



## Silver Moon

*Catherine Lundoff*

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## **Silver Moon** Catherine Lundoff

Becca Thornton, divorced, middle-aged, and recently out of the closet, discovers that life can still hold some strange surprises, when she discovers that her body is changing; menopause turns her into a werewolf. Apparently she is not the only one, as a number of women in her town of Wolf's Point seem to have had the same experience. As their newest member of the pack, Becca learns her nights are not spent only protecting the town and running through the woods howling at the moon. There are werewolf hunters in town and they've got Becca in their sights.

## **Silver Moon Details**

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Author : Catherine Lundoff

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## From Reader Review Silver Moon for online ebook

### Loek Krancher says

#### Amazing read!

This was a little bit different from what I'm used to read about wolves. Not much romance but It definitely is not lacking in originality. The storyline is great with a lot of action, mystery and magic. It keeps me on edge. Definitely worth to read this book and I can highly recommend.

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### Jarla Tangh says

Book Review: Silver Moon by Catherine Lundoff

'Lo People,

I am so overdue for this review. You ever read a book or watch a movie where you were yelling at the main character? Grrl what are you doing? Yup. Becca Thornton did that me. I remember hearing about the book from the author. I'm definitely in the target audience being perimenopausal, a female, and a fang-carrying, lifelong member of the shifter tribe. I am down with the Werefolk. And I'm heteroflexible enough that I can enjoy lesbian characters discovering themselves. Her Tangh-i-ness's motto is be who you be. Love is Love. Anyhoo....

I appreciate *Silver Moon* too for offering a different vision of femaleness. Too often, the woman as a warrior, or even viewed as an elder, as a social force driven to protect and nurture takes a second stage to Romantic entanglement. There is light Romance in *Silver Moon*. There's also an interesting depiction of the poison of self-hate. My one quibble with *Silver Moon* is in the use of a goddess's name for a difficult character. The character says, "Remember me: I am the wind that brings change."

As someone who is a shrine keeper in a West African tradition, seeing that name in this context just tossed me out of the story just as Voudun practitioners cringe at non-devotees' depiction of their faith. The antagonist took it as their "warrior" name. Uhhhh...Ile Ife, we have a problem. Make of my reaction what you will. Please remember the I found the remainder of this story satisfying and absolutely worthy of a re-read.

\*Spoiler Alert\*

Her Tangh-i-ness greatly appreciates pithy plot summaries. However, for those who must have a virgin reading experience, read no further, and eyeball elsewhere.

\*Spoiler Alert End\*

Becca works in a hardware store in a town called Wolf's Point, is a member of a local women's club, and is going through the change. She's also feeling feelings for her female neighbor after her divorce from a man. It's Becca's first time considering that she is attracted to her own sex.

Becca learns the women's club she's part of isn't just a case of running with the wolves. The women **become** wolves. Becca finds this handy when she has to defend a kidnapped boy from a child predator. My girl Becca dispatches the predator human and brings the boy to safety. Yay!

I loved that Shelly Peterson, the Alpha of Wolf's point, was a Native American woman. I loved that Lizzie Blackhawk, Shelly's cousin was the town Deputy. Even the female antagonist with the goddess's name is a Native woman. So can we talk about Erin? "She grinned her slow lazy smile that always made Becca think about cowboys. Cowgirls. Whatever. Maybe it was her neighbor's long lean body or her short-cropped graying hair." So I'm looking at Erin too and I'm liking what I see. Nice to know Becca has good taste. Erin is the love interest by the way.

Becca and her pack have to stand firm against the machinations of the female antagonist and her crew. The crew calls themselves Nesters. Becca even runs away from what she's become and the pack. That lasts two minutes. Becca's running away earns the first of Her Tangh-iness's severe talking tos. Grrrrl, have you lost your mind? Becca returns to Wolf's Point after a think. Becca meets the female antagonist with the goddess-name and learns the woman believes the women wolves killed her parents. Erin, Shelly, and the rest of the female elders of Wolf's Point and members of the pack show up to welcome Becca back. Lizzie brings Becca to the secret painted cave where the ancient spirits first put the magic into Wolf's Point that transforms its women into wolves. Becca learns she might lose her home to an ex-husband interested in selling it off so he could support himself and a new pregnant wife. The women of Wolf's Point decide to assist her in keeping it and to train her in using her new-found transformative powers.

The Nesters burn the women's club building down. The antagonist with the goddess-name turns out to be another of Shelly and Lizzie's cousins. She also has a drug that can overpower the urge to change into wolves. Complicated. Complicated. Becca commits herself to the fight when she tells Erin, "You're going to make me the best damn werewolf this town has ever seen." Meeting with the Pack at the secret painted cave sends Becca into a panic attack but Shelly and the others guide Becca through it. Becca can do cool partial transformations: not quite wolf and not quite human and not always on the full moon. Becca makes some poor decisions (which does not include her first kiss with Erin) and earns being put under watch by her Alpha Shelly. The Nesters escalate their efforts to recruit new members by forcibly "changing" them. Shelly the Alpha disappears. The Nesters have an injectable "cure." Becca finds herself on the receiving end of a needle. The antagonist with the goddess name says, "I see that you were wavering, but I knew we could save you. And we did. We will. You'll see: it'll be better now. We'll keep helping you." Becca gets herself taken prisoner by the Nesters in a bid to find out where they might have stowed Shelly. She escapes and reunites with the Pack. Becca finds Shelly and Erin. The Pack elders have given Shelly and Erin the means to counter the Nesters effort to halt the change. Becca, Shelly, and Erin return to the cave with the painted walls. Together, they wield the magic to overcome the antagonist with the goddess-name and her male companion. Erin is wounded yet again. Becca finds that although the magic can defined against Nesters, it can't halt the sale of her home. But she could always move in with her next door neighbor Erin couldn't she?

C'mon, this can't be the last we've seen of Becca and the wolf-women of Wolf's Point.... I swear I can hear howling in the distance.

Note: This copy of Silver Moon was a hard copy purchased by the reviewer. Her Tangh-i-ness usually reviews on a for-the-love basis. No *lucre* has been involved.

## **Baxter Trautman says**

Charming story about menopausal women turning into werewolves. May be more fact than fiction to that!

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## **K.J. Charles says**

I'm going to preface this by saying I don't like shifter and vampire books. I have no idea\* why not, but I don't. I don't read series by some of my favourite authors because they have shifters and vampires as MCs and I just don't like them. It's not you it's me.

\*I know exactly why, it's because I am a tremendously hidebound purist and if a vampire isn't terrible undead evil or a werewolf raging savage uncontrolled id, it's just \*wrong\* in my head so there. All views my own, don't @ me.

ANYWAY. I am in a Storybundle with this book at the time of writing (<https://storybundle.com/lgbt>) and I saw this book and could not resist. But why, KJ, you ask?

BECAUSE THE WEREWOLVES ARE ALL MENOPAUSAL WOMEN THAT'S WHY. In this town, when you get The Change, you \*really\* change. (You know the uncontrollable rage? With this Change, you get to take people's throats out. Sign me the hell up.) And only menopausal women get it. No young pretty women--we see a young woman impatiently looking forward to getting older for her turn!--and if there are men they're somewhere else and weird and we don't care anyway.

This is the single most brilliant werewolf concept I have ever heard, and all hail. All hail to a book entirely about women, and most of them older, about female friendships, about women who are menopausal and not in great shape and just plugging on with life. \*About menopausal women.\* This is literally the second book I have ever read in my LIFE with an explicitly menopausal heroine just talking about it. Second. (First was The New Moon's Arms.)

I thoroughly enjoyed this--Becca is a nicely drawn sympathetic MC, I liked the sweet beginnings of a f/f romance with Erin, and there were some good action scenes--but mostly I am here for the menopause rep. A++, would feel visible again.

[review originally posted on old edition even though this is the one I read because I don't book good]

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## **Melyna says**

This is why I bought this book "... menopause turns her into a werewolf." I tend to read M/M romance but this F/F story about menopausal women turning into werewolves was a must read. It is an interesting take on werewolf mythology and I enjoyed it. Although Becca was the main character, I found myself relating to Erin more. Good story with a theme I can definitely relate to. Except for the turning into a werewolf part, although that would be pretty cool, or better yet a dragon. ;-)

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## **Kathleen Bradean says**

Becca is going through menopause, but that's not the only unsettling change to her body. She's also noticing her neighbor Erin a lot more even though she's never been attracted to women before. Pimples are breaking out on her face. Heat flashes are making her miserable. Oh, and she's turning into a werewolf.

Becca has known these women for a few years but never suspected they turn into wolves at the full moon. It isn't something she wants at first, but when the pack is threatened by a self-hating former member, she finds community and purpose. So maybe being picked by the magic isn't such a bad thing after all.

I really enjoyed this book and tore through it in a few days. I've often wondered why werewolves were traditionally male when their link to phases of the moon were obviously about female power and phases, so I'm always glad to read a book where the werewolves are female. One of the other things I enjoyed so much about this book was that the women were supportive and could assert power without being, well, bitchy. Just the kind of women I'd enjoy hanging out with.

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## **Catherine says**

I had originally thought that this new edition of the book and the original edition of the book would display as separate editions, but they do not and I can't seem to split them out. The Queen of Swords edition of this book, the one with the purple cover, the wolf's head and the subtitle: "Wolves of Wolf's Point" is the new, updated version. The black and silver one is the original edition. There are some distinct differences between the two, though the basic story is the same. I hope you enjoy it!

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## **Hilcia says**

In *Silver Moon*, Catherine Lundoff weaves a fantasy set in a small town where only a few women are called by magic to change into werewolves when menopausal symptoms flare up. This book's premise is what sold it to me.

The story's central character is a woman of a "certain age" going through multiple changes in her life, including menopause. At first glance it might seem as if equating those biological changes with the werewolf theme is dramatic, but in fact I found it to be both creative and on target. Change. Through the theme of change Lundoff also focuses on other issues that affect women during this time in their lives. She adds insightful touches such as the "invisibility factor"\* that women experience after they reach a "certain age," which ties in quite well with the issue of those same women being abandoned or dismissed by husbands or partners (like yesterday's news) for younger women.

I mentioned above that the story is about change, but in the end it's really about either fighting those changes or embracing them gracefully when the inevitable time comes. Lundoff serves this fantasy dish with a scoop of hope. While the main character in her story goes through that roller coaster, the other women show the final result: accepting change doesn't mean you have to give up love or sexuality, instead there is much to be gained, lots to offer and still great things to come in the future.

I read *Silver Moon* from a female's perspective, but this book is categorized as a lesbian fantasy. As such, and if you read this book from a concrete or literal point of view, I would say that it is high on the

fantasy/paranormal with lots of action, amusing and insightful moments (at least they were amusing and insightful to me), and quite low on the romance. A quick, enjoyable read.

*\*(If you don't know what the "invisibility factor" means, you haven't turned 50 yet. It's when people, this applies to men and women, stop seeing you as a "woman," and in fact you become almost, if not totally, invisible.)*

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## **Carol March says**

Shifters for the rest of us.

I love it. A werewolf story set in a small town where the tradition of certain women becoming shifters at menopause is a great change of pace from the alpha guys and gorgeous women who abound in this genre.

Becca is divorced, working at a hardware store and contemplating the journey into the last stages of her life when she notices the first signs of her transformation into her wolf identity. Alarmed, mystified, and mortified, she goes through all the stages of dealing with a burgeoning identity before discovering the not very well-kept secret of the women of Wolf's Point.

Learning to accept herself, her new friends, the historical roots of the wolf pack she has just joined, and her newly discovered attraction to another pack member keep Becca more than occupied. But a strange group of campers pose an imminent threat to the pack and we're off and running in a fast-paced thriller as Becca learns how to be a wolf, how to accept new definitions of family and love and how to take her destiny into her own hands.

Coming of age at midlife ought to be a new genre, so many women are doing it. Highly recommended.

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## **heidi says**

I love the idea of a story that is about powers manifesting at the transition into crone (in the religious sense). So frequently we read and write about girls turning into women, and with their sexuality, they get to kick ass, but this is cool because it's about becoming powerful at menopause.

Wolf's Point is a syncretic, peaceful, multicultural town in remote mountain valley. Half the town is in on a secret so well-kept that it comes as a complete surprise to Becca. It turns out that the Women Of A Certain Age in town strip naked and turn into wolves to protect their town.

Of course, there are adversaries to repel, a new persona to integrate into, all that jazz. Also, Becca is developing a crush on her neighbor, which is confusing because Becca hadn't thought she was into women.

I thought the premise was fascinating, and I loved the dynamics in how the women related to each other and structured their town and their pack. I also liked the honest discussion of WHY you would keep this secret from someone you suspected would find out on their own.

Sadly, I thought the pacing was not up to the promise of the story. There were too many threads left loose, like what exactly made Oya so crazed with anger, and what Becca is going to do about her crush.

Read if: You are tired of teenage girls getting all the fun. You want to watch all sorts of different women relate to each other.

Skip if: You are looking for a totally immersive book.

Also read: Range of Ghosts, by Elizabeth Bear. Wheel of the Infinite, by Martha Wells.

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### **Sieran says**

This was a pleasant and mostly engaging read. I was intrigued that the heroines were aged 50 or above, because I have never read a romance where the leads were older than 40 something. The romance was more low key than I expected, however, as the story focused mostly on the fantasy and danger aspects of the plot.

It was interesting that all the wolves in this story were female, which contrasts with some other werewolf romances I read where all of them were male.

Annie was a scary person, though I felt sorry for her too. In contrast, I have zero sympathy for Ed. (view spoiler)

I'm glad that Becca has Erin. Erin is cool, but I didn't get to see her and her romance with Becca as much as I wanted to.

(view spoiler)

One more thing I want to say, is that I appreciated when Becca asked if trans women or AFAB individuals who don't identify as female, may be called to be wolves too. I'm glad that Becca is trans aware!

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### **Catherine says**

New edition of my werewolf novel, "Silver Moon."

What's different, apart from it being available once more? New cover, longer, lots of editing changes, some character modifications. Will you notice the difference if you read the first one? Probably. Is it a complete new story? Nope.

Print edition coming in June!

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### **Wm says**

I have to admit that the straightforward prose made me shrug at first, but then as the relationships, resonances, parallels, and mythic-ness piles up, I realized that there was so much happening with those things that it make sense to go for a more transparent prose style.

Which is an aside really. What's most awesome about the book is that the concept of a town being protected by a pack of women who become werewolves at menopause is fantastic. And also that the main character's journey through menopause and into werewolf is hard, confusing, exciting and that her being new is both a

liability and an asset to the challenges faced by her as an individual and the pack as a whole, which makes for a more believable but still plot-twisty and exciting story.

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### **K. Lincoln says**

Becca's having hot flashes. She just divorced her husband, is finally settling into her job at the hardware store and getting to know her neighbors in the small town of Wolf's Point. But those hot flashes signal the change—only it's not just menopause Becca has to worry about.

There's the weird way the group of middle-aged women who invited her to join their club look at her now. There's that strange hair growing on her hands and the sudden urge to get back to nature. Not to mention her attraction to Erin, one of the club members who makes Becca feel all squirmy inside.

A group of strangers set up camp outside town and start threatening Becca's Pals just as she finds out her hot flashes and hair mean she is becoming a werewolf. That women's club isn't just a place for margaritas and chit-chat, the town of Wolf's Point holds an ancient magic that "calls" women of a certain age to become wolves in order to defend it.

Becca's been chosen :)

This twist on werewolves is definitely worth a gander. I love the main idea: middle-aged women defending their territory through ancient magic. I also liked the low-key romance that blossomed between Becca and Erin. The pacing of the action was a bit off for me. Even when Becca finds herself in her enemy's clutches it just seems a bit slow instead of heart-poundingly anxious.

I also felt besides Shelly and Erin, the other women's club members were somewhat interchangeable and never solidified for me.

However, the end of the book was left open enough for more installments, so I'm hoping future installments develop the characters more.

This Book's Snack Rating: Pita and Hummus for the mature taste of the werewolves and the creamy-smooth feelings Becca has as she faces Changes

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### **Carol Douglas says**

Silver Moon is a book in which some women become werewolves at menopause. That's a great premise! We certainly start feeling like we want to burst out of our skins then.

The premise is developed well. Becca, the protagonist, is a divorced woman who lives in a town called Wolf's Point, but she has no idea how appropriate that name is.

The other women werewolves (all the werewolves in the town are women) can tell that she's about to become one of them, and they invite her to come to a meeting where they can help her during her transition.

She's shocked at discovering the hidden part of her nature. She's also shocked to discover that she's attracted to one of the other women.

The werewolves of Wolf's Point are benign. They guard the town. But there are hunters, mostly men, with one woman, who are trying to kill them.

The woman, Annie, is pushing to convert them with a potion that can make them "normal" again. The parallels with "conversion therapy" for lesbians and gays are clear.

This is a good, well-thought out narrative. I enjoyed the book. It's so feminist.

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