



Divided We Stand

KouriArashi

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Sterek Fanfic

Derek is being pressured by his family to pick a mate, and somehow stumbles into a choice that they didn't expect and aren't sure they approve of....

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From Reader Review Divided We Stand for online ebook

Dreamer says

Lengthy engrossing fanfic from KouriArashi. Deals with issues of high school bullying and low self esteem. Werewolf Derek picks Stiles as his mate as he exits an unsuccessful Searching Ceremony, Stiles becomes convinced that Derek did this as a cruel joke.

"It was a joke, Dad," Stiles says, his cheeks burning with embarrassment. "He just wanted to piss off his family by picking the last person he would actually want as a mate." He reaches into the oven and pulls out the potatoes, an angry, jerky motion. "And he did it right in front of everyone, Jesus, so I couldn't even say no."

"You want me to shoot him?" Stilinski asks, his tone completely serious. He doesn't normally make jokes about shooting people, being a police officer, but then again this isn't entirely a joke. Derek could survive being shot a few times.

Jenni Lea says

Tis a good one! Lotsa feels.

Obligatory Sterek gif:

Rosa, really says

You know, I had stuff to say about this fic but for whatever reason the only thing that occurs to me to say is *I REALLY LIKE IT*. So, yeah, there you go. Here, have a gif:

Yes you are, dear.

Lilia Ford says

I found this totally engrossing despite the length. You read this for the "feelz" not the sex, which is very brief and low-key. This is a different Derek Hale than you usually see, which definitely pulled me into the story. He's diffident, secretly kind, "squirrel man," earnest and fiercely loyal, without even a trace of "alpha-hole"

behavior. Stiles is a curious mix of "den-maker" and pack strategist, not as snarky as usual, deeply insecure but also dangerously stubborn and willful. (view spoiler) I loved how the author found a new role for Peter than "creepy" mostly evil uncle. Like all the Hales, Peter's deeply wounded here, flitting between sanity and something else, but he's always an energizing presence in the story. There's something strange and thrilling in Laura's completely believable warning that Peter has always been the most dangerous member of the Hale pack, not because he's evil but because he will stop at nothing.

While I didn't find it a hard or depressing read, there is a melancholy to the story, which features vicious bullying and Stiles' really painful efforts to be accepted by humans and weres. The writing was rougher than some other fics I've been reading recently, mostly due to frequent, jarring, unsignalled shifts in POV. The perspectives themselves are welcome, but the story would read far more smoothly if there was some kind of marker.

Bottom line: I really liked this. It's long and not fluffy or erotic, but definitely worth the time.

Meep says

Re-read: Maybe 3* the first half is great but really feel it loses steam as it continues. The plot gets more involved but the characters namely Derek weaken. I started to feel it should be Steter not Sterek as it went on; Derek lost his personality to become more and more like the author's dog! Somehow the story doesn't create the sense of tension or threat the plot deserves. But still a good writer.

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A long but engrossing read, with lots of feels. There's hard times here but (*as others (Lilia) said*) it's more melancholic than hard reading.

Stiles is engaging from the start and Derek is a growly besotted marshmallow; his parents are still alive and Peter is both fragile and dangerous. There's a lot of negotiating roles and getting to know each other with the Sheriff playing his part which I always like to see. Didn't really get the pack feels that were intended but then we are following Stiles whose having his own issues there.

As the story progresses I found it became a bit Wonder-Stiles who could survive anything, but his strength and vulnerability is shown. Derek on the other hand becomes more and more passive as the plot takes over, constantly running from everything. I'd have liked to see him stand his ground at least once to show he deserved Stiles as a mate.

While there's a big plot it seemed anti-climax to me, with little reaction to certain things. It got to be more tell than show. Kate's role in the story is an interesting little twist to cannon though.

There's another long story to follow, I'm reading on ;)

Vivian says

Good story. Ridiculously long, theoretically could be shorter and just as powerful, but that's part of the fun of

full length fanfiction, the meandering, rolling along. It's not that they aren't edited, but that they're not cut down into the publishing industry's version of the 30 second sound bite.

While Stiles' judgement is flawed in parts, his analysis is spectacularly sharp. Derek is most certainly the damaged soul in this one as is everyone in the family. It's the subtle differences in their grieving that really is quite adroit.

Peter was undeniably my favorite. Of course, I should probably be concerned that I don't consider him insane, but rather easily provoked. Nonetheless, when you have someone like him in your corner you sleep immeasurably better.

“Do you know what my position in the pack is?” Peter asks, as a bead of blood starts to trickle down his neck. “It’s called the Left Hand. Do you know what that position entails?

After all, if the right is justice and the left vengeance, then the left must take what the right is denied.

Julio Genao says

this was so close to good i am actually kinda pissed-off about it. that resolution was pretty OD.

pantsers ruin everything.

Sandra says

4.5 stars Did I stay up until 3 am reading this? Hell yeah, I did! Did I miss the lack of gratuitous sex? No, I really didn't! Was it funny, and sweet, and angst, and dramatic, but not annoyingly TSTL or miscommunication-y? Yes, yes, yes, and YES!

Good times, although don't start till Friday night or Saturday and plan on reading straight through your effen weekend! I reeeeeeeeally want to start book 2, United We Mend, right-the-fuck-now... but I do have a life and have to actually go to work tomorrow, so I guess I should be a grown-up and give it 24 hours. But tomorrow night, I have a date with Sterek!

Natalia says

Re-read June 2018

Re-read September 2017
Still love it! :)

R * A Reader Obsessed * says

4.5 Stars

This was good. Really good.

There's several things that stand out for me regarding this fic.

Stiles is Stiles but there's a deeper delving into his basic personality which is ever the protector. He's immensely inquisitive, a bit of an outcast - tenacious and so smart. His low self esteem is especially poignant here and how that was treated and made better was a wonderful thing to see.

Derek was not growly angry but perhaps too, a bit misunderstood. He does have a tragic past and his sensitive side was definitely in full force here. I found his awkwardness endearing and he truly was in full romantic mode here which I absolutely loved.

While I agree that there was some great fluff that made me really really happy, there was also some serious palpable anxiety that kept me on edge pretty much throughout the entire story. Some situations were quite hard to stomach which I now realize slowed my reading progression as I took breaks from the intensity (apparently I'm a wuss when it comes to this kind of angst).

The supporting cast was wonderfully fleshed out as well. Laura, Cora and Allison fit in perfectly. Scott was truly a fantastic best friend. Kate was exceptionally evil; a top notch villain. Note too that the sheriff remains the world's best dad *ever*. Talia shows why she's the brilliant alpha she is. And then there's Peter. Still off kilter, still cunning and dangerous - it's reassuring to have such calculated deviousness on the good side.

So if you like long stories, stories where plot and world building are impressively intricate and well thought out, where there's a realistic slow burn progression, then I don't think you'll be disappointed. I was never bored. I laughed, I hurt, I worried - but mainly I swooned. Hard.

I want another 400+ pages. Oh wait! Thank gawd there is!

MLE says

I really liked this story, and I love how much of the plot is dedicated to pack, family, and the conflicts and tensions between werewolves and humans. I appreciated that pack relationships were complicated like most families, but still so supportive. I liked the relationship not only between Derek and Stiles, but between all of the characters. I have to admit Stiles and Peter together were my personal favorite of the non romantic relationships. I loved that Peter's losses have taken a toll on his sanity, but that he wasn't simply evil or disposed or for not being smiling happy pack. The plot was well done, and never played second fiddle to the romance. A really nicely done story. I'm looking forward to reading more.

Jerry says

OMG, this is my second reading and tears of joy are streaming down my face. I am so addicted to Sterek and this is like crack. So many good things, so many bad things. Only a few WTF moments. Very slow build to a real romance. So many amazing hard things to read about...mainly to do with the original fire that almost destroyed the Hale pack. Derek and Stiles are so MADE FOR EACH OTHER! So many moments of bliss. So much satisfaction, both the bad kind and the good kind.

Highly recommended....especially to those who love Sterek!

Will definitely read this for a third time! And desperately want a sequel!

Meags says

4.5 Stars

It takes a skilled author to produce a fanfic (or any story, really) of this quality. I'm in awe.

This story was absolutely riveting. Quite frankly, it shocked the shit out of me! I'm not sure what I was expecting, but it wasn't this - this impeccably written story, which was impressively plot focused and character driven. It was just... awesome.

There's lots of intrigue and pack feels in this one, and the characters were deliciously complex and multifaceted. The outstanding characters, for me, were Peter, Talia and Tom (the Sheriff). I can confidently say that this is my favourite representation of Peter I've read to date. He was creepy and scary and so broken, I just.. I can't even begin to gush enough about how perfectly I thought he was portrayed here.

And Talia Hale – holy crap! I leapfrogged back and forth between strong feelings of love and hate for her character throughout the entirety of this fic (view spoiler). To be able to write a character that draws so many conflicting emotions from the reader, while also keeping the character *in character*, is such an impressive feat.

The Sheriff also had some great scenes throughout this story, generally one on one with members of the Hale family, in which he was so insightful and perceptive – which is exactly what I'd expect from the Sheriff, being, you know, *the Sheriff*.

As for the boys, Derek was a bit OOC - less growly and possessive (slightly reminiscent of the Derek in Indelible Marks... you know, cuddly and sweet to the core) – but this didn't bother me. He was romantic and adorable and I just wanted to gobble him up!!

I want you. In every way. As a mate, as a partner, as a friend. I don't care why you think I don't or why you think I shouldn't. I don't care why anyone else thinks I don't or I shouldn't. I want you, and I will happily spend every day, every minute of the rest of our lives proving that to you, if that's what I need to do.

Stiles was great. Not quite how I see him either, but I absolutely loved his characterization here nonetheless. I loved how headstrong and unrelenting he was in his pursuits for knowledge and the truth, and his personal struggles with his negative self-worth and constant bullying, were devastatingly truthful. I enjoyed the relationship progression between Stiles and Derek, although I could have done with more intimate moments. But, ultimately, it was Stiles' relationship dynamics with Peter and Talia that proved to be my favourite features of this story.

This fic was really quite intense at times, not necessarily action packed; but rather, there were a number of brilliantly written conversational scenes, in which the tension between the characters involved became palpable, and the dialogue was used to its full advantage. The way issues within the plot were deconstructed by the characters was also outstanding.

I could go on and on about how this was written and the numerous aspects of the narrative that worked for me, but I think I'll shut up now.

Jilrene ♥ says

O.M.G. I loved this fic! The plot is original and really awesome. I am going to start the next story as soon as possible. (sadly, other commitments stand in my way)

Dalia says

2nd read: 20-10-2015

This fic is long, but it's really good. Derek picks Stiles as a mate and Stiles thinks it's a cruel joke.

Peter is the best crazy person ever. And Derek can now judge everyone across the country with his eyebrows, thanks to the emoticon Cora made for him. ,:| Isn't it great?

'Pure wolves in the wild will eat anything they find come January if they're starving because winter has been hard. Werewolves will hunt down the car keys and go to the grocery store.'
