



Revenge

Bailey Bradford

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There isn't a safe place in the world when someone wants you dead more than they want to live.

Ryder Johansen is trying to figure out the shifter world. He was turned without his consent, another bad thing in a life filled with shitty choices. Now he's learning that he doesn't have to be an untrustworthy jerk. He can be more than the sum of his past.

Maarten Visser is at a loss with his life. His pack abandoned him—him! Their alpha!—once his brother Luuk was back in power. Maybe a trip to visit the North America Alpha Anax will give him some perspective. Or maybe it'll kill him.

Marcus and Nathan are getting their pack past the attack that destroyed their other compound. They've got everyone settled in a new, secure place. Except it's not as secure as they thought, and someone is out to destroy them and hurt Marcus as much as possible along the way.

Revenge Details

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From Reader Review Revenge for online ebook

Julie scott says

Revenge (Southwestern Shifters Series Book 8)

This was great I'm glad Marcus and Nathan didn't get killed and I can't wait to read the next book in a series and I will be reading it next.....

blub says

The story focused more on Marcus and Nathan than it did Ryder and Maarten. It was fine but I would have liked the focus to have been more centered on Ryder and Maarten than the other two since they already have a book. I get that it was important that Marcus and Nathan were the focus of the book so the plot could continue to develop but it would have been nice if we had more moments with just Ryder and Maarten.

Tala says

This was good, but it was only about 25% about Ryder and Maarten. If the synopsis had been clearer I may have given 4 to 4.5 stars. Instead I was left unsatisfied with the ending.

Maya says

For a story that is supposed to be about Ryder and Maarten it sure had a lot of Nathan and Marcus in it. Not to mention the Epilogue which normally would have told us about the supposed MCs but instead again told us about Nathan and Marcus.

The story itself wasn't bad, I just wish I saw more of the supposed MCs...

Hc says

There was too much of Marcus and Nathan in a book that should have been about Ryder and Marrten. Even the epilogue was about Marcus and Nathan! Didn't get to explore Ryder expanding into the AA he's meant to be. There was also mention of Marrten being in the drivers seat but we never got a follow thru.

All in all, if the focus had been more on Ryder and Marrten, I would have given a higher rating.

Kelly H. (Maybedog) says

This one is hard. The reader wasn't supposed to particularly like either of these characters in previous books.

I still love that the alpha of all of N America is a bottom and that his mate is a little guy.

I really like how they're talking about the reasons kids follow in their parents footsteps when it comes to drugs even as they hate their parents for how they were treated.

That sex was different. I don't really like the narrative focusing on someone other than the MCs having sex, but we usually see these two so I'm used to it.

Tag bdsm sex

This is really more about Marcus and Nathan. They're in it more. They have at least three sex scenes while there's only one with Rider and Maarten and one with Maarten and someone else before he meets Ryder.

They're in the middle of a crisis and they stop to have sex.

Perfect beautiful peril. Wonderful action.

(view spoiler)

4.6 stars

Serena Yates says

This eighth book of the 'Southwestern Shifters' series picks up right where the previous one left off, and tells the story of Maarten, Luuk's younger brother, and Ryder, one of the humans turned into a shifter without his consent. What is even better is that Marcus, the North American Alpha Anax, and Nathan, his mate, are back in a major way. They are not only one of my favorite couples from this series, but also played a central role all along - a role that comes to a tension-filled conclusion in this latest installment. Not for the faint-hearted, this story shows shifters in all of their glory – and the cruelty they are definitely capable of. The first sentence of the blurb summarizes this very succinctly: "There isn't a safe place in the world when someone wants you dead more than they want to live." And that is what this book, like its title says, is all about: revenge.

Ryder is a troubled man. No wonder, him being changed into a shifter without his consent has turned his world upside down. He doesn't even know half the rules of the shifter world, constantly breaks some law or convention, and his basic need to question things is seen as a challenge by the wolves whose pack he has become a part of. Luckily, Marcus is understanding – more so than many alphas would be, and tries to help Ryder learn what he needs if he wants to become the Alpha Anax of South America..

Maarten also doesn't have an easy life. He hasn't for the past few years while he was trying to stay alive

while his brother Luuk, the European Alpha Anax, was hunted. At least Maarten had a pack then – now he has nothing. And his brother sent him to the US so he can learn about diplomacy and maybe get some perspective. Those are the last things Maarten is interested in! However, all that changes once he meets Ryder. Maarten knows they are mates – unfortunately Ryder, being human and still learning about wolf shifters, has no clue what that means. Let the games begin!

The bulk of this story is about Marcus and Nathan though. They're trying to get everyone past the attack that destroyed the previous compound, focusing on getting everyone settled. That is when it turns out that safe feeling might have been an illusion and the sh*t hits the fan. Someone is after them, and whoever it is, they're not holding back. They're out to hurt Marcus, and it gets really violent and brutal. I sort of suspected who the bad guy was, but it isn't immediately obvious, and the story might hold you in suspense for quite a while.

If you like the international pack politics of this series, if you want to know what's going on in Marcus and Nathan's world and how the changes in Europe affect the North American situation, and if you're looking for a read that will give you adventure, love, and some very hot man-on-man action for two very different couples, then you will probably like this novel as much as I did.

NOTE: This book was provided by Pride Publishing for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Heather♥ says

[Maarten having sex with Casey the minute he arrived at Marcus's compound didn't exactly endear him to me either. (hide spoiler)]

Solveig says

I do like this serie and that each couple has their own story. I was really looking forward to this book and Im very disappointed. Because I think Maarten`s and Ryder`s story is overshadowed by Nathan and Marcus. I feel like i didnt get that love story that was promised, and their challenge. Fist it took a few chapters before Maarten and Ryder meet, something I didnt mind, because it was building up the story. After that ut was a lot about Nathan and Marcus. Not enough about the couple that I ffeel the story should be about. For me maarten and Ryan didnt get an ending. just poff and they where on a plane. I feel like I was robbed of a love story.

Thomaidha Papa says

Review written for MM Good Book Reviews

<http://mmgoodbookreviews.wordpress.com/>

Marcus and Nathan are back from their European trip where they helped Luuk regain his place as AA of Europe only to find more trouble waiting them in their home. A crazy shifter changing people against their

will has his compound in turmoil and Marcus is left with people that are trying to find a way to deal with these new changes.

One such man is Ryder. His human life was an absolute horror where he was slave to his drugs, always in a haze and searching for his next fix, always letting people down. But now his brain can't escape through drugs anymore and that leaves him with a weird clarity and too much time to think. His talk first think later attitude isn't helping him make friends in this new world either, but he is determined to make a better man in this second chance he's got, an honorable man at that. But first he has to make people see that he's not defined by what he was as human, he has to make them see that he can be trustworthy as long as someone gives him a chance.

Meet Maarten Visser. Now, on book seven of the series we had a small glimpse at Maarten, and he seemed the goofy guy, the play now and live your life kind of guy. We get to know him better in this book and see how much unwanted he felt after his brother Luuk regained his position. Maarten was left without a pack and therefore without a purpose. When Luuk sent him to U.S. as an ambassador to strengthen their relations between the two AA, Maarten felt we was simply being exiled so he wouldn't cause trouble. But trouble finds him anyway along with his mate and the deep soul-healing love it entails.

And as everybody is trying to find their place and their purpose a new unknown enemy appears, bringing with him a viciousness and violence that shatters our guys to the core. There is no place for talk and diplomacy in this case. The only solution is death.

So this time I got what I wanted and what I felt lacking in the previous book and that is the "fighting" part. For me wolves are aggressive creatures and that's what I got when it came to the battles between good guys and bad guys. It was vicious, it was bloody and it was quite satisfying.

As always though I feel that the length of these books is too small for the amount of events they develop. Here we had two pairs that the book focused on; Marcus and Nathan – we saw them grow even more and rule with a strong will and lots of love for their pack and not only – and Ryder and Maarten.

Now Ryder and Maarten were new characters that we got introduced to and for me the space they took in this book was not enough. Their personalities were treated with a superficial narration and the depths of their feelings were not explored to my satisfaction. The characters went from being shallow and vain to responsible and serious without us really witnessing it, the time frame being jumped and many events simply stated. In addition there were way too many mating pairs that enticed our fancy and they were left at that, which I'm having the feeling we will not see them in another book of their own and that's just a shame.

However I liked this book much better and the pairs that took part were quite engaging. Their "love" games were entertaining enough, even if they lacked intensity, and I found they were even funny at some point. In the end I was left feeling that this was a good read and I hope the next one to focus solely on Ryder and Maarten as I feel they have much more to share with us.

If you are a fan of the series I really think you will not be disappointed in this book and if this is the first book on the series that comes on your hands I believe you'll enjoy it as it can stand alone. Be ready for the mate-love and their deep bonds, the agony of nearly losing a mate and some really good bloody and violent fighting between wolves.

Thommie

Angela Goodrich says

While *Revenge* was supposed to be about Ryder and Maarten's mating, it seems to be an equal split with an unexpected and cowardly attack on Marcus and the shifters' headquarters in New Mexico. But this isn't a complaint because I found the way in which the two storylines were woven together to be exactly what was needed for many reasons. With the influence and support that Marcus provided to resolve the European Alpha Anax conflict in *Revolution* it was only natural that he take steps necessary to teach Ryder how to act as an Alpha Anax so that he's prepared to take over in South America when the time comes for him to issue a challenge to the current Alpha Anax. The attacks on Marcus and the compound provides a perfect "on-the-job" training opportunity for Ryder to see how dangerous the Alpha Anax position can be and the chance to see how he responds under pressure – especially when his mate is at risk.

I must say that I absolutely loved the way in which Ryder and Maarten discovered they were mates. As one of the shifters who was turned against his will, Ryder has VERY limited knowledge of the shifter culture. So when he finds himself wanting to rip out the throat of a guard he has nothing against, he's appalled by his response. Fortunately Sissy was there at the time (loved the pegging conversation by the way) and was able to prevent Ryder from doing something he would regret and guide him toward his mate, even if Ryder didn't realize that was what was happening. While Ryder might not understand the significance of being mates, he has no problem responding to the sexual attraction between him and Maarten and wastes no time getting down to business. Yowser! Unfortunately the attacks against Marcus begin almost immediately thereafter, the first being the brutal murder and mutilation of a pack member. Because of what was going on, Ryder and Maarten didn't have the luxury of getting to know one another slowly after their mating, but this doesn't keep Ryder from reacting strongly (<=understatement) when his mate is injured. As the attacks ramp up, Marcus proves why he is the North American Alpha Anax and Ryder shows that he is indeed qualified to serve as the South American Alpha Anax.

While this is not the first book in the series with elements of action, suspense, and violence, *Revenge* certainly seems to outdo its predecessors in these areas. I was quite surprised when the identity of the attacker was discovered and considering all of the damage and destruction he wreaked on the pack, his death was over far too quick for my liking. Oh yes, *Revenge* made me quite bloodthirsty in that aspect because that coward deserved to be drawn and quartered – literally. The burden of the loss clearly weighed on Marcus's heart and Nathan's support as his mate was invaluable to Marcus (and the series). I thoroughly enjoyed *Revenge* and cannot wait to see what Bradford has in store for the Southwestern Shifters in *Reluctance*.

I received a complimentary copy of the book in exchange for an honest review.
Reviewed by Angela at Crystal's Many Reviewers!

Meags says

[Specifically, with the psychotic antics of both Joshua Dobson and Luther. These lunatics wreaked havoc, across mu

Julie says

Almost a four star.

But it was more about Marcus and Nathan, than Ryder and Maarten.

The story continues shortly after Luuk and his mate return to being the European Anax Alpha.

Maarten is feeling a little left out, he has no mate, his brother is back in power, so he feels he has no place there.

Ryder was turned into a shifter against his will, so he has a chip on his shoulder.

Their meeting was explosive. And was funny and hot at the same time.

Then their story seems to take a back stage to Marcus and Nathan.

And even the ending was given to Marcus.

Don't get me wrong. I loved it, and this is my fav couple after Harley and Val. But I felt a little cheated.

Wondering if there will be anymore in the series. I hope so.

Finnegan says

This is the story where Maarten and Ryder became mates, but it is luckily also about Nathan and Marcus, one of my favourite couples. Maarten and Ryder does not work for me as endearing MC's, because they are not. There is also not much development of their characters, so they are still a bit much at the end of the book. And the chemistry between them is nothing to write home about. It feels like a filler book in a long series.

Jo * Smut-Dickted * says

Loved Maarten and Ryder. Non apologetic. BEST scene ever when they essentially meet. I was like "YES YES BABY!". I liked that neither is perhaps the sharpest tool but what they can do together is greater than what they can do alone.
