



Out of the Darkness

V.M. Black

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A Former SEAL Panther Shifter - a Tough, curvy BBW in Search of Answers

Curvy Tara Morland has always known there was something different about her, but she never knew why. Then one day, the panther took over her mind and transformed her body, and her world was forever broken.

Former SEAL and panther shifter Chay “Beane” Bane has made a career of rescuing other shifters in difficult situations, secreting them in his vast compound far from the prying eyes of the government. But when rescues her from a military facility, he isn’t prepared for what he finds. Tara is a twenty-four-year-old, older than any natural-born panther shifter should be.

But to find answers, Tara will have to learn to control the beast within herself. And Chay must grapple with discovering what he thought he’d never have.

Out of the Darkness Details

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From Reader Review Out of the Darkness for online ebook

Jenny Brightman Harris says

this book is not a stand alone it is part of a series. The problems I had with this book is there are more questions than answers in this story. It is more of a prequel than an actual part of the story. The other problem I had with this story was the sudden ending. If you know a story is going to be one of those stories that is a to be continue kind of story you tend to wait for it all but this had no indications it was like that. I did like who the story line was going it gets you involved in a paranormal story-line that can be taken many different ways depending on how the author is going to peruse it. Would I recommend it yes but only after the entire story is released. I am just not a fan of the sudden stops in stories

Deedee says

An ARC from the author for an honest review.

It was a good opening to the series. I was left with more questions than answers but I liked it enough to read the others in the series to see what direction the author will go. I like the hero so far. The Other characters a good and entertaining. I felt for Tara, hope the author makes her into a strong willed heroine than a whiny one.

Any whoo the story, Description from back of book.

A Former SEAL Panther Shifter and a Tough, Curvy BBW in Search of Answers

Curvy Tara Morland has always known there was something different about her, but she never knew why. Then one day, the panther took over her mind and transformed her body, and her world was forever broken.

Former SEAL and panther shifter Chay "Beane" Bane has made a career of rescuing other shifters in difficult situations, secreting them in his vast compound far from the prying eyes of the government. But when rescues her from a military facility, he isn't prepared for what he finds. Tara is twenty-four years old, older than any natural-born panther shifter should be.

But to find answers, Tara will have to learn to control the beast within herself. And Chay must grapple with discovering what he thought he'd never have.

Was a good read. And I enjoyed it.

Hope you like it too.

And as always.....Happy Reading!! :)

Kai says

Out of the Darkness started with Tara Morland shifting right in the middle of her college class. Even before

going to class, Tara has felt different and detached as she was coming down with something. All hell broke loose when Tara accidentally killed her professor and seriously injured one of her classmates.

Chay "Beane" Bane, a former SEAL and panther shifter, rescued Tara from the government compound. Chay hoped to save Tara before her panther self completely takes over her human self. Each time Tara shifted, she loses herself to the beast. Chay wanted to help her from shifting and to control her shift.

What Chay didn't count on was the physical attraction that he felt for Tara. Since Tara can change to a panther, makes it harder for him to fight. When Chay discovered that Tara is not born a shifter but was injected with a serum to cause her to change, he needs to discover how many more people have been infected and who or what organization is behind this sinister plan.

I thought Out of the Darkness is another shifter story but I quickly discovered that there is more to this story. It is about a secret organization to help shifters who didn't know that they are one, the hero and the heroine, Chay and Tara, and the mystery of who is infecting people with the shifter serum. I am riveted up to find out if Tara will ever control the beast and who is infecting people to become shifter unknowingly.

I was given this book by the author for an honest review. All of my opinion are my own and I was not compensated or influenced with anything for this review.

Marian May says

Totally love it... Honestly level to max... Looking forward to the next book..

Daria says

Rcv'd book from author in exchange for a review.

3 to 3.5 stars..

You just have to love shifters, smiles and I do! I've had the pleasure lately in reading a lot of work from new to me authors. How amazing!! Ms Black comes through as well, with a decent read. The concept, the length and the characters all fit.

How many young people leave home after high school with no direction except to find themselves? Tara is just one among many. There is more of "herself" she will have to find. Her new self causes all kinds of mess, in a world she only thought she new and she finds herself caught.

Her savior..a black panther ex- military. Clay goes about freeing Tara from a military facility. Like a lot of shifter stories government black op, testing and all around playing god like all of course for the greater good. Of course finds that he's all about Tara.. and well Tara feels about the same about Clay, but they have some roadblocks to clear. Tara's beast is wild and untamed that makes her dangerous. For Tara her life is nothing now but chaos how can she even think about Clay in any capacity. Tara needs to find out about her. Because this is the first book of the series you know yep.. there was a cliffy. (grins I've been catching a lot of cliff hanger books sighs) Which is not my favorite. But the story is good enough for me to be patient and wait for the next one.

Charlie Torres says

Ahhh Beane from the Alpha's Captive trilogy by Ms. Black has gotten his own book. And boy is it a good one. I wondered a lot about Beane "Chay" in the other serial and was hoping for a story involving him.

It definitely was a different take on the average shifter novel. Many of the 'shifters' in this book are lab created shifters - shifters that were created by the military in order to use them as weapons. So Chay, who volunteered to become one, is a panther shifter. He ends up removing Tara, who seems to have shifted for the first time (and is also a panther) at the age of 24. She ends up killing someone as a result of her shift and is being held in a military lock up facility. Chay basically rescues her from this facility. He wants to get some answers as to why someone of Tara's age has only just now shifted for the first time. Was she born a shifter; is she a unsuspecting victim of someone's experiment? Who knows. All he knows is that usually someone who waits to shift until their mid-twenties ends up losing themselves to their animal which puts Chay and his colleagues in the position of eliminating the threat posed by these 'lost' shifters.

The chemistry between Chay and Tara is evident. I loved the sexual tension build up to the end of the novel. I am also invested in the story line of how Tara is going to learn (if ever) to control her inner panther. She needs to be stronger than the panther if she wants to live as the Tara she knows.

If you are a fan of shifter romance novels, you have to check this one out. it grab you from the beginning and keep you engrossed until the end. It is another well written book by Ms. Black!

NOTE: I was provided an ARC in exchange for an honest review by the author.

Lisa Lopez says

I received this novella for an honest review. I don't like serials as a rule, but this author is different. I have read Cora's choice and Cora's bond and enjoyed those COMPLETELY (go read them). It was not surprise that this serial will be no different, she had me at the first page.

Tara is a college student sitting in class with her best friend. She tells her best friend she does not feel well and in doing so catches the professors attention who asks her to stand, before she can form a coherent sentence, she changes into a panther and goes on a rampage trying to escape and freaking out at the same time.

Chay is an ex-seal with fingers in everybody's political pie. They need him more than he needs them. He helps shifters as most are genetically altered or born from those in the military that signed up to be altered and keeps them on the straight and narrow and helps them. On occasions someone is unregistered and that is how he meets Tara.

Chay aka "will smith" in a black suit with the shades comes to the air force base where Tara is being held by the military. The press bought the story that a panther got loose and killed Tara and hurt others, but he has questions that the government is not answering so this "man in black" waltzes in the front door with fake credentials and waltzes out with Tara. He takes her to his place an old military base he uses for head quarters and rehabing shifters.

This is only the first story and so far, no one expects Tara to make it. She is an anomaly and they expect she will have no control over her panther and have to be put down, but oh Chay's panther is not liking that scenario and hence we have a story in the making that I am looking forward to reading. The author really paints a great picture and real characters that are tangible. I will be posting this in my book clubs as a to be read book for my fellow book addicts!

Tracey says

Loved this book, it's different from other shifter books as some shifters were created, yes they chose become shifters, Chay is one of them.

Tara is a regular woman, when things change rapidly for her, luckily Chay's about to help her.

The book is set in the real world, so no world building needed, but we do get introduced to Chay and his Shifter hideaway and secret organizations. Questions are raised in the book and not all answered in this part, let alone if Tara can take control of her Panther.....

This book kept me glued to pages until the last page were it ended leaving me needing more, I'll definitely be reading book 2 asap.

Five shifting stars

** I was gifted a copy of this book for an honest opinion **

Lunesha says

This book aight.
It's hot and it fun... it just left some things notfinished I hate that.

Lynde Shaw says

***** I was given an ARC in exchange for an honest review*****

Tara is a 24 year old college student who, in the middle of a lecture, latently shifts into a panther and loses control. Chay is a panther shifter that is part of a government shifter agency that finds Tara after her rampage and is working on finding out why her apparent latent shifting has occurred. There is chemistry between Tara and Chay and he is the only one who can get through to Tara during her uncontrolled shifts. Ms. Black has done a great job with creating a world that draws you in and grabs your interest. By the time I was finished with the book, it made me want more. I really enjoyed the book a lot. However, there was one reason why I didn't give it 4 stars. And that is the multiple use of the slang word "bae". While it may not even be noticed by others, I cringed every time I saw it. By 38% into the book, the word had been used 4 times. I'm going to be honest and say that after the 4th time, I actually stopped reading the book and deleted it from my Kindle. I mentioned something to an author friend who also thought it was not good to use the word. After reading some of the other reviews, I reconsidered and went ahead and finished the book trying very hard to overlook

the additional 4-5 times it was used. For those of you that can look past that sort of thing, I do recommend the book.

Cassandra says

My Thoughts - 4 out of 5 Unicorns - I really liked it!!!

***Received a copy of the ebook in exchange for an honest review

The cover is sexy and beautiful and definitely attracts my eye. Both man and cat are amazing :)

Okay my usual statements first, this is a serial series, and it is not complete yet. It is a novella length somewhere about 90 pages long. If you do not know what a serial is, it is like a TV show where this is just one episode or part to the whole. I used to shy away from them, but I have found a few authors that I really like. As in all things in life, some do serials well and others not so much. This is my first experience with V.M. Black's work, and I really liked it. She has a perfect mix of mystery, intrigue, steamy scenes, and this new world that I really like. Her writing style is easy to connect with, and you can visualize everything which makes the experience awesome.

Tara is a trooper, and she has no idea what is going on. You can sense her panic and relate to her easily. I'm not sure on what to think of Chay, but I do like him, and he is very sexy. This world is definitely unique, and I can't wait to see what happens next....even though I hate waiting. Patience is a virtue, right? o_O

I recommend this to my cat lover shifter friends, but they do have bear and fox friends too ;) If you do not like reading incomplete serials, you may want to wait, but I couldn't do it....wait that is :)

Shadi *save your ratings use disclaimers** says**

[Cliffhanger (hide spoiler)]

Ruby Madden says

First, I've never read a shifter series starter so quickly! Second, this is a truly unique gem with a great premise / plot, and lots of fun, quirky 'nerd' humor that many of us will totally get and have some 'laugh out loud' LOL moments. I mean, MIB?! :O)

Personally, I've tired a bit of the werewolf shifter / vampire fiction and so this was a nice surprise! V.M. Black's writing flows, is engrossing and entertaining.

I think the plot is developed enough in other reviews, so I'm not going to delve much here. But the idea of an african-american / black man who can shift into a panther, that meets his match/mate and does everything he can to help her survive since she is a late-bloomer / late-shifter was just too awesome to pass up!!!

Full Disclosure: I received an ARC and am an author-friend of V.M. Black, but my review for other authors mantra is very simple. If I don't find the read to be 3-stars or better, I politely bow out. So, my reviews

remain true to what I think/felt about the story. Yes, I'm an author but I was a reader first. :)

constance says

*Ebook received from author in exchange for an honest review.

Tara is a 24 year old new college student, having taken time of after high school to travel the world and "find herself." Suddenly, in the middle of a lecture on the Glorious Revolution, Tara finds herself inexplicably shifting into a panther and causing havoc through the classroom.

Chay is a panther shifter created by the United States military. After leaving military service he has become the protector and caregiver of shifts who find themselves in trouble or in dangerous situations. When Chay hears about a college student shifting into a panther and being captured by the military, he knows he must find her and bring her to his secret compound.

When Tara awakens, she wants to believe it was all a dream, but when she begins to shift again, and witnesses Chay change from a sexy black man to a black panther, she has to accept that it's real. Tara has to learn how to control her own panther before it's too late and Chay is the only one who can help her do it. Both Tara and Chay feel an instant physical attraction for each other, as well as an emotional connection, but it will be incredibly difficult for them to develop any sort of relationship when Tara's future is still so questionable.

There are several things I like about this story, and somethings I didn't. I don't usually read serials but I went into this knowing it would end with a cliffhanger so I was prepared for that. I know this is only the beginning but I don't feel like I've connected with either Chay or Tara, we learn background facts about them, but I didn't feel like I really knew either of them. Hopefully that is something that will change in the coming installments of the book. I thought the MIB reference was cute, but the black man being a black panther was pretty cliché. I also cringed every time Chay referred to Tara as bae girl. No one says that, it just seemed like the author was trying to use urban slang that she is not actually familiar with (referring to a girl a bae or baby girl is common but not a combination of the two).

I am not a fan of insta-love, or in this case insta-lust and instant emotional connection. It seems weird to me that Tara is literally the only potential mate for Chay, at least in his eyes, because she is the only adult female panther shifter. It just does seem romantic, the attraction is all biological and has nothing to do with chemistry between the two. They didn't really talk or get to know each other before having sex, they just both felt that they had to do it.

What I liked about the book was that it is well written in the sense that it reads very smoothly. No editing issues that many indie books tend to have. The story line is certainly very interesting and as far as I can tell pretty original, which is getting pretty hard to do in the paranormal romance genre. I'd really be interested to know how government created shifters came to mix with actual paranormal creatures such as elves and vampires. I was drawn in to the story and read it almost straight through. I like the multitude of peripheral characters and I look forward to seeing how they will all fit into the story. I think the mystery of how Tara got to be a panther shifter is interesting, but so far I haven't found any clues. I am intrigued enough that I will probably read the next installment.

Diane says

I'm a fan of shifter novels and the cover grabbed my attention right away. I was a bit hesitant to start this story as it is the first in a serial - I usually stay away from until all stories are available. The storyline was intriguing though so I gave it a whirl. I'm glad I did.

Tara Morland is a college student who is attending class as usual, chatting with her best friend. Singled out by the professor for speaking in class, every thought of "normal" is gone as the feeling of illness turns into a whirl of fur, blood and terror. Days later, she wakes up trying to make sense out of what she hoped was a dream or, at worst, a psychotic episode.

Chay Bane, "Beane" to his friends, works to hide the world from the existence of shifters and to assist these shifters in living within the bounds of accepted society. He is all too familiar with what is happening to Tara and, while unwillingly attracted to her, he will try to help her navigate the new reality she finds herself in. There are many questions surrounding Tara and her ability to shift – will that mean she is one of the few that can't be transitioned successfully?

I can't wait for the next installment.

I received a copy of this book for an honest review.
