



High Bloods

John Farris

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It happened quickly. Overnight, the greater Los Angeles area found itself in the horrifying grasp of a werewolf epidemic. Twenty eight days of the month they are no different than you or me--the High Bloods, who managed to go unaffected. But every full moon, they are the most ravenous creatures man has ever seen.

A new law-enforcement agency has been created to keep tabs on the those whose blood runs Lycan. Rawson is an agent for Lycan Control, and his job is to make sure all the afflicted are found, monitored, and kept at bay the night they change. But the Lycans in Hollywood have risen to cultlike proportions, and Rawson's job is getting tougher.

One night, a woman changes right in front of Rawson. And it's not a full moon. Someone deep in the annals of Hollywood has managed to trip the logic of the werewolves' being. Battling a rising tide of Lycan rights activists and a growing population of those who are choosing to be Lycan over High Blood, Rawson must carve a path to the top of the Lycan chain before all hell breaks loose.

High Bloods Details

Date : Published July 21st 2009 by Tor Books

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Author : John Farris

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Genre : Horror, Shapeshifters, Werewolves, Fiction, Mystery, Paranormal, Fantasy

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From Reader Review High Bloods for online ebook

Americanogig says

Although this was sold as a horror, with a review by Stephen King on the very front, it read as more of a crime-thriller. As a horror story? Not so great-no chills, moments of creep, nothing. As a crime story? Very good, A+ moments. Interesting to read about familiar Orange County/LA County locations such as Irvine and Antelope Valley. Think modern-day crime noir with werewolves.

Donna says

I was only able to finish about half of this before I decided on returning it to the library. The pacing felt really odd, and all the slang and jargon felt ridiculous enough to keep me from connecting with anything that was going on. It got old fast.

There is a glossary, but I'm not flipping back and forth between that and the story for the sake of an otherwise average werewolf noir novel.

Shannon says

2016 Reading Challenge:

"A book you've been meaning to read"

High Bloods.

For starters, if you're looking for a good book about werewolves or really even containing some little interesting parts about werewolves, this is NOT the book for you. If you're looking for a good detective style book, then give this one a shot, because in reality that's High Bloods. A detective story with the occasional scene/mention of werewolves.

High Bloods was on my 2016 Reading Challenge list (A book I've been meaning to read), and early on I found myself struggling to get into it. My first frustration, to quote my fiancé, "So you're saying the author is a "wordy" fellow?" YES. I can get the point with one or two descriptive guidelines, but this author just went above and beyond his dictionary and thesaurus use. I got bored quickly because, in essence, it was taking too long for him to get to the point. The supporting character, Beatrice, is my second problem. Apparently all she can do is whistle in various tones and throw a mean knife. That's it. Her supposed wicked knife throwing skills are not even mentioned as much as her damned whistling. But yet she somehow managed to be a major supporting character in this book.

So, if you're looking for a good detective novel, with a whistling side kick, that throws in the word "Lycanthropy" here and there, definitely read High Bloods, otherwise, not worth the time to read if you're wanting a good werewolf novel.

Jolene says

THIS BOOK WAS MORE TO MY TASTE SO TO SPEAK. IT DID GET A LITTLE BORING IN SOME PARTS, BUT I DID NOT LOOSE TOTAL INTEREST IN IT THOUGH. I WOULD RECOMMEND IT FOR MOSTLY ADULT READING DUE TO THE LANGUAGE, BUT OTHERWISE A NICELY WRITTEN BOOK.

It happened quickly. Overnight, the greater Los Angeles area found itself in the horrifying grasp of a werewolf epidemic. Twenty eight days of the month they are no different than you or me--the High Bloods, who managed to go unaffected. But every full moon, they are the most ravenous creatures man has ever seen. A new law-enforcement agency has been created to keep tabs on the those whose blood runs Lycan. Rawson is an agent for Lycan Control, and his job is to make sure all the afflicted are found, monitored, and kept at bay the night they change. But the Lycans in Hollywood have risen to cultlike proportions, and Rawson's job is getting tougher.

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Nick Muller says

Awesome. Werewolves like they should be. Not a story about tween dudes with there shirts off fighting over one Annoying chick. Mr Farris actually creates a whole new set of terms used to describe the werewolves and there habits that makes the book completely original.

Edwina Callan says

For the most part this book was a bore and a snore, plodding slowly along.

One of those books where, the entire time I'm reading it, I just kept thinking,

Get On With It Man.

This would have worked very well as a short story, but at 299 pages it just drags on and on and on.

Eillo says

A fascinating take on werewolf lore that blends a supernatural detective noir with a near future doomscape. A seemingly pre-apocalyptic California and presumably beleaguered America is under a near constant fear of a werewolf attack. I'm not going to ruin anything but it's a pretty solid read if you're into supernatural cop noir fiction with interesting governmental theories and even more interesting culture that emerges when all Hell breaks loose.

dennis says

near future LA, cool "special division" cop type stuff, and WEREWOLVES. can't go wrong, highly recommended!

Victoria says

Ehh.. this book had such a great premise and though its characters were strong, as well, it was ultimately lacking. Right off the bat, I was more than a little alienated by the terminology used - and while there was a glossary, I just don't understand why the first time the "new" words were used they weren't defined! Some were, but definitely not all, which took a while to get used to. Also, the most interesting part of the book (the werewolves and their new society) were hardly touched upon! I was MUCH more interested in that than the actual plot. And while it is nice to have a werewolf book unaccompanied by vampires, it would have been nice to have more of the actual werewolves!! The ending wasn't terribly conclusive either.... It just felt rushed. I do think that this would have made a better movie than it did a book.

Coki says

Interesting concept with noirish execution. But maybe overly complicated? If you need a glossary and then don't put everything in the glossary I think that is a point against you. More science fictiony than fantasy which was not what I expected. I would call it an urban science fantasy (if there is such a thing.)

Jax says

absolutely terrible book.

a) there were two typos in the first 20 pages (fine, this is forgivable)
b) author suffers from probably not ever getting laid, much like Stephen King's Dark Tower series or Arturo Perez Reverte's Dumas Club, women are both outrageously gorgeous, yet have very little sexual experience, yet, drop their clothes at a moments notice for the protag and say stuff like "my body is yours", i'm surprised the author didn't note that these women come as soon as the dude enters them, there's no foreplay at all, just straight banging and i'm sure a sandwich was made afterwards.

pathetic.

Jason says

meh

first - this book (at least the cover version i had) was rather mis-marketed and labeled as a horror novel.
Nope - mystery/detective story that happens to have werewolves. But never scary and not horrific.

Next - to describe it - all I can think of is this: if Artemis Fowl grew up as an old, ornery detective seeking

werewolves - that'd be this book. Rather mediocre and disappointing

Scotchneat says

This had the potential to be a good book. Weres are out, and there's a distinct class distinction between those with were blood - the bad parts of town and an increasing number of people in the US - and the high bloods who are human pure - gated communities.

This one was kind of stop and start. The story would get rolling and then something would come not right - not sure if it was the dialogue or the mystery story or what.

Some of the characterizations were interesting, though. In other hands, might have been a good read.

Aaron says

A disappointing book that creates a very unique work in which werewolves and people live in together but fear is everywhere and people don't want to live yet part of the words don't ring true and the book is less horror and more detective story. I wish that it had been scarier but instead it has no scares despite the frightening world it created.

Reshy says

For what was supposed to be a horror genre werewolf story it managed to fail at both. It spends too much time gawking at crime-thrillers instead of psychological horrors and other werewolf stories. I say that because the werewolves in the setting feel tacked on, artificial. Werewolves in name only, they could have easily been replaced with vampires or some other creature they could make up and it wouldn't have changed the story a single bit. The horror elements weren't even present until the end where I felt a tinge of it, but not strong like it should be. It didn't focus on the emotions, feelings, or relationships of the individuals. Instead it spent all this time fleshing out this 'Brilliant' story that was totally unoriginal and uninspired.
