



Heart of the Wolf

Terry Spear

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Their forbidden love may get them both killed. Bella is a red werewolf, sole survivor of the fire that killed her entire pack. Devlyn is a beta male werewolf in a pack of grays. Forced to flee her adopted gray pack when the alpha male becomes a vicious threat, she struggles to live as a lone wolf, until Devlyn, the gray male who rescued her as a pup, comes to bring her home.

When a local red werewolf goes on a killing spree, Bella and Devlyn must flee the murderer, the police and their vengeful pack leader. With the full moon rising, and her heat upon her, Bella can't resist the pull to her destined mate, even if means Devlyn will have to face the wicked alpha male in a fight to the death...

Heart of the Wolf Details

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From Reader Review Heart of the Wolf for online ebook

Hannah says

ARC REVIEW

Heart of the Wolf is the first book of the series of the same name. It was published ten years ago and to celebrate the awesomeness of the series the publishers re-released this one. When I found I could review this book I jumped at the chance to read it, having read and enjoyed the more current subsequent spin-off series, I couldn't pass up the opportunity. I loved everything about his book except for two things Bella's lack of belief that Devlyn can defeat Volan and Devlyn, I just didn't like him. One thing that shocked me because it not this way in her more current books but there was so much sex. I want to complain about it because it was borderline gratuitous but it was so damn hot at the same time. And I think all the sex threw off the pace of the book not a complaint just an observation.

Bella Wilder, a red wolf shifter, was rescued by Devlyn when she was a small pup when a house fire killed her family (in the 1800). Bella has always loved Devlyn but the alpha of the pack has been obsessed with her and wanted her for a mate, Bella was determined never to let that happen to the point she ran away from her adoptive family to live as a lone wolf. One hundred and fifty years later Bella is living a quiet life when she is out on a run one day she is shocked to discover the scent of another red wolf in the area. She is so distracted she gets caught by humans in her wolf form and sent to the zoo. Making headline news gives her the attention she has been trying to hide from. Volan certainly knows where she is by now and as Volan's loyal lap dog Devlyn is sure to show up soon enough to take her back to the pack. But now there is also the local red wolf pack whose leader, also called dibs on Bella, out there ready to force her into the mating. By the time Devlyn shows up Bella is ready to run for it again, but Devlyn has had enough and is ready to claim her right then and there and face Volan. Top it all off with the fact that one of the red wolf pack members is going around killing natural redheads and Bella won't leave until they figure out who it is and stop them.

Overall, it was a good story, I think it could have been better but I enjoyed it. What I really liked was the bonus novella Night Wolf at the back, that was a great story!

Amy says

The only reason I gave this 2 stars instead of 1 is because I read book 5 of this series not knowing it was book 5 and really liked it. I thought since it was so good I should start with the first in the series. To all readers thinking the same: save yourself the time and Don't read this book. You won't miss anything by skipping the first book. If you insist on knowing what happened, I will summarize. Stupid girl werewolf likes a boy werewolf but the leader of the pack wants her. She is afraid does not tell anybody why or try to solve problem so she runs a few states away. Meanwhile, 150 years go by and they can't find her from Colorado to Oregon (crappy wolves if you ask me). She finds out someone's been killing humans in her area, probably a werewolf. Not too worried, she goes for a run a winds up in the zoo. How did she live for so long on her own when she is clearly too stupid? Anyway, bunch of other stupid crap happens and werewolf she loves comes to find her. She loves him. She can't have him. She loves him. She can't have him. Yada Yada. Question: who edited this book? There is hardly any plot and the characters are idiots. The only good news is the author did learn how to write definitely by book 5.

Rhianna says

Bella won't be forced to be Volan's mate. He might be the pack's alpha male but she's chosen the male worthy of her love and loyalty. The trouble is that she believes Volan will kill Devlyn if the beta chooses to fight for her. Fleeing the pack of grays that took her in when her pack of red wolves was killed she lives a solo life in Oregon now. When she left them she was still very much a child in the werewolf world but one hundred and fifty years later she has come into her maturity and longs for a mate. The mate she could never claim for her own.

Getting drugged and tossed into the zoo is the last place Bella expects to end up when she decides to spend some time at her cabin. She's been investigating a series of local murders she believes have been committed by one of her own kind. But her former pack aren't the only ones trying to help her escape. It seems she's drawn the attention of the local red wolves and they are more than willing to start a violent war to keep her for their own. Devlyn won't let Bella do any of this alone even if it means he has to fight the reds and Volan to claim her.

This was a tough book for me to give a star rating on. In the end the things I liked and enjoyed about it were about equal with the things I didn't care for. That's always a tough call. Conceptually, I love this book. Werewolves living with true pack dynamics like wild wolves isn't done very often in the genre. Knowing from page one that Devlyn would have to fight Volan for Bella added tension to the story. Separating the different types of wolves, red and gray, into their own distinct groups also added a unique element that I really liked. The secondary characters Thompson and Chrissie gave the story some added depth since I always enjoyed decently fleshed out secondaries.

What made me struggle with the book was actually the plot. Unfortunately, there were too many threads trying to be woven as the main story. Volan's wanting Bella seemed like it was going to be the main thread. But then the addition of the murder mystery and the reds' attempts to woo Bella added to the confusion. I found myself asking questions about the world building and such that made the story unravel a bit skewed. My other tough spot was the actual romance between Devlyn and Bella. I like a good sex scene as much as the next reader but after a while it felt like the only chemistry the characters seemed to have was their mutual desire to get naked and mate. I'd have liked just a little more romance of the clothed kind werewolves or not.

All in all I think this is a wonderful concept that will carry over really well into other books. This one just didn't happen to have the right storyline to strike my personal fancy. I think that if you like lots of sex and/or are into the pack dynamics you'll enjoy it. Enjoy!

Dee says

I am not sure exactly what I thought of this one. To begin with I liked it, but then I started to get bored as it seemed to go on and I wished Devlyn & Bella would just get on with it and get together but pushed myself to carry on but then I started to like it again.

I think one of the main things I didn't like was that at the start Devlyn was a young wolf so there was definitely nothing Alpha about him!. I understood why he wouldn't fight the Alpha male of the pack for

Bella - he wouldn't have survived as he wasn't strong enough but I still didn't like actually reading about that side of the story. I would have been happier just to have been told that it happened as the problem was that I still didn't deem him strong or Alpha enough even at the end when he proved that he was.

I am in two minds if I want to continue with the series as I am not totally convinced I liked Ms Spear's style of writing and the way that she tells the story :(

Kelly says

Oh, guys. I don't like giving bad reviews. I feel that when I find a book that I don't connect with that the fault lies with me somehow. Especially when it's book about werewolves, which I have a particular fondness for. After finishing this book and jumping online to read some reviews, I really do think I'm in the minority here because there are plenty of good reviews out there for it. Unfortunately the book never grabbed me and I actually thought I wasn't going to be able to finish it at several points.

To start with, the writing felt very repetitive. Bella's thoughts kept circling back and retreading the same ground again and again. It really slowed the story down and kept me from caring what she was going through. The story was also bogged down by the mythology- it felt thin and I honestly wasn't all that invested in it.

Now, one thing that really took me out of the story was the fact that Bella is 150 years old and still a virgin. O_o Although werewolves age slower than humans and she's the equivalent of a 21 year old, this is after she was determined to seduce a human male in the first few pages and was stopped by her Pack mates. I'm sorry. This pushed the realms of credibility for me. She said at one point that she had never experienced the mating urge until her heat comes upon her at the start of the modern part of the story. Here's my problem: it's called a SEX DRIVE and a not a sex amble-through-the-roses for a reason. It pulls you. It's one of the most fundamental parts of human (and animal) nature. That drive to reproduce. She had already shown an interest in sex when she was a teenager but she never explores that in 150 YEARS OF LIVING? I just can't buy that.

One other thing that really got to me was the formatting for this story. I picked it up as a free Kindle download and I've never seen the type of line spacing issues and lack of paragraph indentations that I ran across with this book. I know this isn't the fault of the author and was probably just an unfortunate glitch, but added to my other issues with the book it kept me from losing myself in the story. It was bad enough that there were several times where I had no idea who was talking because of the lack of paragraphs.

Guys, I love paranormal romances. I love shapeshifters- werewolves in particular. This book and I never connected. Obviously, I'm one person in a sea of many and plenty of other people enjoyed it, so take that as you will. The book is currently free and you can see for yourself if it's for you or not.

-Kelly @ Reading the Paranormal

Delta says

2.5 stars

03-12-13

Heart of the Wolf has an engaging enough plot and explains some paranormal lupine lore. I purchased this book after reading #7 in the series (*Heart of the Highland Wolf*). #7 was much better...

07-04-15

Rereading the series...This is the first PNR series that I ever read. Thank you, Terry Spears, for beginning my love of PNR. This particular book is not her best, and it is the least of the series; however, you would not want to skip it completely because it introduces Henry Thompson, the "zoo man", who reappears in later books and is a great character.

Monique says

Series: 2.5 stars

This book: 1 star

There are two kinds of paranormal romance books. You have Kim Harrison, Ilona Andrews, Faith Hunter and Kelley Armstrong that make up my favorite group: action packed with strong female characters that drive the series. They may have a romantic element but are more "action" than "romance."

Then you have the second group: fluffy, borderline book porn that have strong male leads and wishy-washy females that follow them. The second group has an obstacle to overcome but overall the point of the book is getting the two main characters to hook up or admit they love each other.

This book, as well as the series, falls in to the later group. If you're into that sort of thing the series isn't half bad, however I'd skip this book. Trust me, you're not missing anything. In this series wolves "mate for life" and unmated female wolves are rare, so the entire series is about getting wolves paired off. They get better as the series progresses but this first book is pretty bad. The female lead is annoying and at least 150 years old but can't take care of herself... And I hate to say it, but the writing is REALLY bad. I bought the series without ever having read a word of this author. After reading this book I was tempted to just sell them all to a used bookstore, but the writing was so much better by the third book I wondered if they hired a ghost writer?

Here's the formula for the series: alpha male falls for girl who needs rescuing and/or protection. Evil alpha male also wants girl. Hero must mate the girl, save her and kill the villain. For some reason this author always has 2 obstacles, one of which is always another alpha male trying to mate the girl whether she wants him or not.

Karen says

A New Werewolf Legacy"

Bella Wilder, a red werewolf must flee from her adoptive gray werewolf pack or be mated to the alpha male, Volan. Bella's heart belongs to Devlyn Greystoke, a beta male werewolf, who saved her from a fire that claimed her pack. Devlyn would fight for her, but he is still young. Bella fears Volan will kill Devlyn. Bella for years lives alone, avoiding all werewolves. One evening on her run in the woods, she comes across another red werewolf. So stunned that another of her kind lives, she lets her guard down and humans capture her. Devlyn discovers Bella is in a zoo and comes to rescue her, but Bella fears he will turn her over to Volan

and fights him at every turn.

Devlyn has never forgotten Bella. He vows to keep her safe and prove to her that he is worthy to be her mate; he will fight Volan to the death to have her. However, other problems arise when a red werewolf pack take to killing human females. Bella and Devlyn will work together to find a way to stop them before the killers reveal to the world werewolves really do exist.

You'll be drawn into the story from the first page to the last, wanting to know how everything will turn out. I love how Ms. Spear has intertwined true attributes of wolves to make the werewolf world come alive. Bella and Devlyn's devotion to each other is endearing. Their love scenes sizzle the pages ... definitely hot! I look forward to reading more about this author's werewolf tales.

I also recommend Terry Spear's, *Winning the Highlander's Heart*. If you like Scottish medieval hunks, this is a book for you.

Reviewed for PNR Parnormal Romance www.paranormalromance.org

Jess the Romanceaholic says

What worked for me:

*Lone wolf being forced back into the pack, and being too stubborn/alpha to come back like a good little puppy.

*The whole bittersweet "I love you but we can't be together" thing that lasted over 100 years.

What didn't work for me:

*Too much sex. Yes, you heard me. Too much sex. It seemed like once they got in bed that first time, that's ALL THEY DID for like 8 chapters or something. It was obnoxious.

*The neighbor was obnoxious, Henry or Harry or whateverhisname is was TOTALLY underutilized as a plot device (oh man I saw a sequel just crying to be written with him as a hero), and them always getting caught naked all irritated me.

*The identity of the killer. I won't say more so it's not a spoiler, but I felt like she took the easy way out with the killer's identity.

*I don't like that she was a virgin and he had been making free with the (human) ladies in the meantime. Yeah yeah I know realistic blah blah blah but I get so sick of the women who are in love with a guy and so keep their legs firmly closed while the man who is supposedly just as in love with her sleeps with others but it's okay because it didn't actually mean anything *rolls eyes* I'd much rather have had them BOTH take lovers in the meantime, even if in the end it was the cliched "nobody was ever as satisfying" deal.

3 Stars

Golden says

The author of this book is a nice lady with whom I shared a book signing table several months ago. But as much as I wanted to like it, I just didn't. The writing was good, but the driving plot was too erotic for me. I prefer my romance with more finesse than I found in this book.

Janice Bolick says

Love it. Loved Bella & Devlyn, Henry & Chrissie, and noble Argos. Really loved Serena & Tanner, as well as Tanner's brothers, and hope the brothers will try their mates, soon. Loved the excerpt to Flight of the White Wolf --and the irony of the title-- and can hardly wait to read it. Gavin found a fitting match, in his future mate.

◊♦ Naomi says

I don't have the courage to keep reading this one. I've stopped reading it a while ago and now, I just don't feel like continuing, unfortunately. Maybe when I'll be in the mood for a simple, light and hot but not-really-consistent book, I'll get back to this one!

Amanda says

I gave up! I could not get through another page, I tried. I guess I could best summarize the book as amateurish and boring.

Main chick - I've already forgotten her name couldn't make up her damn mind, one minute she wants her true mate the next she wants a human. then she wants her mate again, but isn't willing to let him to fight for her. I mean come on chick. You're over a 100 years old and you are acting like a 13 year girl. I wanted to smack her every time she started whining. No thanks

The dude - Again I've forgotten his name, for years he's wanted his woman but her never fought for her. Now that he's found her again, he's finally found his balls and is willing to fight for her, but his chick is giving off mixed signals like a mug. At least he's a more likable character than chick is.

Mostly all I've taken from this attempt is I refuse to read another page in this book. There are so many other books that can pull me in.

Paraphrodite says

3 stars. A promising start but there isn't anything radical in this first book about wolf shifters.

Maida»-(`v`)-» says

RATING: 0.5 HEART for the Initial Intrigue + 0.5 HEART for the Cover. :(

I've always enjoyed the PNR genre, especially its subdivision of werewolves. But, I am very close to giving up on finding an actual *good* werewolf book to read. All the ones I seem to pick just don't do it for me. Unfortunately (and sadly), *Heart of The Wolf* is that book.

This starts out well enough, with much potential and an interesting enough storyline to keep curious. We are introduced to Bella and Devlyn, our protagonists, and the strain between them and their pack leader, Volan. To save Devlyn's life, Bella leaves the pack and starts a solo life in Oregon. Yet, somewhere along the way it gets lost. The initial feelings of intrigue and enjoyment are no longer present, in fact I found myself skimming more than 50% of the book. The story is tedious with the plot revolving around the very predictable murder mystery and the "romance" of why they can't be together. From the flimsy no-surprises to the poor action scenes, the plot is dull and unrealistic. No coherent flow, just a random display of events. In a nutshell, not fun or worthwhile.

Both the main characters are bland. Devlyn and Bella seemingly have strong personalities, yet I could not connect with either of them. I didn't understand their purpose in the story, or why they made the decisions they made. Bella is whiny, unpleasant and has no confidence in Devlyn, whom she "supposedly" loves. Devlyn is a sissy. A man who does nothing but glare and growl, *is not an alpha anything* . Their romance...well...more like conversations of "I want you, but I can't have you" (this is not sexy, btw!) gets old very fast, leaving only dissatisfaction in its wake.

Chock-full of bad story-telling, awful dialogue, and terrible characters, this is definitely not my kind of read. I wish it could have been better, regrettably though, Terry Spears failed to capture my attention. Not sure whether I'll read the next books or not. I'll have to wait for a sound opinion first.

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