



Bound By Nature

Cooper Davis

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The mind may forget, but the heart remembers...

It doesn't take Hayden Garrett's college degree to figure out why Officer Josh Peterson is the last man alive he wants to face. Not because of the council's harebrained idea to broker peace between their clans.

It's the sweaty palms that prove Hayden never got over his embarrassing attraction to his alpha rival. Mate with him? Nothing fills Hayden with more desire—or dread. Josh doesn't have a gay hair in his fur. At least not one he owns up to.

Despite Josh's reputation for being a connoisseur of female flesh, he's always cared about Hayden. In a different world, they might have been friends. Now, face to face after five years, the bitterness in Hayden's eyes fills Josh with regret for what could have been—should have been.

As Hayden and Josh journey through rituals—and intimacies—that will knit their souls for life, passion and anger flares, revealing a powerful secret. The truth about a long-ago sharing of hearts, bodies and souls that ended in tragedy...

Warning: Steamy love between two rival alpha werewolves, a pregnant moon that inspires mating urges, and one shy guy who knows exactly what he wants.

Bound By Nature Details

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From Reader Review Bound By Nature for online ebook

Betryal says

I'm so subtle in my reviews but not giving away any spoilers. Much. :grins:

After reading others reviews I read this book myself to proclaim my own views and thoughts. How I perceive this story and in my perspective goes like this... I see:

What happened? Was tragic. What became from this tragedy and how it resulted? Indescribable passion and beauty. A touching, breathtaking union between the 2 characters came from it all as a result. A touching love story of 2 souls torn apart and the need to be reunited.

Hayden and Josh had it all, but it was a struggle to regain it back. One wanted to protect the other from pain, hurt and possible death at the hands of their tormentors from 5 years back. The other who felt he'd paid the price felt betrayed, hurt and got lost within his grief and sorrow at loss of memory that created a black cloud which forbid him to move forward and on. At one point in the story there was a seriously dark rough patch that even had me stepping away from the story to just take deep breaths, but I respect the author in that Cooper did not make that moment a pile of specified details that would have made the reader feel worse and unable to go forward in reading. But to have this detailed to a minimum and still garner the same affects as if it had been word for word written? That's talent.

Throughout the book I was succumbed to a war of emotional banter within myself on all levels. This story from the beginning right to the very end had me gripped and riveted to every word. This is very well written, I believe although both men are wolves that they could have been normal mortals who were still meant to be soul mates. I decree this due to not many scenes where they were actual in wolf form other than that the story was on the basis of clan and both men were Alphas of said clans.

I look forward to reading more by Cooper. Two thumbs up dude!

Note: I could return to add more to this review having much to say and might return at a later time or date to add to it. Maybe, maybe not.

Heather C says

I really enjoyed *everything* about this book. Even though each chapter flipped back and forth from present day back to 5 years ago, I didn't have any issues with it. To be honest, I really liked it because it seemed like I was getting 2 love stories in one and it helped build up the suspense and sexual tension as the mystery and romance unfold. I especially liked that Joshua and Hayden were both Alphas from rival packs, so it slightly fits into my favorite theme of enemies-to-lovers. Overall, the story didn't actually have a lot of sex scenes, but the few it had were very long! Plus it was heavy on the sex talk and sexual tension.

I recommend this to anyone who doesn't flip out with flashbacks and has patience for a little bit of mystery.

Ana_P says

???This pretty much sums up my whole reaction to this book. It was just so stunning, engaging, marvelous, and I never wanted it to end. I definitely know a book is good when I get utterly pissed off that I have to go to bed and must stop reading.

First, Ms. Davis' writing was spot-on and just flowed so smoothly that my attention never wavered, not even for a second. She did a fantastic job in expressing her MCs' emotions and getting us into their heads. I truly feel that all of this book was always showing and never telling, making the connection between Josh and Hayden completely believable. Kudos for that.

Josh and Hayden just hugged at my heartstrings the *whole damn time*. Their reunion and the rekindling of their connection, after being brutally torn apart years ago from circumstances beyond their control, was breathtaking, tender, sweet, and highly satisfying. I just couldn't help but root for both Josh, Hayden, and their HEA. If anyone deserved it, it was these two.

A good portion of the book was told in flashbacks. I didn't mind at all because Ms. Davis did it so splendidly. The flashbacks were crucial to the development of the story and only enhanced the story, not hindered it.

I really don't have anything bad to say about this book, and I enjoyed it immensely. It will definitely be a re-read in the future for me.

Warning
(view spoiler)

Elsbeth says

BR, November 13th with Susan.

This was quite an angsty ride!!

It had all ingredients I love; shifters, big Alpha males, GFY, hurt and comfort and a lot of sexual tension!!

Josh and Hayden being apart 5 years was painful and especially learning what happened to them. Their coming together again was oh so sweet.

"It's like this, Garret. We're gonna date a while, right? Because I want to know everything about you and because I want to woo you. Just like I promised I would a couple of months ago. We were robbed of that, and I'm gonna give you every damned thing that was stolen from you."

Loved it. ???

Susan says

BR with Elsbeth

(Who could handle the angst way better than I could)

This book was not bad at all. But..... the ANGST. The overwhelming ANGST.

I'm not a big fan of relationship angst and this book was filled with it right up until 70%. That. Is. A. Lot. Of. Angst.

This book switches between present time and 5 years ago throughout most of the book. It was not badly done in this story. I think it worked (just not for me). I'm not a big fan of time jumps, I want to be there for the whole thing, not skip stuff and then get back to it.

Hayden and Josh are the sons of rival Alpha packs. Hayden is gay and has always had a major crush on Josh. Josh doesn't know how to feel around Hayden, but he does want to be friends.

Then some stuff happens... some BIG stuff. Fast forward 5 years. Hayden is a bitter man, now 27 years old and he resents Joshua, big time. Something happened 5 years ago, but Hayden can't remember that night. He just knows Josh betrayed him. Or at least that's what he thinks.

Once we find out what happened, I was shocked. It totally ripped my heart out.

It was also completely unrealistic that things happened that way. Especially (view spoiler) was too much for me. And Josh's reasons for letting that happen..... nope.... not buying that.

But okay, after all the ANGST, these wolves were pretty sweet together. But by the time I was at 70% and things got easier for them, I was still recovering from my heart attacks.

Did I mention this book has a lot of ANGST??

Romanticamente Fantasy says

Dopo innumerevoli libri M/M sui licantropi, avevo un'idea piuttosto chiara di cosa avrei trovato in questo libro, ma devo dire che sono rimasta piacevolmente sorpresa da come l'autrice sia riuscita a inserire, in una storia come tante altre, una connotazione misteriosa che mi ha tenuta incollata al libro dall'inizio alla fine.

Brevi le descrizioni del paesaggio e dei personaggi secondari, ma buona la caratterizzazione dei due giovani protagonisti, che fin da subito rapiscono il cuore del lettore, che non può rimanere insensibile alle tenere dichiarazioni d'amore di questi giovani innamorati. Alla dolce storia d'amore dei due lupi Alfa di branchi spesso in contrasto, si oppone un segreto oscuro che viene svelato pian piano al lettore attraverso un buon uso del flashback. L'amnesia di uno dei due protagonisti diventa così l'escamotage perfetto per raccontarci i fatti di quella fatidica notte di cinque anni prima, in cui alla dolcissima e appassionata "prima volta" dei due giovani, si contrappone un terribile racconto di violenza che rappresenta la chiave di lettura dell'intreccio.

Una lettura breve (duecento pagine) ma non scontata, con dialoghi a volte un po' ripetitivi nei contenuti, ma non noiosi. Lo stile è scorrevole e leggero, adatto a chi non cerca una lettura impegnata ma necessita di un po' di quella lupesca passione che scalda il cuore. Se, come me, siete appassionati di sexy licantropi, non potete perdervelo!

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Buffy - per RFS

Gigi says

Ahhh, pretty, updated cover! Now we just need a new book in the series...

I just finished re-reading this after a first read last fall. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, why wasn't this one on my "fuck yeah!" shelf? Well, it is now! This was beyond fantastic!! It had GFY, shifters, big, strong Alpha males from rival packs, sexual tension you could *taste*, hurt/healing/comfort coming out of your ears, **mind boggling sex**, *a man in uniform*, beautiful, heartfelt romance and a HEA that will have you wanting to run through a field of spring poppies.

Damn, I fucking loved this book! Just read it already!

SheReadsALot says

Disappointing read, both men are Alphas but were more like betas especially with the weak plot twist. Potential was never met. It's not worth even describing. I've read better m/m shifter stories.

M'rella says

This didn't work for me. I get why the timeline is doing back and forth, but even in a good book it irritates me. Here tho, when memories rush back and the present and the past finally syncs, it only adds to a huge disappointment. Josh particularly acted stupid and in-alpha like, imho.

SPOILER ISH.

When someone is freaking out in your house screaming to cal 911, you better damn call 911. Two bad alphas against two thugs. Medical personal and forensics not doing their job to figure out the scene. Josh going with the thug's plan. This whole mess is on Josh, he victimized Hey twice, in my opinion.

LD Durham says

What I learned from this book:

Hard-ons occur at alarming frequency with no real stimulus and this causes tightening pants that are uncomfortable at all times. Anything will cause these MCs to pop a tent and then deflate without incident.

Repeating the word "Alpha" does not, contrary to the author's belief, make me, as a reader, believe that the two MCs are Alphas. It only annoys me enough to wish I could throw an ebook every time that word is used as a noun, adjective, or verb.

Alpha = hot-headed, overly-emotional moron in this book. Not dominant or leader material.

Plot holes are these things that should be thought through and filled long before a reader gets tired of constantly tripping over them. Shallowly contrived plot devices are even more annoying. Having the MC run back to his defenseless lover while being pursued by nasty trouble, instead of *continuing on* to the known Alpha (I hate that word now) pair of his pack made no sense whatsoever.

Constantly reiterating stated facts means either the author can't remember his/her own story, or believes the reader is an idiot. Seriously, I only needed to be told once that they were Alphas, that they were both "heir apparent" to their clan, and that their clans were rivals. I didn't need it repeated ad nauseam.

The cover is hot.

Jordan says

This one tugged on my heartstrings.

Full review coming soon!

The Reading's Love Blog says

RECENSIONE QUI: <https://thereadingslove.blogspot.com/...>

3.5 stelle

Cinque anni sono passati da una notte fatidica dove tutto è cambiato. Hayden da allora non è più lo spensierato lupo con un futuro promettente, non ricorda quasi nulla di quella notte, non sa perché la sua vita si è disintegrata. Il suo unico ricordo è una corsa sotto la luna piena con Josh, l'Alpha che ha sempre amato ma da cui non è mai stato corrisposto e che lo ha tradito nel momento del bisogno. La storia è raccontata in modo semplice e fluido, un po' veloce per i miei gusti; passato e presente si alternano facendoci scoprire ciò che è successo quella notte maledetta. I protagonisti sono ben delineati grazie ai pov alternati. Hayden è arrabbiato, vuole la verità e rinnega l'attrazione bruciante verso Josh, una vera lotta imperversa tra la ragione e il suo istinto da lupo. Anche Josh è cambiato: un grande dolore lo attanaglia, il bisogno di proteggere e di dire la verità ad Hayden, il bisogno di reclamarlo come compagno ci farà scoprire un uomo con le sue fragilità. La storia è davvero molto dolce e passionale, ci sono dei momenti di suspense e di sofferenza, i segreti vengono alla luce lasciando il lettore spiazzato facendo provare empatia per questi due giovani, ma la dolcezza è sicuramente predominante su tutto. Ci sono diverse cose che però mi hanno lasciato perplessa sia nell'evoluzione della storia troppo frettolosa e superficiale in punti cruciali, sia perché si parla di due lupi Alpha. Se il libro fosse stato un contemporaneo, avrei potuto concepire di più quello che hanno passato, le conseguenze, i caratteri e comportamenti ma la storia parla di lupi Alpha che secondo i canoni del genere hanno determinate caratteristiche che qui non esistono, sia sulla forza fisica e potere sia caratterialmente. I protagonisti sono lupi ma questo viene fuori solo nel bisogno di correre sotto la luna piena o nell'accoppiamento, per il resto sono ragazzi normali nelle loro estrema fragilità e questo mi ha un po' destabilizzato, a mio avviso pur appartenendo al genere paranormale non ne rispetta fino in fondo i canoni che ci si aspetterebbe da un genere con Alpha e creature fantastiche mentre appare come un normale contemporaneo con sprazzi di paranormale. Probabilmente l'autore ha preso il mondo dei lupi per raccontare una storia tra due ragazzi che nonostante le differenze inconciliabili e le avversità superano gli ostacoli grazie all'amore, il potere dell'attrazione ed il rituale dell'accoppiamento oltrepassano anche anni di dolore e perdita...

CONTINUA SUL NOSTRO BLOG. VENITE A TROVARCI

<https://thereadingslove.blogspot.com/>

Kassa says

I was really excited to read this novella by Davis since I enjoyed her previous book quite a bit. Although it seems werewolf books are becoming generic and predictable, there is something about Davis' writing and the emotion to the relationships that I was willing to suspend disbelief and dive into the characters and plot offered. Unfortunately while the actual writing is decent, the plot has so many holes that I found myself throwing the book several times. This is especially frustrating because I like parts of the book. I guessed the big secret/ending very early on and as the book progressed I got more apprehensive that I would be right –

and very much wanted to be wrong. Sadly the plot takes a decent and intriguing idea and turns it into the most clichéd, ridiculous ending. So much that while I like the author still, I can't recommend this at all.

The story is told in two parts from both Hayden and Josh's point of view. The book opens with a prologue that establishes the two alpha wolves and their prickly relationship. Hayden is very attracted to the straight Josh and feels that Josh mocks that unwitting attraction. The two finally agree to spend the night of the full moon together over Christmas break and this has consequences that end up ruining both men's lives until they can find their way back to each other. If the plot hadn't taken the easiest, most ludicrous way of resolving this, the concept is actually interesting with a clever reveal.

From the opening prologue the story jumps from the present time to the night in question, gradually giving the reader more clues about that momentous night. The reader slowly learns that the two shared a passionate kiss, but later were involved in a horrific accident that led to Josh testifying that Hayden was drunk driving and sent to jail for vehicular manslaughter. Now five years later after that horrible night, including two years Hayden spent in jail, Josh wants to claim the broken man as his mate. The story slowly builds as Josh struggles to slowly give out clues at a snail's pace since Hayden doesn't remember that night at all. There are many more issues involved of course and here the story starts to jump the shark in a big way and never recovers.

The plot has significant holes from the beginning but most of these could be ignored if the ending isn't so ridiculous. The first is that the story continually calls Hayden a Dartmouth graduate yet he went to jail before he could finish his degree. Then Hayden supposedly was heavily intoxicated yet there is no blood alcohol analysis of this and later events show Hayden hadn't drunk at all so this conviction stretches belief already. Furthermore Hayden sustained a severe head injury in the events of the night (trying not to give too many details away) and his later miraculous memory recovery is impossible. He could have remembered any number of details up to his injury, but he also suddenly remembers every single detail from the time he was unconscious and almost dead from a head injury that put him in a 6 week coma.

Additional problems include the fact that Josh sends Hayden to prison to protect him. Not only does this completely jump the shark but it makes absolutely no sense. There was no other way to protect the man? He couldn't leave the state, the country? What about the werewolf packs that supposedly are large and powerful? Why couldn't they tell the police? Not to mention the severe mental and emotional damage that is done to Hayden as a result of going to prison and thinking he killed someone, none of that is even considered or resolved. Instead as soon as Hayden remembers, he feels sorry for Josh, forgives him, and is desperately in love with the man, instantly healing all the issues and problems the time apart had caused. I'm willing to suspend disbelief and go with a story that has some stupid moments – even when the boyfriend does things for the “good” of the other person – but the lengths involved in this are unbelievable. The lack of any reasonable response to this, anger, pain, betrayal, is all ignored and if anything, Hayden is blamed for not realizing what was going on sooner and getting together with Josh.

What makes the story even more frustrating is that without the clichéd and obvious aspects, the story could have been really interesting. The characters are decently fleshed out and there is a strong emotional and romantic connection that allows for young love but still common sense in getting to know one another. The clever way of offering a few details from the past and then the future keeps the tension and suspense high. The reader is left trying to guess what happened and why alongside Hayden while the confused and not too bright Josh laments his poor choices. Even this could be forgiven if the choices hadn't been so incredibly stupid and then instantly forgiven. I guessed the cause early on and kept hoping I was wrong and the story wouldn't take the most obvious and easy road.

Sadly due to the ending, I wanted to throw my ebook several times. I was shocked at how the characters fell apart as more and more plot holes were revealed. The ending is romantic and sweet but makes no sense considering everything these two men had been through and done to each other, they simply ignored it all and moved on. Admirable in some ways but I just couldn't believe it anymore and thus the book totally lost me. I'd say reader reaction is going to vary as I'd still rate this one with a decent rating because up until those problems, I was fully invested and interested in the book. If readers can buy into going to any lengths to save the one you love, no matter the costs to that person or yourself such as jail, then perhaps they'll really like this offering. If the story had explained or forgiven the actions due to youth, immaturity, poor choices, or anything, then perhaps I could have too. Unfortunately I was left with two men who didn't seem to learn anything and were magically healed with the power of true love. As much as I want to read the fantasy, I just couldn't buy into it here. You decide though.

Mandy*reads obsessively* says

I liked this story, the love the MC's had for each other was sweet.

But I had a few issues that just wouldn't let me enjoy it without reservation.

You have two Alpha wolves, he's because of what had just happened between them they can't shift, but AFTER the 6 weeks in a coma, Josh couldn't get the two Alpha fathers together and tell them all that had happened and make the baddies disappear!

He let his mate go to jail for 2 years to protect him? When he had 2 packs at his disposal to either protect them from the humans or deal with the human some other way! Hayden had a brilliant career ahead of him and a life and you loved him, and this is the choice you made for him out of love?

I mean it's all well and good to work within the law, but to lose 5 years with your mate, watching him with others..when you could have dealt with it just didn't work for me.

And I think the elders mandate should have just been left out, make it Josh wanting to get Hayden back, not like he was finally forced to make a move.

Wendy says

I want to start this review by saying "I totally blame Susan" lol. Her review and updates had me so freaking curious that I just had to read it !!

I really enjoyed reading this one...although "enjoy" might not be the right word here..since parts also killed me and pissed me off. That's not necessarily a bad thing, since I like it when books can make me feel things...and this one sure as hell delivered on that note !!

It is pretty heavy on the angst, but I have read way way worse.

I'm not gonna go into the storyline, because that would ruin it for anyone, who wants to read it. There is not a lot of sex between the alpha's in this book, but what was there was done very well. It was more than just sex between them....they really had a connection and were very sweet to each other :)

3,5 -4 stars from me.

I cant give it a full 4 because eventough the timejump in this book didn't bother me....I still wanted a little more info on the 5 years that passed.

I always hate it when there is a big timejump and we don't get to really read what happend during those years.
