



## Dark Wolf

*Christine Feehan*

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## **Dark Wolf** Christine Feehan

In Dark Lycan, Christine Feehan journeyed into the heart of the Carpathians, and into the souls of two lifemates stirred by the flush of passion and the threat of annihilation. In Dark Wolf, the breathtaking story continues as the bonds of family are imperiled, and the fate of two lovers lies hidden in the seductive shadows between life and death.

Skyler Daratrazanoff always recognized the miracle that was Dimitri Tirunul, a man beyond any dream that had ever engaged her nights. But she was human. Vulnerable. He was Carpathian. Nearly immortal. She was nineteen. He was an ancient. Yet she held half his soul, the light to his darkness. Without her, he would not survive. Caught between the two warring species, Dimitri has spent centuries hunting the undead to keep his people free, and humans safe. He had survived honorably when others had chosen to give up their souls. But now, marked for extermination by the Lycans, Dimitri found himself alone, and fearing for his life. But salvation was coming...

No Lycan would ever suspect someone like Skyler to dare mount a secret rescue operation. A teenage girl. A human of untested abilities. But she had something no one else had. She was predestined for Dimitri—as he was for her. And there was nothing stronger for Skyler than her desire to see her life-dream come true. Whatever the risk.

## **Dark Wolf Details**

Date : Published January 7th 2014 by Berkley

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Author : Christine Feehan

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## From Reader Review Dark Wolf for online ebook

### **Mrs LB says**

April 28, 2013

FUCK YEAH!!! Dimitri and Skyler's story has been a long time coming and I can't wait. I'll be back in a year.

Jan. 23, 2014

I love my audiobooks but have come to realize that they can be a gift or curse. There have been times when a story wasn't all to my liking, but the storyteller did such a good job that it made up for that. I had the opposite reaction with this book. I liked the story but had a hard time liking the voice and demeanor Skyler. Her lines were always delivered in a very meek and soft manner. Considering her past, I definitely didn't expect a loud and explosive personality, but I did want more feeling. Other than that, I really enjoyed this book. From the beginning til almost the end, I was caught up in the story; and I always enjoy catching up with the many lifemate couples.

I do believe I will try this book again at a later date...but the paperback version.

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### **Lover of Romance says**

Skyler is determined to save the life of her lifemate. When suddenly one day, with their strong connection, she senses incredible pain from him, and then senses nothing. Then she learns that he has been kidnapped by the lycans, but the leaders of the Carpathians refuse to tell her anything, so she decides to take matters in her own hands. If no one will save him, then she certainly will. With the aid of her two closest friends Josef and Paul, who will do everything they can to save his life. Even though Skler is only nineteen, emotionally she is much older than that. She has suffered more abuse and pain than most could even imagine. Dimitri is her lifemate, and over the years since she first met him, he has been her rock and foundation. They have formed such a strong bond that even amazes most Carpathian couples. Now that Dimitri is in trouble, Skler knows its up to her to get to him. No Lycan would dare suspect a innocent girl to mount a rescue operation. Skyler is willing to risk everything to have Dimitri fully in her life, no matter the cost....

Dark Wolf is the most recent addition to the Carpathian or also known as "Dark" series. Now some have given up on this series, or moved on to other authors, however I haven't. There is something genuine, creative and unique about Feehan's writing and the worlds that she creates. Ever since "Dark Legend" when we first see Skyler, I have kept a eye out for her. There has always been something about her characters that has strung me along. Dark Wolf is a story that I have been waiting years for. And now finally it has come, and I bought this book the first moment I could. And had the hardest time focusing on work, just wanting to get back to read Dark Wolf. The first half or even 3/4 is pretty intense and suspenseful and instantly grabs the attention of the reader. I literally had to use all my self control to put this one down. Its rare when I find a book that pulls me in so completely, I could care less about eating or working or living until I have read it!! LOL Lets just say this book just wasn't long enough. It ended way too soon for me.

I have to say that after reading Dark Wolf, I am almost satisfied. About 90% of me is totally well satisfied as

a cat with a bowl of cream with how this story turned out. I loved seeing Skler grow and develop in this story. My main problem was I felt her growth happened way too quickly from who she was at the beginning of the book. I did enjoy seeing Skyer a young woman who has suffered many horrors, gather her strength to save the one man she loves more than life itself. She goes behind her parents back (whom she adores almost more than anything). And of course we see Josef and Paul. Now Josef, oh boy, I do hope he gets his own book. I know he is still very young, but we see so much of him and Paul in this one, that you find yourself fascinated with these characters, more than ever before. This trio are as alike as they are different. They are pretty much inseparable, and somehow Dimitri is fine with Skyler have a close relationship with the two. (which pretty much wowed me considering how Alpha male Dimitri is). One of my favorite parts of this story is seeing these three young trio accomplish things that most adult Carpathians would have a hard time doing.

There was quite a bit of action, you might have to tie yourself to your seat or the couch, or the bed, or wherever you may be reading. There is quite a high level of intensity, that will definitely give you chills (but in a very good way) Dark Wolf is a magical story of doing the impossible to save the one you love more than anything. A tale of sacrifice, devotion, passion and a powerful love story to make you feel as if you are falling in love for the first time. **TRULY MAGNIFICENT!!!** If you have been waiting for Dimitri and Skyler's story....GET IT NOW!!! You won't be disappointed.

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### **KatieV says**

Skyler and Dimitri's story. This entry had a lot of good action which I really enjoyed. The rescue attempt, the intrigue with the lycans, and the big escape. Those were my favorite parts of the book and definitely kept me hooked in. The romance didn't do 'as' much for me, but it was never a couple I was extremely interested in. Nothing against them, just not something I was holding my breath for.

I do have to take a star away for all the endless - and repetitive - Carpathian dialogue. I agree with another reviewer who stated that the Carpathian name for 'guardian of all' was just hilarious when heard on audio and we heard it probably 5,000 times. Also all of the mage spells get tedious. I think some editing is needed to trim some of that out.

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### **Val...Shameless.Skanky.B\*tchy. says**

#### **"Good Grief"**

That was exactly what trolled through my mind upon finishing this book. And, in fact, that's what this book did: it *trolled* along.

I, like many Christine Feehan fans, have been waiting for this book for EVER. In fact, I persevered through some of the preceding *Dark* books just so I wouldn't miss any nuances of this storyline when Feehan finally got around to writing it - despite many of the more recent ones being pretty damn lackluster IMO. Keeping in mind that those more recent processions were in fact lackluster for me, my expectations for this book weren't all that high - despite the seemingly endless wait.

The first half of this book was really awesome. I was thinking to myself, wow, Feehan has done it! She's

made this story as awesome as I wanted it to be! It really seemed to start with a bang.

And then...BANG. The second half happened.

All of a sudden, everything got...choppy.

In an effort to duplicate the sensation without spoilers, here's my lame-ass, made-up rendition of a scene in this book:

Let's say Jack and Jill and family are involved in a war and trapped in a cave and an army is trying to fight it's way in to kill them. Their lives are at stake and the tension is high. There is drama and fighting and a sense of urgency. It's an exciting scene and we as the reader are enjoying it.

Then all of a sudden, in the middle of this epic battle, Jill and her parents decide to have a damned heart-to-heart about her tortured past and childhood, their role it, the mistakes they made, how guilty they feel, blah, blah, blah, yadda, yadda, yadda. They get all sappy and tell her they want to make up for lost time. Then they give her a present.

All while there is a BATTLE outside.

Where people are trying to KILL them.

WTF?

Not only do we have several more of these battle scenes peppered with inappropriately placed heart-to-hearts and dialogue, we have randomly thrown in character details that just seemed so rough and arbitrary.

In one scene - as they are literally *running for their lives* - we have this sentence: "*Skylar had always been drawn to his gentle ways and his sense of humor.*"

Um...great?

After all of that, it's pretty much just a gush fest.

And don't even get me started on the cringe-worthy flower scene.

\*shudder\*

Never fear though, I seem to be in the minority on the rating for this book. So maybe it's just me and I should call it quits with this series. In the meantime, I will always enjoy my re-reads of *Dark Prince*, *Dark Magic*, *Dark Destiny*, and *Dark Desire*...

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**Cyndi says**

Another wonderful addition to the series! I loved Dimitri and Skyler!! Plus we got more Fen!!!!!!

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### **Anita says**

Waiting my turn to check this book out from the library. No way am I paying the asking price. Been let down far too often with Feehan's Dark series.

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### **Jessica's Totally Over The Top Book Obsession says**

#### **4.5 Rescue Stars**

**Csitri. Little one. You cannot be here. She nearly sobbed. Tears collected in her throat until the lump threatened to choke her. His beloved voice was ravaged and raw. There is no other place for me. There is only you. Be still and let me examine you. -Dimitri and Skyler**

First read January 9, 2014 , Reread March 7, 2016  
Feb 15, 2017

#### **\*Spoilers\***

**I stand corrected, päläfertiilam—my lifemate. I had no idea I had such a fierce warrior woman for a partner. Just make certain you're protected. I trust that Josef and Paul will watch out for you while you do this.-Dimitri**

Wow Dark Wolf was awesome. Skyler and Dimitri's book was well worth the wait. I fell in love with young sweet little 14 year old Skyler in Dark Legend. Then I fell in love with Dimitri, Skyler's supportive and amazing lifemate in Dark Celebration. As the series went on I have been teased with little bits of their love story here and there since book 17 building up my anticipation and always leaving me wanting more. So when I finally got my hands on this book I was a little worried it wouldn't live up to what I built it up to be. I was not disappointed it was better then I hoped!

**Sex is not making love. There is a difference. I will show you the difference and you will no longer fear us coming together in a physical way. There is no need to worry. When you're ready . . . I am ready. That's the point. I want you to claim me. Right now. Please claim me right now.-Dimitri and Skyler**

**I have always been secretly amused that others continually underestimated you, my love, he confessed, but I have found these last few nights have taught me that even I underestimate you and your strength.-Dimitri**

This book picks up where the last book left off which was Dimitri had been kidnapped by the Lycans. When this book starts we get Skyler, Josef, and Paul mounting their own rescue misson. Skyler, sick of everyone

leaving her out of what was going on with Dimitri, knew he was in trouble, set out with the help of her two best friends to get back her man! Skyler and Dimitri were adorable. Both so brave, loving, caring, and loyal. They had a very sweet romance. I loved Skyler's two friends Paul and Josef. Josef was hilarious. The things he did in this book had me crackin' up. I really really really hope that CF writes Josef a book. God I need his love story so much!

**“Forgive me for despising him just a little bit. He’s good-looking, intelligent, an ancient hunter, and your lifemate. He destroyed all my dreams and fantasies about you. I don’t dare even think along those lines or he’d know.”** Skyler rolled her eyes. **“As if. Even I know you don’t think of me that way, Josef. You can hide a lot of things, but not that. There’s no fantasy and no destroyed dreams. Your lifemate is either not born or”**—she smirked at him mischievously—**“she’s probably one of Gregori’s daughters.”** He groaned and slapped his forehead with his palm. **“A curse on you forever for uttering those words, for putting that thought out into the universe. Don’t even think that, let alone say it aloud. Can you imagine Gregori Daratrazanoff as a father-in-law? Sheesh, Skyler, you really do want me dead.”**-Josef and Skyler

**Josef groaned aloud. “Stop talking to that man of yours and ignoring us. You’ve got your goofy face on.”** Laughing, she nudged him with the toe of her boot. **“I don’t have a goofy face.”** **“You go all moony and dreamy,”** Josef accused. **“It’s sick.”** **“It’s a sickness all right,”** Paul teased. He clasped his hands to his chest over his heart and fell backward in the grass. **“Oh, Dimitri, you make me swoon.”** **“I’m so telling him you said that, Paul.”** Skyler gave him a hard punch in the thigh, hoping to give him a dead leg. **“He’ll be delighted to know you swoon over him.”** **“He’s so manly and everything,”** Josef added.-Josef, Skyler, and Paul

I enjoyed Zev in this book but I was kinda disappointed in the way he stood by while the other lycan's were slowly killing Dimitri in the most painful and evil way. I get that he was following orders and that he helped by giving Dimitri blood and water but still I expected more from him. I really enjoyed getting more time with Razvan and Ivory in this book. I pretty much loved everything about this book but one thing. All the spells. For God Sake enough with the spells already! Page after page after page of spells. The overabundance of spells is why I took a half a star off my rating. I would have taken a whole star but I just loved Dimitri and Skyler too much to give them less than 4.5 stars. Zev's book is up next and I can't wait!

**“That’s my girl, he whispered into her mind. I meant what I said about taking your body into my keeping. You’ll always be safe with me. Just let yourself feel, not think. You’re with me, and I’ll cherish and protect you for all time.”** -Dimitri

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**Georgia ♥ Team Dex ♥ says**

**5 At Last & Comeback Stars**

**“I love you and that doesn’t begin to describe what I feel for you.”**

10 years

24+ Carpathians that found their lifemates.

Our only complaint? Skyler and Dimitri. We got teased. We got a promised a lot. We had expectations. And yes..... it all delivered!!!!

Every Carpathian male has one chance at happiness. One ray of sunshine in a dark and colorless existence. Dimitri met his when she was 8 years old and he had a couple of centuries on her. She was broken and abused. But she was his.

*He had given her time. Space. Unconditional love. He never demanded anything of her. He never told her how difficult it was for him—that she was his salvation—just out of his reach. He had always been there for her.*

When it seems that they have a chance at building a life together, a new threat rises for all Carpathian people. An alliance with Lycans is just out of reach. And Dimitri? He might be a weird mix of two species, revered by one and hunted down and tortured by the other.

So what is a girl to do when her man is held prisoner and noone except her can reach him? Launch her own rescue mission with the help of a fledgling Carpathian and a teenage human, defy her parents, venture into unknown territory and wreck total havoc! Skyler is one kickass-hell-of-woman!!!

This ladies and gentlemen is how you come back!!!!!! Awesome and thrilling this book was all I was hoping for. Badass, emotional and sexy, back to back adventure and mystery. Which is this new threat to Carpathians? Will Dimitri and Skyler make their complex relationship with virtually everyone (their own is totally amazing, no problem there) work? How about kids? The wolves? Do the flowers do anything else than haunting me with erotic images? Bronnie and Zev?

Hell, I totally loved this book? Where is the rest? I need more! How about a series totally about Dimitri and Skyler? Please?!?!

*Pre-release anxiety*

**#1 New York Times bestselling author Christine Feehan now delivers her most eagerly awaited novel of all — ten years in the making.**

Finally... Dimitri and Skyler!!!!!!

*Expected publication: January 7th 2014*

And yes, it's MY BIRTHDAY!!!

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### **Dani says**

I have been looking forward to Skyler's book since we first discovered Dimitri was her lifemate. That was a long time ago, and I'm an inpatient person! Needless to say when I heard Skyler's book was coming out I rushed to preorder and started reading the moment it popped up on my Kindle. All I can say is ... "Wow! What a disappointment!"

I must first be sure to state that I love the Carpathian people, their history, the plots of the stories. All of it is good. I like the characters too and feel an emotional connection. I will forever be smitten with both Darius and Lucian.

However ....

In ALL the books I have been known to skim through all the boring details that is thrown in as fluff for the word count. It was probably after Lucian's book that the boring, vanilla, repetitive sex scenes started to get skimmed past as well. That left me entirely with characters and plot. The plot I have continued to enjoy but the characters are all becoming Cookie Cutter and boring.

I stopped reading Dark Lycan because I found it boring and I was prepared that I wouldn't like the sex in this book— there is only so much nipple licking I can tolerate - and I knew I would probably skim past a lot of garnish to get to the meat of the story, but I was so excited because there is so much emotional turmoil and angst that could have been used for Skyler. Yet it wasn't.

She said at one time she didn't think she could be physical. She said another time she was afraid of the physical, and then one time during oral sex she had a bad moment. Yet all she did was talk about how much she loved him how much she wanted him and blah blah with the sickening sweet. She was nearly over her sexual trauma and ready to just jump into bed with her life mate with just a smidgeon of fear. Okay apparently they worked all that stuff out over the years. Great! Too bad we as the readers weren't privy to any of that.

I guess after reading books like Sherilyn Kenyon's Acheron & Styxx and Sylvia Day's Bared to You series, I thought Feehan would deal with the negative emotions & fears and insecurities a bit more. I was wrong. Apparently that's not where she wanted to go with the story. What a disservice to the readers.

Then the book abruptly ended ... so you know it's a Segway into the next. God I hate that. Like I said I do like the plot and wanted to know what would go down with the Lycans and the Carpathians but I guess I will have to wait to dish out another \$10 or so after she finally comes out with the book and I've forgotten the details of this one. \*Wince at the thought of reading it again.\*

I've skimmed through most of the last books. I stopped reading the last one because I was bored. This one

was disappointing. I think from here I'll just use my imagination to end it and be done with the series.

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### **Jen says**

I loved that I finally got to see Dimitri and Skyler together..It was a terribly long gruelling wait; but in the end Christine Feehan pulled off an awesome book for them! I will write up a review when I have some more time; but an absolute lovely book, and I just adore this couple. I didn't want it to end!!!

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### **Penny Watson says**

It wasn't horrible. It wasn't great. All of the interesting stuff about Skyler and Dimitri was nowhere to be found in this book. It was pretty boring, and the intensity of their relationship was gone.

I think CF waited too long to write this book.

I'll write a longer review later. There was one thing that I found extremely hard to believe. The Dimitri from earlier books would have FREAKED OUT if he knew his lifemate was about to enter a Lycan army camp to save him. He was intense, racked by guilt, super overprotective. The Dimitri in this book gave a couple of half-hearted "Don't come here, it's dangerous" lines, and that was it. Really?

Also, the flower scene was creepy. And I'm a botanist! And I still thought it was creepy. o.O

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### **Elfina Renee says**

Dimitri was Skylar's protector... companion...closest friend and hero. Ridding the world of rogue vampire's and Sange rau werewolves, he was known as the guardian of all. But when he went missing, disappearing from everyone's lives, Skylar did what the Carpathian order and counsel could not, she found him. A mere human girl of nineteen, executed one of the most daring rescues. Outnumber by a Lycan army, and chased by mysterious forces that wants war between the two races, times runs out.

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### **?Namita says**

Yippee!!!! Finally! The most awaited book for Dimitry and Skyler! Way to go Chistine Feehan. You are the best!

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### **UniquelyMoi ~ BlithelyBookish says**

Dimitri and Skyler's story is amazing! It's exciting, romantic, but most of all, it's poignant. The childhood hell Sky lived through wounded her, but didn't break her. She's stronger than ever and with Dimitri's

unconditional love and encouragement she's becoming a force to be reckoned with!

These last few installments I've read have blown me away. Non-stop action, passion, and the Carpathian's world is changing in ways i never imagined, but am totally excited about.

Off to read Zev and Branislava's story!

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### **Stephanie E says**

**F I N A L L Y!!!** Skyler and Dimitri's book! After skipping the last two Carpathian books (Dark Predator was not working for me, so I skipped Dark Storm...maybe I will try again before I read these), I hope this trilogy restores my faith in Ms. Feehan. We have been waiting for Skyler's story for so long, she should be about 30 now! Too bad I have to wait another year to read it!

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### **MelissaB says**

I wish I was writing about how awesome this long awaited book was but the days of me truly enjoying Feehan's books seem to be gone. There were some decent parts to the story but unfortunately the annoying parts happened just as much.

First to the good stuff: the fight scenes and the set up to rescue Dmitri kept me interested and wondering what would happen. Also it was great seeing some Carpathians we haven't seen in a long time (Gabriel and Lucien in particular). I think the wolf pack thing is cool and hope we get an update on how Skylar and Dmitri are adjusting in the future.

Now all the bad stuff: the made up language drives me nuts! Just stop please! I listened to this on audio and the name for the "Guardian of us all" Carpathian/werewolf hybrid in the fake language sounds like that red haired girl in Wedding Crashers using her fake language with her imaginary friends. I laughed every time the narrator said it. The endless chants, where she goes into long, boring detail are just dumb and annoying. The early books did not have this (for the better!).

The flower fertility ritual is another very dumb and strange thing Feehan added. Skylar basically gave head to the flower in detail, it was weird and funny (not in a good way).

I barely felt the romance with Skylar and Dmitri, it was overshadowed by his captivity and wounds and all the werewolf politics going on as they deal with the mixed blood issue. There were some ok scenes but the romance really felt short changed. I know they have known each other for a long time and had a nice telepathic relationship but I wanted to see more sparks between them. I swear Skylar spent more time with Joseph and Paul than Dmitri in the book.

I wish the author would stop with the incessant boring details and get back to what made this series interesting - the excitement of the doomed warrior finding his lifemate and how he claims her and seeing them learn to live together. Skip the fake language, the endless chants to "Mother Earth", the creepy flower

ritual, the endless politics with werewolves and just get back to the basic romance.

I have been a fan of this series for many years but it's getting harder to keep going when the books aren't as good and are getting boring. I am not ready to stop yet but I am still hoping for better entries into the series in the future.

I listened to this on audio so my thoughts about the narrators: I loved that it had a female and male narrator. The female narrator could have used a little more excitement and life in her voice but wasn't too bad. Phil Gigante, as always, was great.

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### **Edwina " I LoveBooks" "Deb" says**

Christine Feehan has written one of her best works yet!!! BRAVO CF!! I have been waiting for Skyler's story since 2002, 12 years when she was introduced in Dark Legend. We meet her Lifemate Dimitri in Dark Celebration written in 2006, 8 years ago. For long term Fans of Ms. Feehan Dark Series, Skyler and Dimitri's stories has been much anticipated. All I am going to say is I was NOT DISAPPOINTED!! WELL DONE CHRISTINE FEEHAN WELL DONE!!!

I felt PROUD of Skylar and all she had to overcome from the frightened abused young girl to the Warrior Women who went after and saved her Lifemate Dimitri. The story is fast paced, funny at times, and very romantic. Most Fans wondered how Ms. Feehan would address the sex issue with Skylar being so badly abused as a child. Believe me it was VERY WELL DONE!! I loved that Skylar's story was about empowerment for Skylar. Of course I can't live out Dimitri he is everything in a Lifemate we have been waiting for, for Skylar. He is brave, loving and very protective.

We also, get to visit all of our favorite characters. I can say without hesitation that Dark Wolf was worth my 12 year wait!! Now Bring on Dark Blood book 3 in the Arch Trilogy of the Dark Series!!

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### **Krissys says**

I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

Christine Feehan's Dark Wolf has been nearly 12 long years in the making and it's finally here.

Fans have been waiting anxiously for Sklyer to grow up and become old enough to have her own novel, while they follow the ever growing world of the Carpathians, Christine Feehan has been working diligently to create bigger plots and to bring us to stories of epic proportions.

Christine Feehan is one of the best story tellers you will ever read, because she writes like no one else can. From the very detailed world around them, to the amazing intricate language she has created, you have to read each book more than once just to take in all the impressive details she adds to each story and Dark Wolf is no exception.

We first discovered Skyler in book 8 of Dark Legend when Francesca Del Ponce, and Gabriel Daratrazanoff are finally reunited. Francesca gave up her hopes that Gabriel would return to her life, so she began the process of attempting to become more human. Eating human foods, walking in the sun, and working in a medical center where she discovers little Skyler.

Gabriel wakes from a long sleep after he chose to imprison himself and his brother to the ground, to save his soul. Both had been gravely injured after a vicious battle but instead of walking into the light he suffered because he refused to give up on his twin brother Lucian.

Gabriel finally wakes and finds his way to Francesca, who is known for 'taking in strays' and helping people, she recognizes what he is and willingly gives her life so that he can revive himself. Realizing who she is, he refuses to allow her to die so he saves her - albeit to her frustration, since him doing so ruins all the hard work she put into making herself more human again.

Refusing to leave Gabriel makes it his mission to convince Francesca that they belong together and that he is ready to be her lifemate.

After a few comical debacles with a potential suitor Gabriel finds ways to put himself in Francesca's path at the medical center she works at, where Skyler is brought in.

Recognizing the abuse Skyler was forced to endure both Francesca and Gabriel make it their responsibility to help Skyler, to remove her from her abusers household and to adopt her as one of their own.

Over the years, readers got to see a few glimpses of her now and again, they even get glimpses of Dimitri Tirunul - her future lifemate and the bond that begins to form between the two of them as the years pass. But the real deal would take nearly 12 years to come to fruition.

It was well worth the wait.

In Dark Wolf, Skyler has finally come of age, and her love for Dimitri hasn't diminished.

Dark Wolf continues right where Dark Lycan leaves off. Dimitri has been taken captive by a pack of rogue Lycans and he is dying - the only one that can save him? Skyler Daratrazanoff.

Determined to save her dying mate from the Lycans, Skyler mounts an amazing rescue with her two best friends Joseph and Paul.

The hilarious shenanigans the trio get into in their journey is down right comical, which really helps lighten the mood during the heart breaking scenes with Dimitri.

I really enjoyed getting to see Skyler mature and bloom into who she wants to be and how well she takes to accepting Dimitri as her mate despite her past trauma. Readers will get to see her be smart, witty, and brave all the while impressing everyone, including Dimitri and the other Carpathians of her growing abilities.

Readers also get to follow along as the world of the Lycans gets deeper and more intense.

The Carpathians are attempting to agree to a peace with the Lycans but surprise - there's an evil enemy in their midst.... Negotiations with the Lycans come to a very shocking halt that no one will see coming.

One of the most action packed novels in the entire Carpathian series, Christine really gets down with the nitty gritty and the explosions will rock your world. Readers will NOT be disappointed!

Dark Wolf will be coming to book shelves January 2014!

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### **Katie Michaels says**

Fans of Christine Feehan's Dark series have been waiting a decade or so for this book. For some, there is no way anything she were to write would satisfy after a build like this. Others will be so glad to get the story, that it will be an automatic 5 star read. I'll be honest, I went into this one with my expectations at an all-time low. The past few books have been so disappointing that I was ready to quit the series. Until I found out that Skyler and Dmitiri were finally on the horizon. I'm pleased to say that I enjoyed this book much more than I thought I would.

As the story begins, Dmitri is in the custody of the Lycans. He is being tortured for being a mixed blood. None of the Carpathians can find him. In fact, Skyler doesn't even think they are looking. So she teams up with her friends Josef and Paul for a rescue mission. Let me stop here and share a few thoughts right off the bat. Skyler is one powerful young woman. She is also smart, resourceful, and determined to save her man. I loved that. But what I loved even more is that Dmitri accepted that. Of course, he wanted her to stay safe, but unlike most Carpathian males, he did not forbid her assistance. He was worried for her, but he listened to her. He respected her need to help him and her ability to be smart about it.

Back to the story. Dimitri is really messed up.... like, almost dead. Yet he never succumbs. He fights to live for Skyler. And about the first third of the book is tied up in his rescue. From then on, it's about healing and dealing with the increasing tensions between the Carpathian and Lycan people. Tension, that could boil over into a war.

The plot was fairly good. But the best thing this book had going for it was the romance and its key players. Dimitri is everything you could want in a Carpathian man. He is strong and powerful without ever being an alpha-hole. He is patient and kind to his young lifemate. He loves her unconditionally and --here's something unusual-- he respects her. He never berates her; never makes her feel foolish or less than him in any way. His care and generosity don't ever make him look weak, either. He's easily one of the best heroes the series has

seen. Their love story is gentle and sweet. I believed in their feelings for one another. There's no real internal conflict, just the two of them banding together to survive the threats against their lives and their people.

The supporting cast is a who's-who of the series. From Gabriel and Francesca, to Lucian and Darius, Zacharias, Nicolas, Razavan, Ivory, Byron, Mikhail... almost everyone is here. I loved catching up with old characters and getting to know more about the "next generation" that includes Josef and Paul. The whole book felt like a homecoming in a way.

It wasn't perfect, mind you. The "spells" Skyler cast got on my nerves to no end. The chanting and rhyming have GOT TO GO. I also had a gripe about how the story dealt with the sex. Such a fine point has been placed on Skyler's sexual abuse in the past. It was the big stumbling block to her accepting Dimitri as a lifemate. Yet, when it's time for these two to get horizontal, it was way too easy. It was like she just decided she was over being raped and passed around in the sex trade for years. She decides she is over it and everything is fine. True, there is a point later in the book where she has a moment of fear, but it's really small potatoes considering her history --and considering the build-up.

And speaking of the sex, I have two other observations. One, I stand by the last review where I said I think Feehan has a ghost-writer for her sex scenes. They are unrecognizable from the earlier books. I mean, I almost fell out of my chair when Dimitri referenced his cock. And two, that flower ritual is just damn stupid.

Overall, I was satisfied with book, and pleasantly surprised. I think most Carpathian fans will be too.

Rating: B-

*\*ARC Provided by Berkley*

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### **Sammy Loves Books says**

#### **The Battle to save Dimitri begins!!**

**\*\*This gets 4.0 Werewolves gone wild Stars \*\***

Dimitri has gone missing and no one can sense his location, not even his mate! The Carpathians know that the werewolves have him, but they continue to deny it. How much time do they have to find him before he dies.

Skyler has always known that she and Dimitri were mates. But she was young and they were waiting to claim each other. But time has run out and he is missing. She regrets not allowing him to claim her and is determined to save him from certain death.

This book was full of action, violence, death, and torture. It was easy to forget that this was meant to be a love story. I did enjoy this one much more than Dark Lycan and think it was worth the wait. There was no cliff hanger with this one, thank goodness.

I look forward to the next installment, Dark Blood. Only because I want to know how this war with the

Mixed Bloods will end.

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