almost no recap.

Secret Unleashed is a emotional roller coaster ride that ends with Secret at the proverbial crossroad. Either path she takes will result in danger and possible death. Dean provides us with some much needed answers but at the same time opens the way for new adventures. I won't lie to you, this book is harsh. Secret is tested in ways we have never seen before.

I thoroughly enjoy the world that that Ms. Dean has created in her Secret McQueen series. From the beginning Ms. Dean has written an energetic and feisty urban fantasy with its wonderful balance of humor and suspense. Continuing world expansion and deepening character development keeps this series fresh and engaging. Non stop action and Machiavellian inspired plot lines will leave you wanting more long after you reach the end.

Emotions run high as Secret is manipulated through circumstances into a situation that may result in her becoming the hunted instead of the hunter. An action packed storyline is made even more exciting by being built around the Winchester House in San Jose, California. I visited there once and it's absolutely incredible. And creepy. If you don't know about this particular piece of history, you can read about it [here](#).

The main conflict is ripe with suspense, action, and horror. The subplots begin to intertwine with the main storyline, feeding off one another to lead Secret into a situation so twisted that we aren't sure she will survive this fight. But survival is what Secret does best, so when a new monster rears their ugly head and friends are caught in its grip, Secret's guilt only serves to increase her anger over the entire episode. She warns all those involved that heads will roll by her hand. The ending will leave you shocked by the implications of what's to come.

New friends are made while old friends reveal pieces of themselves that shock Secret and cause her some disconcertion. Trust is a fragile bond that stretches and in some places, breaks, leaving Secret to wonder who else has been lying to her. The romance isn't as prevalent in here as it has been in the last few installments which I appreciated as it is my least favorite aspect of the storyline. Lucas has been persona non grata, especially after dropping his balls, errr, I mean THE ball in Grave Secret. Desmond and Holden are both at Secret's side and while I like that they are trying not to push her, it cannot stay at this impasse. Decisions will have to be made. Plus, Lucas, the douche, still has a foot in the door as her husband and supposed soul mate so he can't be dismissed outright. But he can be killed. *hint-hint*

Once again, Sierra Dean leaves us bloody and shell shocked as we follow Secret down the rabbit hole. I can't wait to see what's in store for Secret in book 7-title and release date to be revealed.

Rating: B

Jennifer says

Rating: A

I was a little worried when Secret Unleashed had a bit of a slow start. It took me a little while to get into the book which is a first for me with Secret. But once the bad evil depraved character called The Doctor walked on the pages I couldn't put the book down. But I'm getting a head of myself.

We've had a plot that was surrounded by the werewolves in Secret's life then we took a side trip to read about the Fae now it's the vampire's turn to have a full plot. Sig sends Secret and Holden across country to California to help the West Coast Tribunal. Secret needs to find a vampire that's gone MIA and it believed to have turned rouge.

I had a prediction books ago (maybe book 2 or 3) about Sig's relationship to Secret and I was pretty much spot on. I love it when that happens. LOL So that's one answer we get from Secret's life. Another answer of sorts deals with her father. Secret has never meet him but that changes with this installment.

Once we make the move to California I thought sweet a book with NO Lucas. But no Dean can't grant that wish. The douche bag has to show up for one scene. UGH But she did make me happy with this interaction between Sig and Secret when she asks him to protect the people who is hers while she is out-of-town.

"And what about your wolf king, Lucas Rain? Is he yours as well?" "Fuck him."

My thoughts exactly!

Ok so Secret gets some long-awaited answers about some of her family connections but not for free. Sierra Dean put Secret through hell! Which brings us back to The Doctor. (shivers) Best. Villain. Ever. I can't talk about it what all she went through but just know that there is no way Secret can be the same person after what she went through. It was things that nightmares are made of. In fact The Doctor and the surprised ending and somewhat cliffhanger ending is what moved my rating from a B to an A.

Now the long wait for the 7th book in the series, Cold Hard Secret. Which I predict our Secret will be dealing with some serious PTSD.

Julie Read Our Lips! Book Review Blog says

Secret Unleashed features:

paranormal romance
sexual content
vampire
werewolf
torture
kidnapping
mystery
suspense

Jenne says

4.75

I really teetered between a 4 and 5 star on this one. It had me glued to the pages and I found myself thinking about it when I wasn't reading it. Hands down my favorite in the series. Why....well lots and lots of awesome Holden moments. Also this one was quite dark and rather gruesome. Secret sure knows how to get herself in trouble and this one without spoiling anything was the big one lol! I can't wait to read the next one now.

Kelly says

I very nearly don't know where to start with this review. I mean... although Secret ultimately triumphs, the repercussions of what happens on her West Coast mission feel like they'll be far-reaching. I'm afraid for her. AFRAID.

She might be a big, bad werewolf queen/vampire big wig but she's had SO MUCH thrown at her that this newest development puts the fear in me. STAY STRONG, SECRET!

Okay. We do find out a few things about Secret's lineage/parentage/blood line thingy. What can I say about that except that it's complex. And it makes sense in the overall scheme of things. We also see what sort of hits Secret can bounce back from. Frankly, that part's not pretty. And those hits lead back to the potential repercussions of what she's now embroiled in.

Am I being vague enough for you? Sorry. (not really)

Meanwhile, things take a little step forward in Secret's tangled love life. Which is good. And I still want to kick Lucas in the junk. ALSO GOOD.

As an aside, a big chunk of this book takes place near where I live and I kinda love that. So... GO, TEAM WINCHESTER! Wait. That's not an actual "team" is it? You know, maybe it should be! Sarah Winchester, fighter of ghosties and hauntings! Righter of wrongs! Builder of big, spooky houses! Okay. I'll stop.

As always, Secret is full of fire and sass. Until she isn't. Which just makes things even more interesting.

Also, I would TOTALLY be down with a Desmond/Secret/Holden triad. Just sayin'.

-Kelly @ Reading the Paranormal

Jodie says

Okay let me get a few things off my chest

Dear Sierra,

I think you need to take a major step back and rethink your love interests and Secrets attitude. I actually feel sorry for Lucas, why you might ask? Well let's start at the beginning. He recognises Secret as his mate and everything is hunky dory until she realises that Desmond is her mate too. Okay this doesn't bother me because they are clearly very close and Desmond will always defer to his King right? Well no he screws the girl and Lucas gets mad- Secret of course won't sleep with Lucas because why would she cheat on her weaker mate with the stronger one? Through out the whole series - sure he's been a bit of an arse but he always maintained the pack would always come first and she agreed to that. But what has she done for the pack besides killing Marcus? Absolutely nothing. She claims to be the werewolf Queen only when it suits her and not when Lucas actually needs her or the pack needs her. I think you've dropped the ball on this by allowing other influences into your series. For example - Holden... I know you need to show her vampire side but really did we need Holden added into the story as a love interest? Nope , you could have worked on her relationship with Lucas and Desmond and building that back up and making it something epic.

So what I liked about your series so far...

1. I like Secret despite her being a slut (she fucked Holden whilst the man she claims to love beyond life was in werewolf form in the next room)
2. I like the characters as separate entities but together they're just a big old mess
3. I like. Sig and Juan
4. I like the world building but again stop focussing so much on the vampires
5. Desmond
6. Lucas
7. Brigit

What I don't like...

1. The plot in this book I've read it before - evil doctor kidnaps werewolves vampires etc and experiments on them... I just felt,like the entire second half of the book came out of nowhere and made little to no sense. Expanding on the Mercy arc would have made a much more exciting read
2. Lucas continually being shafted. We get it he bit her against her will, he stood her up at the altar and he's an arse but seriously ?! Instead of having her wah wah about it why doesn't she step up to the plate help her husband unite the pack and maybe he won't be such an arse anymore. I have a horrible feeling he is going to make a come back in the next book especially with the wolf recognising him again as her mate. *sigh*
3. Why does she continually have to be with two men? It makes the reader not believe in your story if you're continually throwing men at us and expecting us to believe that she loves them. Desmond is supposed to be her true love yet she's spent what maybe two chapters with him through out the whole series? It makes the reader think she is extremely fickle and love doesn't really mean a terrible lot to her.
4. Desmond... I love him as a character but I hate that you keep screwing him over, seriously if you want us to believe in their relationship why hasn't he bitten her and completed their mating? Oh I know why because you haven't finished screwing with her and Lucas so if Desmond bites her the whole Lucas angle will be ruined.
5. I get that the ultimate goal is to have your half breed werewolf vampire heroine in a relationship with vampire and a werewolf but it just doesn't feel right and reads horribly. I just wish you'd stick to a plan and flesh it out rather than jumping allllllllll over the place because it's damn confusing and hard to keep up... Either cut Lucas free (we all know you won't do it) or have Desmond Mark her
6. Secret can't have kids and should be shunned right? According to Dom those who can't carry on their lineage shunned , Lucas knows she can't have kids so why is he even bothering persuing her to such a degree?

Would I recommend this series:- sigh unfortunately no. It has a good premise but nothing has been stuck together properly and I can't warm to any of the characters due to the authors complete disregard for building

Julie says

Posted at Yummy Men & Kick Ass Chicks

I have sitting next to me a box of Kleenex, a bottle of hard liquor and a punching bag. You know what that means...it's time to crack open a new installment in Sierra Dean's grossly addictive Secret McQueen series.

Secret Unleashed is book six in the series and takes place a few months after the last book leaves off. Secret is being shuffled from place to place while everyone tries to keep her safe from the crazy vampire who wants to kill her. Are they successful? Is there a Peyton/Secret showdown at dusk by the end of this book? Will Peyton stay escaped? Will Secret's mother come back for her? Will Holden and Desmond finally duke it out in a Wal-Mart parking lot?! All good questions and all queries we get answers for by the end of this installment.

Speaking of answers, yes people this is THE book. The one where we finally find out what is the deal with Sig! And OMG it's a doozie. I loved it though. I don't think his and Secret's story is exactly like anyone would guess. I think there will be 'well I thought it was something like that' but I don't think anyone will be able to guess it spot on. It made me smile. I am anxious to see Secret and Sig on the page in the next book together to see if their relationship changes now that everything is out in the open.

The story this time starts off one thing and ends up taking you on twists and turns you would not imagine...only to leave you off with a perfectly acceptable ending. That's right! This one does not end with one of Sierra's almost patented crazy-hardcore-cliffhangers! I do NOT mean you will be feeling completely satisfied. I mean you won't want to hunt Sierra down to shake the truth out of her immediately after closing the book. I never saw the direction this book ends up taking coming. At all. But man, it broke my heart. And I believe it broke Secret too.

Secret goes through a horrible ordeal and you can tell that it changes her. I expect her to be quite different in the next book and that what happens in this book to affect how Secret reacts to everything around her in the next books. If you wished Secret would mature a little bit, I believe you get your wish in this read.

The villain in this book is the vilest villain Sierra has ever written. And that is saying something considering what sort of evil minds she has created. The thing with this guy is that, as horrible he is (and he is HORRIBLE), you can't completely hate him because he truly believes he is a good guy. Sierra wrote him brilliantly! It is so difficult to write a villain of that caliber that readers will have trouble hating. He is not likeable; don't think that's what I mean. But he's hard to despise. You will all understand what I am talking about when you read the book.

Something else that I found was well done was how Sierra took real life things (such as buildings and stories) and worked them into the story here. It brings a level of real to an otherwise very much not real world.

The ending of the book, though it may not be a super-insane cliffhanger, is great. It happens thanks to a 'boo-ya Holden' moment held earlier in the book and I believe it showcases the beginning of the more mature Secret. (There is also a 'boo-ya Secret' moment where Lucas is concerned. *grin*) And even though

I keep mentioning that the end was not a get-drunk-worthy cliffhanger, that doesn't mean the rest of the book isn't insane in the very best of ways. As usual, this installment is one hell of a ride. You will definitely find your heart in your throat on many occasions.

Overall, I loved Secret Unleashed. Holden, Desmond, Sig and Secret all have great moments in this book. It is definitely a book you won't be able to put down and definitely not a book you should pass up.

Ronda says

My frustration with Secret has been festering with each book I've read, her complicated love life has angered me at times and how the guys 'put up' with this is beyond me.

So Secret falls in love with Des, no bad there, I fell in love with him too and 6 books on, I've never wavered... Lucas, I never liked him from day one, again, nothing has changed, I still don't like him but Secret's wolf bonded with the wolf king and a triangle was born! I was relieved when Secret finally woke up and ditched Lucas, the royal pain, and with the goings on in the Fae Realm in the last installment, I thought Lucas was long gone - then he awakens the bond (grrrrrr)... However, I was always able to handle Des and Lucas because I thought Des would win... then Holden became a development - I hated the last book when lines were crossed and they remain crossed in this book too...

Having said all of this - the content of this book was by no means the same as past books... There is a dark side and an introduction to a character worthy of horror stories, The Doctor, a monstrosity of a human if ever there was! I was shocked and sickened and my feelings of concern for Secret overwhelmed me... and, although I like Holden as a 'friend' to Secret and would prefer he stepped away, my concern for him grew too...

and - HOWEVER, I, again, hated the triangle at the end... I can't stand to see this love stuff going on anymore, I hate that Des is once again or is STILL not the number 1 guy! It's pissing me off!!!

I love that Sierra Dean can rile these feelings up in her readers, there is no 'just being nice' here and likewise, there is no 'predictability'. I hate being frustrated, I hate not getting 'what I want' but I am driven to see these books through, I can't remember having to take breathers inbetween books before but I have to with Secret McQueen, I need to step away and prepare for the next big bang... I look forward to seeing what is going to happen with this (I think!)

Jd says

HELLO PEOPLE!!!! DID ANY OF YOU READ THE SAME BOOK I DID?? THE LAST 50% OF THE BOOK WAS A WASTE. NOTHING WAS DONE WITH PEYTON AND HER MOM WANTING HER DEAD, (SHE WENT INTO HIDING BECAUSE OF PEYTON AND NEVER ONCE ENCOUNTERED HIM AND HER MOM KILLED HER BEST FRIEND IN THE LAST BOOK AND SHE NEVER SAW HER) NOTHING WAS DONE WITH LUCAS AND THE EVER SO IMPORTANT PART SECRET PLAYS WITH HIM IN HIS WORLD (SHE IS HIS PACK'S QUEEN). WE GOT A PARAGRAPH WITH HER AND HER FATHER WHO SHE NEVER MET IN HER LIFE?? ARE YOU KIDDING ME RIGHT NOW????? DID I MENTION THE LAST 10% OF THE BOOK WAS ALL OTHER AUTHORS

BOOKS??? I THINK I WILL WAIT TILL THE SERIES IS DONE, SO I CAN READ ALL THE SPOILERS BEFORE I DECIDE TO FINISH THE SERIES!!!!

TRULY UPSET READER!!!!

Jen Davis says

You know what? For book after book, this series has become more and more about the messy love life of its title character. It has made me angry and frustrated –and, at times, eclipsed everything else going on in Secret’s life. Well, that ends here. Don’t get me wrong, there are still romantic entanglements. But I promise you, when you finish this book, romance will be the furthest thing from your mind. Sierra Dean took a huge, shocking turn with this installment, and I was totally blown away.

As the story begins, Secret is in hiding. Her mother still wants to kill her and so does her vamp-nemesis Peyton. She’s laying low until her comrades can neutralize the threat –or least that was the plan, until she joins Shane for a hunt with a less than subtle result. Sure she is unable to keep a low profile, Sig decides to send Secret out of town. One of his progeny is missing and Secret’s bounty hunting skills can come in handy, all while she can get away from the mean streets of New York. She takes Holden with her for back-up.

I really don’t want to spoil what happens after that. Suffice it to say that shit rains down on her in epic fashion. You think she took a hit in the last book? That was nothing. This one reminded me a lot of one of Kelly Meding’s books with how the heroine is put through the wringer. It just came out of nowhere and left me with my mouth hanging wide open. It will do the same to you.

Aside from the events I will not spoil, I can tell you there are some pretty big developments in the overall story arc. We finally learn Sig’s connection to Secret and why he has taken such a special interest in her all of these years. We spend more time with Secret and Holden –and get more insight into his view of their pseudo-relationship. We learn more about Secret’s biological father and what happened to him. There’s a big surprise about Tyler. Plus –for those who have read *A Low Down Dirty Shane*– we get cameos from Shane and Siobhan, which is cool to see. And there is very little focus on the love-triangle-slash-rectangle or whatever.

All around, this book was completely enthralling. It moved fast. It made me care. It kicked my ass. Just... wow.

Rating: B+

**ARC provided by author for review*
