



Wild Wolf

Jennifer Ashley

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In the latest Shifters Unbound novel, a man has resigned himself to a life half lived. But a beautiful, courageous woman has him longing for something more...

Graham McNeil knows that his pack is unruly, but he's not sure he can take the next step toward Shiftertown stability—choosing a new mate. After losing his mate and son long ago, Graham has worked hard to keep his heart in check. And even if he was inclined to bind himself again, his girlfriend, Misty, is human—a fact that won't sit well with Graham's old-fashioned wolves.

But Graham is up against a new enemy, one who could spell danger and death to all of Shiftertown. Graham must now defend his leadership and save Misty, the woman he has grown to love—before Shiftertown is pulled into an all-out war.

Wild Wolf Details

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From Reader Review Wild Wolf for online ebook

Dee says

I have been wanting to read Graham's story from the moment we met him and in this I got my wish!

Graham's story was exactly what I had imagined it to be, where this truly Alpha wolf who had a tough exterior/attitude would just melt at the presence of his mate. I could have happily slapped him up the side of the head about his resistance to take Misty as his mate, but understood that as the Alpha of his pack he was expected to mate with another wolf and not a human. Thankfully Misty was not a weak and insipid character and proved on more than a few occasions that she was capable of handling the pack Alpha and become a worthy mate.

This story had more involvement with Fae/faerie than any of the others and normally I don't enjoy reading about them and generally stay away from books featuring them as main characters, but strangely in this series I have found them very intriguing and fascinating. I still wouldn't want a whole book mainly revolving around them but am more than happy with the level of interaction they have had in the stories so far.

Well done Ms Ashley, you done it again and made me a very happy and contented bunny.

Sophia says

I pretty much threw caution to the wind and grabbed this one simply because I was in the mood for a new shifter romance. Middle of a series, ignored the blurb...yep, it was an impulse grab and then it just sat. Thankfully, I've been busy pulling things off the shelf that need to be read and this was one of them because I had an absolute blast reading this. My only issue is that I wish I had started from the beginning since I could tell that I was in the middle of a series. Not that it didn't work as a standalone, but there was just this sense that it was connected to other stories.

The story is part of a creative world where shifters came out to the humans, the humans freaked, and now shifters are treated as less than second-class citizens, shunted to reservation-like towns and forced to wear control collars. Shifters aren't the only supernaturals, but just the ones that are known.

The story begins with Graham McNeil, an alpha wolf shifter, and his clan of shifters forced out of their shifter town in Northern Nevada and forced to integrate with another shifter town pack outside Las Vegas because the humans want to consolidate. It's a hard integration because his pack is close to feral and were already struggling with the adjustment of being forced into a shifter town after the freedom of the wild let alone now being forced to move again. Humans don't get that Graham is an alpha in his own right and can't just defer to the alpha of the town just because. There is also the fact that his unstable pack needs him to take a mate and secure their future leadership. Graham is already pushing things with his human girl friend, Misty. He knows that he eventually has to mate another shifter, but it is to Misty with her acceptance, her smiles, and her tender heart that he is drawn. And when Misty is in trouble, he will do anything he can for her.

Misty loves her flower shop and enjoys dating the big gruff wolf shifter who puts fear and caution on the faces of ever human and shifter he encounters. He is loud, obnoxious and has no tender side, but she cares

for him deeply and wishes that their relationship stood a chance of growing into something solid. Misty knows the score with Graham. Then her life takes a turn for the bad when a gang run by an ex-con who her brother screwed over while inside prison destroys her shop, assaults her and threatens to do much worse if she doesn't tell him where her brother is. Misty tricks him into letting her phone her brother when she is really calling Graham. Her rescue takes place and she gets to see Graham in all his alpha wolf glory, but learns that someone else orchestrated all this to trap a shifter. Now Misty is drawn into Graham's world and they must figure out a way to work together if they are to get out of this new trouble. In the meantime, they are both confounded by growing feelings of attachment and attraction that make it impossible to imagine a future separation.

This story was exciting, humorous, hot, intriguing, and just an all around good time. I loved the creative worldbuilding and the engaging characters. The plot moved along at a good pace and I loved the intense, tight corners the author put the characters in and the imaginative solutions. The misfit family that Graham had with his nephew and the twin foster cubs along with Misty was my favorite part. Graham and Misty's romance was rough and had lots of interruptions and bumps, but I liked them together.

All in all, this was an exciting read and has me eager to grab up more from the series. Paranormal Romance fans particularly those who love shifters should definitely give these a try.

My thanks to Penguin Group for the opportunity to read this book in exchange for an honest review.

Sophia Triad says

Graham is my second favourite shifter after Liam and this surprises me, truly.

Let's see why I am so surprised that I like him using his own words:

-His opinion about himself: "It is traditional with me to just being a shit. I can't not be one."

-His opinion about women and romantic movies: " Women in real life wouldn't settle for the beta. They would keep trying for the alpha."

-His opinion about apparently his love of his life:"This is what I get for being nice to a human. You are what is wrong. You have fucked me over."

Graham is a big bad wolf. He is uneducated, he has lived a hard life, he is rough, he doesn't trust anyone, he is unpolished with no manners, he was an asshole in the previous books and he is an asshole for the majority of this book.

But there is Misty and suddenly Graham falls in love.

Although

he does not need a human in his life and

he needs to take a lupine as a mate and

he needs to establish his dynasty and

he needs to keep the wolves in shifter town under control and

he keeps arguing and fighting with Eric the powerful alpha leader and

he has a nephew and two little orphan wolves to take care and protect and

he has so many troubles to last for a lifetime,

he falls in love with Misty and all the problems fade away.

She creates new ones...

Graham learns to say "I am sorry" and "please", "don't leave alone again, please" and he is seriously a sweetheart.

My favourite scene is when Graham and Misty are sharing tequila with rose petals to break the fae magic, arguing about which drinks are manly and which drinks are for chicks. And of course he is much too smug with his sex appeal and his expertise with women when they end up making out.

M. says

So yeah, maybe I've been anxiously awaiting this one for a while now. And who the deuce was lucky enough to win a signed ARC? Yeah, that was me. :)

I'm sure you guys already know Jennifer Ashley is one of my favorite authors, both historical and paranormal. Just when I think I'm in fictional love with one character from an earlier book (Sean), then she dangles a new one in front of my face.

I loved Graham!

He was such an ass in earlier books, but I knew there had to be more to him. Especially once he met Misty. Don't get me wrong, he's still an ass in this book to a degree, but he's an endearing, possessive, sarcastic ass who loves his little Misty. *Le sigh* Yep, I like him very much. Once you knew more of what he'd dealt with in his life, the losses in his life, how he struggled to keep his pack from falling apart, moving to a new territory and all that, his ass-ish tendencies made much more sense.

But hey, what's a great hero without a good supporting cast. I love that the author writes strong heroines to suit her heroes. Plus, the shifters are big on family and Graham is no different. I loved the two little cubs, Kyle and Matt. You'll totally understand when you read the book.

AND, could have just been me, but it really seemed like the story line for the whole series picked up a whole new thread, progressing and deepening the plot with the shifters' collars and Fae. Overall, I loved this latest addition to the Shifters Unbound series. I can see Wild Wolf being one I'll reread many times.

Jen says

I am back!!! LOL I have missed GR and all my buddies so much! As far as this installment in the shifter town series, I had a harder time getting into it. Now it could be because I was on holidays and preoccupied...or that maybe it is time to take a breather from the series and come back to it...I did try and pin-point exactly why it was just a "meh" read for me...but seriously...I do think it is the case of "it just me" and not the actual story itself. I still feel that Jennifer Ashley is a genius, and I still love my shifters who I have come to know in this series. I will come back to this series very soon, I am just going to do a change of pace for a bit before I do!!

Carmel (Rabid Reads) says

Reviewed by: Rabid Reads

I don't typically dive into a series at the sixth installment, but when Jennifer Ashley's *WILD WOLF* landed on my doorstep I couldn't resist the call of her werewolves. Fortunately for me, this book stands well enough on its own and the writing drew me in to the point of needing to go back, and start the *SHIFTERS UNBOUND* journey from the beginning. The mythology is well thought out, and is paired with red-hot love scenes and extremely likable characters. Ashley just went from being a new-to-me-author to a must read!

The world-building and lore are the two main elements that caught my interest early on, and are also the primary reasons why I plan on picking-up book 1. I'm sure that there's way more to the SU universe than what I was able to gleam from only one installment, but the tidbits I did learn made me fall head-over-heels in love with this series. Ashley's werewolves have been exiled to reservation-type living conditions called Shifertowns, are forced to wear anti-aggression collars, and are just overall unwelcome among humans. There's also a variety of different shifter breeds and even subgroups of wolves which made learning about them all a lot of fun.

I was surprised by the author's approach to the romantic aspect of this story; Graham and Misty have been dating for 8 months, but have yet to have sex, which is practically unheard of in novels that feature mate bonds. And, the two main characters don't actually get-it-on until quite a ways into the book, but in the interim there's no shortage of "substitute" options, and these turn-out to be equally as satisfying. I liked that even though she's human, Misty is far from weak; in fact, she saves McNeil's alpha-ass not once, but twice! They make a great couple and I thoroughly enjoyed reading their story.

The secondary characters were phenomenal as well; some of the mated pairs have obviously been featured in previous installments, and after meeting them in *WILD WOLF*, I'm anxious to read their tales. There's a nice mix of supernaturals in the SU world, and I enjoyed learning about Ashley's Fae and gnomes (yes GNOMES!). I loved Matt & Kyle—the adorable werewolf cubs—and Reid, Ben, Dougal and Eric were awesome personalities too. It's clear that this series has a lot of offer; my only regret is not having discovered it sooner!

WILD WOLF is a fantastic book whether you're a long-time Jennifer Ashley fan or a newcomer like me. Great humour, sexy shifters and outstanding writing—everything a reader needs for hours of enjoyment.

Beanbag Love says

Pretty good installment of the Shifters Unbound series. It actually answers some questions I've had and helps to guide the action forward. I've been feeling the series might be a little stuck in the mud.

We met Graham, the wolf clan alpha of the Las Vegas shifertown, in Eric's (the shifertown leader) book. Graham was a jerk in that book. His entire pack had been moved against their will to the Las Vegas shifertown and he had been placed under someone else's rule. Not a happy circumstance and he didn't handle it well. By the end of that book, though, it was obvious that he would have his own story and I'd been looking forward to it.

Misty was introduced in an earlier book as well, although I can't remember exactly which one. She and Graham immediately hit it off, even though she's human and he's vowed to his clan he'll only take a wolf shifter mate.

So, in this book Graham and Misty have been dating for a while, although Graham has kept it mostly chaste. Lots of kissing but nothing more intimate, because of his vow. It's clear he's fallen hard for her and the feelings are reciprocated. Nothing's easy for a shifter romance, though, in this world.

The action starts right away with troubles outlined when we first met Misty coming raging to the fore in the very first chapter. Very quickly, both of them are in danger from the fae as well as from Graham's clan as his mating vow is about to be shattered.

Graham is an interesting character. He's always yelling but then he's joking around and allowing others to joke at his expense. He raised and continues to care for his nephew Dougal and now he's been saddled with twin pups whose mother died giving birth and whose father has never been identified. So he's obviously a guy who cares deeply and doesn't hide it. I like it. Just because he's got a temper and goes around grumbling, that doesn't mean he's covering up his kindness and compassion. It's a good mix and Misty's perfect for him in that she doesn't take any (or most) of his grouching seriously, nor is she afraid of him in any way. She's smart and kind and has spent her own life taking care of others. It's nice to see them work through their difficulties to get a well deserved HEA.

(Tori-Smexybooks) smexys_sidekick says

Originally posted at <http://smexybooks.com/2014/04/review-...>

Favorite Quote: "It could just be me and you...We'd unmake the world."

Graham McNeil, alpha of the wildest lupine (wolf) pack in the Las Vegas Shiftertown, gave up everything and allowed himself be collared to save his pack. Now his pack wants him to mate but when his first mate died giving birth, Graham vowed never to allow himself to be that vulnerable again. Besides, the only woman who makes him feel anything is his human girlfriend and he knows his pack would never accept her as his mate.

Misty has her own crisis to deal with. Her brother's past has come gunning for her and she inadvertently drags Graham and the pack into her troubles. When a plot by the Fae is discovered, a plot that will force Shiftertown to all out war, Graham must open his heart and defy his pack if he is to stop the complete annihilation coming their way.

Wild Wolf is the sixth book in Jennifer Ashley's Shifters Unbound series. An engaging paranormal romance that delivers well developed characters, off the cuff humor, devious plots lines, steamy romance, and engaging dialogue. I love the balance created in here between the sexy romance and the heart pounding conflict. Though you know your happy ending is coming, the path that you follow to this conclusion is fraught with peril and pain and all you can do ride it out. Ashley's clear and concise writing allows for easy comprehension of her evolving world even though it is rather convoluted. These can be read as standalones, I don't recommend it. You lose out on character and world comprehension along with the ongoing arc

development by not starting from the beginning of the series, *Pride Mates*. Multi layered plots that further expand the ongoing arc and take us in new directions. Readers will find themselves devouring each page as new subplots yield bigger clues and dangerous situations.

Though we have interacted with Graham McNeil on and off throughout the series, it is nice to finally get his back story. A grumpy broody alpha who embodies the adage that it's his way or no way, Graham rules his pack with a heavy hand. There are reasons for his tough love approach. His pack is hardcore, stubborn, and very old fashioned. Their attempts to force him into mating with one of their own leaves him perpetually angry.

"Go chew on that...and stop looking in my windows."

Misty, Graham's girlfriend, is a full human. A sweet uncomplicated woman who will do anything for those she cares about. She is steel wrapped in velvet and often underestimated, especially by Graham. She was forced to take on adult responsibility at an early age and practically raised her brother. She has strong feelings for Graham but doesn't understand his world or the intricacies of the shifter hierarchy.

"This is one of those shifter things I wouldn't understand, right?"

As a couple they are hilarious. Their bickering and banter will leave you laughing. Misty doesn't acknowledge Graham's alpha-ness and that both intrigues and infuriates him. She is independent, intelligent, feisty, and doesn't take any of his grief. Graham always planned to just fool around with Misty then drop her when he was finished, but she gets so far under his skin, he finds he can't let her go. Their chemistry is explosive, enhanced by some extremely hot love scenes, though Ashley drives the actual emotional aspect of the romance with a firm but slow hand. There are mitigating factors that Graham and Misty must deal with if they are to be together permanently.

"Your lupines are gonna be pissed off."

"They can bite me."

"They probably will."

The main conflict continues to address the long standing racism and antagonism that exists between the humans and shifters, drawing in and expanding the Fae storyline to push the series towards what is sure to be a climactic finale. More information is given regarding the Shifter Wars and the collars that now imprison the shifters. New characters are introduced who all hold an important puzzle piece to completing the big picture while we see plenty of old faces and learn what parts they continue to play behind the scenes.

The ending is an intense, action packed roller coaster ride of deception, betrayal, and redemption as Misty and Graham fight to protect their love and their makeshift family. Ashley continues to evaluate this series and I look forward to future installments. I recommend this series to all readers who love their heroes and heroines to be kick ass, sexy, funny, and always willing to cross the line for those they love.

RATING: B+

HTL says

Full of MEHs. Between 2-3 stars. Rounded up because this book is finally pushing the larger plot regarding the Fae.

But basically -- don't see what's so great about Misty. Don't see what's so great about Graham. He never tells her anything but when he's NOT an asshole Misty's all "Look! A brief hint of deep-buried tenderness! LURVE!"

I found everything BUT the main characters interesting. So the three stars is for the plot progression and larger world but Misty and Graham get a MEH 2 stars from me.

Jennifer Ashley says

Graham's story. He's a Big Bad Wolf.

Laura the Highland Hussy says

Read this review on Got Fiction? book blog

Minor Spoilers

Graham is one of the heroes I feel Ms. Ashley excels at writing. He's not necessarily the good guy. In fact, he was the bad guy back in Iona's book *Mate Claimed*.

She picks the gray areas in between good guy and bad guy and she exploits them well.

Graham and Misty have been dating for a few months. Graham thinks she could be "The One" so he's been holding himself back, since he knows he has to find a wolf to secure his spot as alpha in the new shiftertown in Las Vegas. A couple of books back, the government closed down his shiftertown in Elko (mid-northern Nevada), and moved him and all of his wolves down to the Vegas Shiftertown. And that went super smoothly and not at all without dominance disputes, of course (sarcasm needs a font, people, it really does).

But when Misty's flower shop is ransacked, and she's kidnapped by some guys who want her brother, she calls Graham. But, something feels...off...to Graham. Either this was too easy, or these guys are really stupid, or they've got something up their sleeves. Whatever it is, Graham saves Misty, but at the cost of being shot. This isn't horrible, he's a very strong wolf, after all, except that they're out in the middle of the desert with no water or shade, and the yahoos who shot him took his ride.

Misty weighs their chances, and decides to hike a bit to find some shade. What she finds is a cave with a hiker already in it. He offers her some of his water, and she takes some back to Graham. But what they don't know is that the water and cave were actually in Faerie, and Misty and Graham just took fae water from a fae who won't hesitate to control them.

This is a big plot point, because while we know from previous books that the fae created shifters to be their warriors/slaves, and we know the fae were involved in making the collars, that's pretty much all we know. Now we see why they made the collars. (hint: it isn't to look pretty!).

There's a war coming...

I'm not sure if humans are in on it or not, but I wouldn't be surprised. Not all fae are bad, though, so with a few friends on their side, maybe Graham and Misty can overcome being enslaved by a fae.

But, maybe they can't...

Meanwhile, Graham still has to choose a wolf mate. This throws a wrench in his relationship with Misty, because no matter what he'd told himself, he can't let Misty go.

This was a strong addition to the Shifters Unbound series, which as you all know, I love. With last month's release of her latest book *Mate Bond*, I'm really excited to see where Ms. Ashley takes us.

Combining the fae with shifters, Jennifer Ashley has created an exciting world full of intrigue and danger. You should be reading this series. You're welcome. ;)

***ARC courtesy of Berkley

Lauren says

Wild Wolf

3.5 Stars

Graham McNeil, co-leader of the Las Vegas Shifertown, has his hands full with an unstable pack reluctantly acclimating to a new environment, a submissive teenage nephew and two unruly wolf cubs whose mission in life is to get into trouble. The one bright light in his life is Misty Granger, a human woman, who calms his wolf and stokes his passions. But when a new threat emerges to place both Misty and his pack in danger, Graham will have to take steps to thwart it or lose Misty forever.

Some interesting developments in the ongoing shifter/fae story arc, but Graham and Misty's romance falls flat.

As the story begins, Graham and Misty have been in a relationship for a few months, but have yet to establish either a physical or emotional intimacy. Consequently, the sudden progression of their romance feels forced as it is unclear what either one sees in the other. Although Misty is sweet and likable, there is nothing in her rather bland personality to explain Graham's intense attraction to her. Similarly, Graham's appeal is also debatable as he spends a great deal of time running hot and cold - both accepting the idea of a connection with Misty while at the same time pushing her away with harsh words and a dismissive attitude.

The fae collar conspiracy progresses further in this installment with more details on the fae's nefarious agenda. The villain is particularly nasty and his ability to inflict physical as well as psychological damage ratchets up the tension and suspense.

Alongside cameo appearances by characters from previous installments (which is always a highlight), there

are also some new and intriguing additions to the growing cast, but it is the adorable twin cubs, Kyle and Matt, who steal the show.

All in all, worth reading for the plot developments but the romance is one of the weaker in the series. The next book focuses on a different characters in a new shiftertown. I hope the series does not lose momentum by moving into unknown areas.

D.B. Reynolds says

I liked that Graham was craggy and scarred from having lived a very rough life, that he'd earned and kept his pack leadership by fighting for it and his people. I liked that he wasn't slick and smooth, not educated. And he didn't apologize for it. He was possibly the strongest shifter we've seen in Ashley's Unbound series, an unstoppable force. I loved the way he fought his enemy in this book even knowing he couldn't win, but simply refused to surrender. Not eating, drinking, sleeping, and all to protect the other shifters, including his own, and, of course, Misty.

I liked the plot of Wild Wolf, too. SPOILERS COMING!!!! I thought the idea of the Fae having put a nasty secret in the collars so they could bring the Shifters back under their power was a nice twist. It lends urgency to getting the collars off all Shifters. I even liked the two baby wolves in the book---they were so full of energy and so loving, it was hard NOT to like them. I would love it if Ashley jumped forward in time at some point and tell us about these two when they're all grown, because as it turns out they're rather unique.

PepperP0t says

Actually 3.75stars

Misty Granger has a bit of trouble with gangsters looking for her recently released from prison brother, Paul. When Misty won't tell the gangsters where Paul is they decide to beat her and take her to the desert to kill her. Just before the gangsters break into Mindy's shop, she manages to call Graham, desperate for his help. Graham arrives too late and Misty is gone, but later she is able to trick the gangsters into calling Graham.

Dougal and Graham arrive to rescue Misty and handily put down the gangsters but not before Graham is shot. Trying to save Graham, Misty gives him water she received from a stranger in one of the hidden caves. After only one sip, Graham throws the water away and turns on Misty angrily for bringing it to him. Upset at Graham's behavior, Misty breaks off their relationship. Mindy had no idea the water was bespelled nor did she know she'd accidentally placed herself and possibly Graham under Fae control. A new insidious plot by the Fae comes to light putting all Shiftertown's on alert.

Graham plate is full as he keeps trying to find an alternate solution to the problem facing his pack. The increase in dominance challenges brought on by the change in collars keeps Graham perpetually alert and aware of possible ambushes. While Graham has not yet mate claimed Misty physically, he already has with his heart which prevents his interest in pursuing one of the available lupine females. Since Graham's pack is mostly feral and follow the old rules, Graham's death without a direct heir would put leadership on his nephew which the pack see's as an easy & submissive target. The solution for all of these would be for Graham to take a lupine mate and produce cubs. But of course Graham will not be denied Misty.

I liked gruff Graham fairly well when he and Misty were introduced in Wild Wolfbut don't think the harsh light of a star turn improved his character. On the other hand I didn't care for Misty when she was introduced nor throughout this read. (IMO) Graham read as extremely grumpy and Misty was just flat. I didn't believe in their relationship and didn't think they had much chemistry. Unfortunately I also felt sex was used for a crutch for this couple. A closer glimpse at Graham's household showed a softer side of him, but that was just less grumpy.

The Fae, while good villains, didn't seem nefarious enough and had few appearances based on the scope of their plan. The gangsters after Misty and her brother were good but were not in the read long enough. All of that being said, I think I would have better appreciated a novella for Graham's tale because there seemed to be a fair amount of filler or maybe it was just because I didn't connect with Graham and Misty.

MelissaB says

****3.5 stars ****

Too much stuff with the Fae kind of took away from the main couple's story but I guess we got some answers about the collars.
