



## Once Upon a Wolf

*Rhys Ford*

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## Once Upon a Wolf Rhys Ford

Once Upon A Time, There Was A Wolf....

Gibson Keller's days are fairly routine: wake up early, get some work done, drink lots of coffee, and take care of Ellis, his older brother stuck in wolf form after coming home from the war. It's a simple life made up of long runs on two legs—or four—and quiet evenings.... Until Ellis chases a handsome man off a cliff and into the frozen waters beside their cabin, changing Gibson's life forever.

For Zach Thomas, buying an old B&B is a new start. Leaving behind his city life, he longs to find peace and quiet, and hiking the trails behind his property seems safe enough—right up to the moment an enormous black wolf chases him into a lake, nearly drowning him. Discovering werewolves are real astounds him, but not as much as the man who rescues him from the icy water then walks into Zach's heart as if he owns it.

Loving a werewolf—loving Gibson with all his secrets—has its challenges but Zach believes their love is worth fighting for, especially since his heart knows the big bad wolf is really a prince in disguise.

## Once Upon a Wolf Details

Date : Published February 16th 2018 by Dreamspinner Press

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Author : Rhys Ford

Format : Kindle Edition 112 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Fantasy, Paranormal, Shapeshifters

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## From Reader Review Once Upon a Wolf for online ebook

### BWT (Belen) says

3.5 Stars

*Once Upon a Wolf* is the first novella of the Wayward Wolves series, **it's pretty fluffy for Rhys Ford**, and she has assured readers that all of the books in the series will "fit" into one another.

**I really liked all of the characters, and there's a sweet HEA to be found at the end, but I wish more time had been spent on the romantic relationship development.** I didn't mind that this is sort of a **low steam romance**, but not really slow burn, because there's an instant connection between Gibson and Zach.

*I just feel like right now, here with you, I'm not alone anymore," Zach whispered, his voice trailing off. "I felt alone in a crowd of people, in a house full of my family and friends, but here in a cabin barely big enough to hold two humans and a wolf, I feel like you see me, you hear me, and I'm not just shouting in the darkness hoping I won't disappear.*

Don't get me wrong - I thought what romance is there is very sweet, but so much time is spent on Gibson's brother, Ellis, who suffers from PTSD and handled it by going wolf for years, that while there's palpable love between the brothers, and a real connection that can be felt, I missed that connection for Gibson and Zach.

There's less time spent on romance and more time spent on the rehabilitation of Ellis, so because this is quite short at just over 90 pages that made it really difficult to explore the relationship between Gibson and Zach as much as I craved.

*"I love you," ... "I cannot live without you."*

*"Well, that works out, then," he murmured back, tightening his hold on Gibson, refusing to let go. "Because I can't live without you either, and I love you so much, I want to spend my life making you smile."*

There's definitely quite a bit of world-building, which was interesting and has me hooked for more, but there were some things left unexplained that I wanted more information about (i.e.: Martha - where does her training come from? What happened to Brown?).

Hopefully we'll get to know the characters more as the series progresses, and I'll get some answers for my burning questions, but **I'm excited to see where Rhys Ford is taking the series next.**

*Advanced Review Galley copy of Once Upon a Wolf (Wayward Wolves #1) provided by Dreamspinner Press in exchange of an honest review.*

*This review has been cross-posted at Gay Book Reviews.*

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### Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

\*2.5 stars\*

Confession time: the first time I listened to this book I was a little... buzzed. I had a lot of wine and listened to this book while doing chores (yes, I'm a party animal), and I found it... a bit confusing.

So after a day went by, I listened to the book again (totally sober this time!)... and I still found it to be a bit confusing.

I felt like there was a backstory or prequel I was missing. Zach stumbles upon these guys, but then it turns out he actually moved nearby and knows everyone? Where was that info before? Wouldn't he have heard about Gibson and Ellis? And then it was too much insta-connection and none of that werewolf magnetism that makes shifter books so special. I actually kind of with Ellis and Zach had gotten together, but maybe that's just me.

The narration was very good, and the book was a quick, easy listen, but I was unimpressed overall. Unfortunately.

\*Copy provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review\*

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### **Joyfully Jay says**

Updated for audiobook review:

**Read Elizabeth's review in its entirety here.**

*A Joyfully Jay review.*

#### **4 stars**

I am a huge fan of Rhys Ford's writing so I was really excited for her first foray into shifters with this first book in her Wayward Wolves series. As always, Ford's writing is descriptive and evocative and these characters and their surroundings just leap off the page. I love the twist on shifters Ford has created here, with a slightly different take on the normal lore. Even just small things like the way the men shifted were a bit unique. This isn't your typical pack and fated mates type story. In fact, the book feels very much like a regular contemporary with the addition of shifters. I particularly enjoyed the idea of Ellis caught in his shifter form. It was a great way to not only add conflict to the story, but also to show the different aspects of their human and wolf sides.

Zach and Gibson are sweet together, with a slow bloom to their romance. I appreciated how Zach, while stunned by the news of shifters, still put Gibson and Ellis first, determined to do whatever it took to protect them. As the story continues, Zach helps Gibson care for Ellis, and I liked how committed Zach is to both men. This isn't a story with a lot of heat, as Zach and Gibson keep the physical side of their relationship at bay while they are helping to work through issues with Ellis. But you can still feel the connection between them as there is a sweet tenderness and a lovely romance.

**Read Jay's review in its entirety [here](#).**

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### **Lisa says**

4 Stars!

*Once Upon a Wolf* is a short novella and also marks the first book in Rhys Ford's new shifter series entitled Wayward Wolves. If you have read anything by this author before, you'll likely quickly discover that this story has a very different feel than what we've become accustomed to by Rhys Ford as it has an almost fairytale-like feel. This is certainly not a bad thing as I did enjoy the first installment in what I think will be a great series.

This is a quick read that tells the sweet love story of Gibson Keller and Zach Thomas and how Gibson's brother, Ellis, somewhat was the catalyst for the relationship. There is a lot of world-building that takes place and quite a bit of focus is on Ellis himself and his story. This did detract from the romance that developed between Gibson and Zach. While I did love the slow burn we experience with our two protagonists, I would have liked to see just a little more time spent on the development of their storyline.

All in all, I really loved reading *Once Upon a Wolf* and am looking forward to the next installment. I love the world that has been created. I am hooked and can't wait to see where Rhys Ford takes us from here.

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\*\*\*\*An advance reading copy of *Once Upon a Wolf* by Rhys Ford was generously provided to me in exchange for an honest review.

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### **?♥? Cocky™ Michaelle ☙♥? says**

3.7 Stars

I liked it, but I didn't love it.

The narration was good, even if it not being by Greg threw me off; I have this automatic assumption that he performs all of the audio for Rhys - which is wrong, obviously - but it kept creeping into my brain that I was listening to Not-Greg, and then I would get distracted. For that reason I'm going to put it on the re-read shelf for actual *reading* at a later date to see if the change in medium affects my rating.

Don't get me wrong - there was NOTHING inherently wrong with the narration. In fact, when I could distract my brain enough to get around the Not-Greg issue, I thought it was done extremely well. The voices and how Derrick McClain performed the dramatic scenes were top-notch, and I know I have a few books on my TBR with him narrating...so I'll definitely try to get my hands on more of them.

The disconnect was entirely my own doing, and I hate that because I usually love Rhys' books - faults and all.

Original Thoughts:

OMG YOU GUYS! Rhys wrote a shifter book!!

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## Line says

SO, Rhys Ford has done it again!

She has written an introduction to a series, I'm pretty sure will be fantastic.

But that is also one of my niggles with this: it does feel a wee bit like an introduction.

It is a novella, and I understand that she was finishing up Miki's story (with *a lot* of words) so she wanted something lighter, which I think is a pretty apt description of this story.

I really did enjoy this a lot, so it wasn't the biggest '*issue*', but I did notice that it was not a comprehensive, mystery-masterpiece of 10.000 people and a plot that took 4560 twists and turns... You know: Rhys Ford-style.

Not a lot actually happens in this book (there is a wee bit of drama, but (view spoiler)) and we have the dreaded '*Six Weeks Later*'-sentence, which I (personally) sometimes find somewhat of an excuse, for not writing the story.

But then it is explained what **DID** happen, and I didn't actually mind that sentence so much.

This did add to the general '*light and chill and fluffy*'-feel of this story, though.

Gibson and Zach meet when Gibson's brother, Ellis, chases Zach through the forest, down the hill and into the river (head first, not feet first)... And oh yeah, Ellis is in *wolf form*!

Gibson brings Zach home (in the storm) and thus begins a nice chill story of Gibson, Zach and Ellis. And make no mistake, Ellis is a big part of this, but it didn't really bother me, since I found all three characters very charming and likeable.

And let the record show that I'm guessing (view spoiler)

Besides the shifter-element, which read very natural somehow (I thought it was explained well, and woven into the story quite fluidly without going **on and on and on**) and the '*chill-ness*' of this story, I found it quite hilarious, and it had more than one '*laugh out loud*'-moment (of course at really inappropriate times, when people were being beheaded in the BF's TV-show).

**Zach's elbow got caught on his sweatshirt, and Gibson nearly kneed him trying to get his pants down. One of their plates landed on the floor, either hit by Gibson's foot or possibly Zach's underwear when it flew off of Gibson's finger as he twirled it around. There was a brief scramble toward the fireplace, as it appeared one of the couch's throw pillows was headed straight for the flames when thrown off to make room...**

I also want to mention that I found Ruth and Martha **BRILLIANT** and I'm so happy we got some lesbian

representation, without it being too much or caricature-ish.

I did miss some more background on Zach (and his family) and Gibson/Ellis (and their family), since it was only touched upon briefly. It didn't take away from the story, since they are not **IN** it, but it was sort of noticeable that the MCs origin-stories were not thoroughly explored.

The last thing I want to mention is Ms. Ford's use of analogies, and *boy* does she love those. The thing is, as a non-native English speaker, they are sometimes **EXTREMELY** difficult to understand, and become too ~~convoluted?~~ ~~Excessive?~~ ~~Flowery?~~ much, for me.

I get the artistic side of it, and wanting to weave a story around the story, and drawing the reader in, but when everything is '*lightbolts and thunder*', nothing is suddenly '*lightbolts and thunder*', since it loses its meaning, if that makes sense.

For fans of Rhys Ford I would say **READ** this, but if you want more action, wait 'till the next book is out and then read them consecutively.

I really thought this was a nice, fun, chill introduction to this series, and I do hope we get to hang out with Zach and Gibson again, since they are so very likeable.

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\*ARC kindly provided by author in a giveaway, in exchange for an honest review at GR and Amz\*

## **Karen says**

3.5 wolfish stars rounded down to 3 because still no 1/2 stars here on GR wolfish or otherwise...

***Soooo...I'm not really a big fan of shifter books but...***

I am a big fan of Rhys Ford which meant that this was a must read for me. I was a little slower to get into this story but there was still a lot about this one that I came to really like.

First off let's chat a bit about the main characters and their relationship...I liked the way Gibson and Zach's relationship developed as a slow burn against the backdrop of event's that while not connected to Zach and Gibson held a loose tie to Gibson and Ellis's family history on the mountain . Ellis grabbed my curiosity fairly quickly and I'm definitely keeping my fingers crossed that there's a story coming for him soon.

I really enjoyed the banter between Zach and Gibson and with Ellis as well...

“You’re really going to attempt to make pancakes?” The mock horror in Zach’s grimace was a clear indication he’d picked up more than his share of sardonic expressions from the brothers.

“Aren’t you happy with trying to kill me just at dinnertime? Now you’ve moved on to breakfast?”

While this story isn't really about Ellis even though he was an integral figure in it...this was Zach and Gibson's story. Gibson is Ellis's younger brother and he's very protective of Ellis who seems to be stuck in his wolf form since coming home from the war. His days are quiet and simple for Gibson and Ellis as they hide out in their cabin in the woods awaiting the time when Ellis is ready to take human form again.

Zach has bought the local B&B in the hopes of starting over and finding some peace and quiet for himself

getting chased into a nearby lakes that's freezing cold was not a part of his plan but then neither was the big black wolf who chased him there.

The last thing Gibson expected to find floating in the lake near the cabin he shared with Ellis was a man who pushed all of his bell and whistles and would come to quickly steal his heart. While Gibson and Zach quickly realize that they are drawn to each other their relationship is a slow burn and takes time to develop as unexpected events force Gibson and Ellis to place things between them on the back burner for a while.

With less than 100 pages to this story there's a lot happening and lot of groundwork is being laid out for not just this story but I suspect some of it will become more relevant as the series unfolds. As well as Ellis who I'm hoping that we'll see more of some of the secondary characters like Ruth and Martha, the two women who are looking after Zach's B&B, then there's Pat Brown the son of the former sheriff and currently working for the sheriff's department himself and there's some interesting history between the Kellers and the Browns to be sure.

I'm hoping that as things progress in this series we'll learn a little more about Zach's life before he came to own the B&B. We've gotten some glimpses of his life, enough to know that Zach was in an accident, that his family relations are strained to say the least.

While this one has gotten off to a bit of a slow start for me. I have faith in Ms Ford's ability to draw me into her stories and make me not only glad I'm reading them but want more and more...and yes, more and so far I definitely want some more of Gibson and Zach but I'd also like to find out more about Ellis and while he really didn't seem to be a nice guy much less a good one. I have the feeling that there's possibly more to Pat Brown than we know and I'm sure that it could make for an interesting story as well. I think at the end of it all for me I'm on board with this series not because of where Ms Ford has taken us but because I'm curious to see where we have yet to go.

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An ARC of 'Once Upon a Wolf' was graciously provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Jewel says**

I've been looking forward to this new shifter series, by Rhys Ford ever since I found out it was upcoming. I mean, I love the worlds that Ford creates and I'm always left wanting the next book, and that certainly is the case here.

*Once Upon a Wolf* is a good start to this new series. I loved the world-building and the predicament Ellis was in and how he basically instigated a relationship between his brother, Gibson, and their new neighbor, Zach. It felt original.

This is a short book, however, and that makes it more difficult to strike that balance between the world-building and the relationship development. That's where *Once Upon a Wolf* missed the mark for me. I felt like the relationship-building took a back seat to the world building and to the secondary character, Ellis.

While I loved Gibson's tireless dedication to his brother, I felt that there was too much focus on Ellis, instead of the romance between Gibson and Zach. Plus, while it was late in the book before Gibson and Zach get

physical, it still didn't really feel like a slow-burn, because I felt like I was missing so much of them falling for each other.

Still, I do want to see where this series goes, and I will definitely read the next book.

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### **Adam says**

In my opinion, novellas work best when they are simple and to the point. This book just didn't do it for me.

I can appreciate that Rhys Ford wanted to build the shifter world and give some backstory, but it didn't translate well in such a short amount of page space. There were different threads that were brought up suddenly, explained roughly, and then just sort of forgotten as the story moved on to the next thing.

Zach and Gibson were cute enough, but I wasn't invested in their relationship. Their relationship is fairly close to insta-love, but I don't mind that in shifter romances.

I did think it was sweet that they got to know each other first before jumping into bed, and that they were happier for it.

There's a lot of page time given to Gibson's brother, Ellis, and his issues. It distracted from the MCs. Again, I think the whole plotline with Ellis was too complex for such a short novella.

But in the end, this was just an okay read for me. The romance was pretty lukewarm, and the book overall was just missing that captivating quality I usually expect from Rhys Ford.

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### **Lost in a Book says**

#### **2.5 Stars**

I LOVE Ellis. I love his wolfish shenanigans, the mystery of his story, and how far he came throughout... the problem is that it isn't Ellis' story. *I think?*

Gibson is a wolf shifter that lives with his brother (Ellis) in a mountain cabin. One day Ellis decides to play a game of chase with an unsuspecting stranger... except the stranger is terrified and slips down the mountain. Luckily, Gibson is able to rush to the aid of the badly injured Zach.

Zach is the new neighbor that purchased a bed & breakfast and he connects with Gibson \*super\* fast. Well, maybe not a connection but they are attracted to each other right away... even badly injured, Zach is wanting to mount Gibson (which I would totally believe if this was a mates type shifter book). It just seems a foregone conclusion that because they are the only two men within miles, they would end up together. I get

it, last man on Earth and all- but it didn't seem authentic IMO. Unfortunately there isn't much else to the Zach and Gibson show. The romance/connection between Gibson and Zach was put on the back burner as all focus went to Ellis. Because of this, the relationship felt forced.

As the synopsis mentioned, Ellis is stuck in his wolf form to cope with the nightmares that never leave. This book provides in-depth coverage of Ellis' status, the growth he makes, the danger he gets in, and the care he receives from Zach and Gibson. Ellis and Zach form a special bond that I *believed* and a connection I *felt*. It's a damn shame it wasn't their story.

One of the things I adore about shifter stories is the possessiveness. I love the growly *mine* and the unapologetic need to be near the other and the ultimate desire to claim them. With this book, any time Gibson showed a hint of possessiveness, he went apologetic. \*sad face\* There wasn't much heat on page and I was glad for it. Without the connection between the MCs, more sex would have just felt out of place *to me*.

I can't recommend this book for the MCs but I was a fan of Ellis and if he's getting a story, then reading this would be necessary. I'll continue on this series \*only\* if Ellis gets his *official* story.

*Copy provided for honest review.*

<https://boymeetsboyreviews.blogspot.com>

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## R \* A Reader Obsessed \* says

### 3.5 Hearts

I quite enjoyed this understated foray into the shifter world by Rhys Ford. It's not a light your pants on fire type of romance, nor filled to the brim with her descriptive prose, but it's still a decent start to a new series.

As per the blurb, Zach inadvertently runs across a huge wolf and straight into the arms of said wolf's *human* brother Gibson. It wouldn't be a Ford story if there wasn't at least insta-lust and this was no different. However, it takes some time for Zach to wrap his brain around the existence of werewolves despite the strong mutual attraction. It doesn't hurt at all that he greatly admires Gibson's steadfast devotion towards his wolfy brother Ellis, who's stuck in his animal form as a coping mechanism to past war trauma.

Narrated by Derrick McClain, I know he's a fan favorite and with good reason. He's got a great baritone, emotes well, and varies his voices expertly. However, for some unknown reason, there's just one little quirk of his that drives me batty. It's not as strong as it has been in some of his other works, but it was there

enough to be distracting. If not for this one thing, he'd be in my top 5 for sure. As I always say, audios are a personal thing, just like one's reading experience and unfortunately, McClain is not an automatic win for me.

Regardless, if you like shifters, if you like a slow burn, this is for you! Many have mentioned that half the focus is on Gibson's brother Ellis and his painful steps towards healing, and that's true. However, I didn't feel it detracted much from Gibson and Zach. I like to think that this was nice segue towards Ellis's story, and I look forward to more of everyone in the sequel! Overall, this was sweet, interesting, and of course sexy, and it's quite doubtful fans of Ford won't enjoy her new endeavor into the world of werewolves!

*Thank you to the author/publisher for the audio in exchange for an honest review*

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## **Karen says**

### ***Wolves on audio...it's a thing...who knew...***

Well actually I'm pretty sure we all did but for me this one was a must...it's by Rhys Ford and she's totally a favorite of mine. So needless to say there were no real surprises here because...I've read the book already and as far as the story goes as far as the story goes my original review still holds true so, I'm going to borrow from it in regards to the story...here goes...

First off let's chat a bit about the main characters and their relationship...I liked the way Gibson and Zach's relationship developed as a slow burn against the backdrop of event's that while not connected to Zach and Gibson held a loose tie to Gibson and Ellis's family history on the mountain . Ellis grabbed my curiosity fairly quickly and I'm definitely keeping my fingers crossed that there's a story coming for him soon.I really enjoyed the banter between Zach and Gibson and with Ellis as well...

“You’re really going to attempt to make pancakes?” The mock horror in Zach’s grimace was a clear indication he’d picked up more than his share of sardonic expressions from the brothers.

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I'm hoping that as things progress in this series we'll learn a little more about Zach's life before he came to own the B&B. We've gotten some glimpses of his life, enough to know that Zach was in an accident, that his family relations are strained to say the least.

While this one got off to a bit of a slow start for me. I have faith in Ms Ford's ability to draw me into her stories and make me not only glad I'm reading them but want more and more...and yes, more and so far I definitely want some more of Gibson and Zach but I'd also like to find out more about Ellis and while he really didn't seem to be a nice guy much less a good one. I have the feeling that there's possibly more to Pat

Brown than we know and I'm sure that it could make for an interesting story as well. I think at the end of it all for me I'm on board with this series not because of where Ms Ford has taken us but because I'm curious to see where we have yet to go.

Now on to the audio portion of this audio book...

Derrick McClain was the narrator for this audio book and overall I enjoyed things except for the minor glitch that Zach's voice wasn't quite what I had imagined it would be.

My previous experiences with this narrator have varied and while a couple of the audio books that I've listened to haven't worked really well for me the opposite is also true and I've really enjoyed others.

Regardless of whether I've enjoyed it or not I do find that in general this narrator ticks the basics on my list of 'must have's for an audio book'. His voices are varied, expressive and words are pronounced clearly and concisely but not to the point of being monotone or stilted.

So overall Derrick McClain produces an audio book that can readily be enjoyed and beyond that when it comes to things like how a voice sounds we're talking about a purely subjective issue that's a matter of personal taste which to me means that it's not an issue of right or wrong, good or bad just what works for one individual and not for another. This time around things didn't work as well as they have other times, but that doesn't mean that the next time won't be an entirely different experience. While he's not on my 'must listen' list neither is he on my list of 'not in this life time' more like 'let's take this one audio book at a time'.

Still at the end of it all I really enjoyed this story and can't wait to read/listen to what comes next from Ms. Ford's band of 'Wayward Wolves'.

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## **Susan says**

### **2.5 stars**

Zach is walking through the woods on a freezing day when he suddenly encounters a wolf. Scared he runs away, only to be chased by the wolf. And that's how Zach ends up in the freezing lake.

When Zach wakes up he learns he is rescued by Gibson, who is living in a cabin in the woods. Gibson is living there with his..... wolf? Except when there is a thunder Zach sees that wolf changing into a man and into a wolf again.

Gibson is living in his family's remote cabin because he needs to solitude to take care of his brother, Ellis. Ellis came back from the war a wolf and refuses to turn back.

Now that Zach knows about their werewolf secret. Gibson lets him stay there for a few days to recover...

I never really got into this. In some books the way we learn about characters is done right. I love books

where I learn a great deal about a character or what's going on in one single sentence. This was not such a book.

I felt confused when things were mentioned in a way that made me feel as if I've already should have known about it. Sometimes that works in books. Not here. It made me feel disconnected and standing on the sidelines instead of in the middle of the scene.

Like we only get told at 40 or 50% that Zach bought the Inn nearby and that's why he was walking through the woods. It was so weird to learn that so late in the book and it was told in a way like I should have been aware of it all along. I know this is a short book but it still felt very late.

Even the relationship was handled that way. I still can't figure out how Gibson knew Zach was gay. It is never mentioned and they both kind of assumed but never said it out loud. Same with the attraction. I did not find out they were attracted to each other with the way they talked to each other. They never acted flirty, or said anything to make the other person aware there were feelings.

That's why it was a huge surprise that we suddenly get told there have been kisses. Yes, there is a peck on the lips on page, but after that it is mentioned in passing that they are now kissing. Oooookay.... And then we got the I love yous. Without any relationship building whatsoever I was stunned they were already at that level.

I don't think Rhys Ford's writing style and I mesh very well (even though I loved her Cole McGinnis series).

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*This review has been cross-posted at Gay Book Reviews.*

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**DarienMoya says**

**~ONCE UPON A FAIRYTALE~**

*Now wait a whole damn minute...*

**Rhys Ford wrote this?**

That's what you're trying tell me...this short with it's quiet intensity was written by the same author that gives me crazy per book. This sweet fairytale romance was written by Rhys ?. Like "Once Upon a Wolf" is an actual gay fairytale.

Zack is having a bad day when his leisure stroll lands him in the path of a gigantic bigger than any wolf he's ever seen, his fear kicks in and he takes off running. Running might not have been such a good idea when he finds himself in freezing waters and losing consciousness fast. He comes to in the home of a beautiful stranger and maybe he's hit his head too hard because he's sure he just saw a man turn into a wolf.

Gibson's no-good brother is just pure trouble wrapped in black fur. Having taking on the role of caretaker to his brother trapped in wolf form, having someone on their land isn't a complication they need. So for the life of him he can't understand why Ellis would chase the man down. Now they've got a half dead stranger in their home and he's just discovered that they're a little more than ordinary.

Can I just say I'm like head over heels in love with this story. There's something very quiet about the storytelling. It's almost too intimate, as if I'm looking in on something I was never meant to see. I love the pace, I love the writing, and I love the characters. It was just a wonderful light read, and it goes hand in hand with the cold ass weather and snow I'm surrounded by right now. This is a side of Rhys I've never read and I like it.

Overall, it's a good little read. I don't know how fans of Rhys will take it but I welcome it with open arms. I am so looking forward to the next book in the series. This was a great setup to a world with limitless options. This could be the start of something wonderful.

*~ARC provided by author for an honest review~*

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### **Melissa says**

A complimentary copy was provided in exchange for an honest review.

This was ok for me. I liked the story ok, but the insta-love/connection was a little much. The trust that Gibson put into Zach so quickly seems far fetched and the fact that they both have an instant attraction to the other while Zach is half dead after falling in the lake, just wasn't realistic. It was cute and enjoyable seeing Gibson and Ellis interact, and then seeing how Zach reacted to Ellis. I love shifter books and this one was good as far as explaining the wolf history. I bet it was super cute when Ellis and Gibson were baby pups!

The majority of the story is about Gibson trying to coax Ellis into turning into his human form again, since he has been in wolf form for about 2 years. It was rough seeing Ellis so tortured from what he experienced, he was so wounded. But I could see his playful side too, especially when he tooted in Zach's truck. ;)

These characters were so fun, and if you take away the instant love they have going, this story was really good, and I would like to read more about these men (do they want kids, is the question; I want to see baby pups!!). Overall I give this 3 stars.

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