



Scarlet Moon

S.D. Grimm

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The hunted Feravolk are counting on Jayden, a seventeen-year-old, dagger-wielding, storm-detecting orphan, to save their race. Maybe they should have thought of that before they killed her family.

The land of Soleden is dying because the sorceress queen hunts and kills the people who cared for all nature, the Feravolk. Through their special bond with animals, the Feravolk have become more than men. Faster, stronger, masters of camouflage and stealth. Only a Deliverer born the night of the Blood Moon can save them from extinction.

According to prophecy, Jayden is a Deliverer, but it's not a destiny she wants. She has no sympathy for either side. The Feravolk killed her family, so they can die for all she cares. And fighting the queen with nothing but daggers and her special abilities—storm predicting—is a suicide mission. Destiny can pick someone else.

Except hiding from destiny proves difficult; Deliverers attract powerful Protectors. Jayden's is one of the Feravolk, so he can't be trusted. But he makes her feel safe. Makes her want to save his race. If she chooses to keep hiding, he'll remain one of the hunted, but he'll protect her even if it means his death if she faces the queen. Making the right choice has never been so excruciating, especially since the prophecy says nothing about the Deliverer's success, or survival.

Scarlet Moon Details

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From Reader Review Scarlet Moon for online ebook

Claire Banschbach says

AH! Ok, I'm finally reviewing this. It's very telling of the story that over a week and a half later, I'm still thinking about these characters and scenes and such.

The basic plot is kind of the tropey "ancient trapped evil is rising and the chosen one must stop them". But I don't know, it felt kind of fresh. I like that there is not just one "chosen one" or Deliverer, but four, and the quest is more about finding all of them rather than heading right for the big bad. There was definitely a more immediate villain in this book, but she felt a little underdeveloped? Maybe because we just heard about her and didn't really get many up close and personal encounters with her. Which reduced the drama a little on the climax.

BUT! The characters! I really liked Jayden! (I have a small complaint about her in that she spent most of Ch 1 going on about how she can't kill anyone and then like 5 min later kills a dude out of self defense and then we never have any moral quandaries about killing again.) Ethaan! I kind of fell in love with this guy within 0.5 sec of his first POV chapter. lol! He's one of those characters you just have an instant connection with, and I loved it. All the characters are fantastic. I really enjoyed Logan, and his wolf, because being able to talk with wolves is just cool. And Ryan was so sweet and hilarious as well. I have a minor complaint about the love triangle thing, but I mean, we all know how it's going to turn out, and after reading book 2, it was handled well.

The world was so rich and vivid! I loved the concept of blood magic and all the powers. And there's telepathy with animals, and scary flying panthers. And unicorns! It makes my fantasy heart happy. Although with all the walking around and such, I'd have liked a map to help me orient myself.

The plot flowed really well and I kept flipping pages. It's a good thing I was stuck at home sick, because I read the whole thing in an afternoon, absolutely glued to the book. And immediately grabbed the second book.

I really loved the author's style, and it definitely makes me want to read more of her books! Highly recommend this book!

Victoria Howell says

I enjoyed it! I love all of the different talents and the animal bonding. ^^

Natalie says

Nope nope nope.

Got a quarter of the way through and couldn't deal with it anymore when I was introduced to yet another POV with little explanation about who any of the people are.

I'm a quarter of the way through and I haven't been told anything about the world, or what makes the people that are being hunted special. It jumps all over the place, one minute Jayden is training with her family, and I swear the next sentence she was on a horse and they were taking her to marry her off to some guy. There was

no indication that this was the type of world where that happens. It could have been a modern setting for all I knew, but I'm having to guess (because you aren't told) that it's an old time fantasy world.

I'm, again, guessing that some people have powers in this world, and that's why they're being hunted. Not that you really see any of these you just have to believe what little you're told.

About 5 characters were introduced per chapter with no information about who they are, and why I should care about them. So I didn't care about them. Loads of terms for stuff in this world were just thrown about with not even a subtle amount of back story.

Not reading this won't be much of a miss because people with powers being hunted isn't exactly an original idea and I'll just reread the ten other books I've read on this story.

Anna Tan says

Grimm throws you right into the action in *Scarlet Moon*, an action-packed story of love, heroism and revenge.

Love, because the overarching theme of this book seems to be that *Love conquers all*, especially Fear and Evil. She does have that little love triangle thing going on, but it's not so much a plot as a distraction. But Love here, in the more *agape* than *eros* kind, takes front stage centre, and makes every one do stupid things. Ryan, for instance, has to choose between his desire to protect his family or his beloved. Logan cannot face or confront his absconded wife. Ethan will protect Jayden at all costs. And Jayden, poor, stupid, heroic, annoying Jayden (I love her but boy, does she need a slap upside the head), is set on running away from everyone who would protect her because she loves them too much. Or running to put herself between them and danger even when she cannot do anything to save them (and actually, if she ran away, they could sort of save themselves?).

Which brings me to heroism. There's noble heroics (see: Ethan), there's reluctant heroics (see: Logan), and there is STUPID HEROICS (see: Jayden). I don't really know where Ryan fits in this. Maybe brave heroics? He's fighting to stay alive for at least half of this story, though he does get some heroic action towards the end. Anyway, Jayden is one of the prophesied Deliverers but she is inclined to stupid, short-sighted heroics where she frequently messes up escape plans because of her inability to actually *run away* when she needs to. I know, I know, it adds to the tension and the plot, but you'd think she'd learn after the second time or so. (But NOOOO she can't run because Ethan/Ryan might die and no one can die except her. Except if she does, the prophecy fails and EVERY ONE DIES. Right.)

Then there is revenge. Personal vendettas break from their confines every once in a while, with all the lovely tragic backstories making their appearances (sorry, I'm a sucker for tragic heroes), and whilst some of these get pushed aside momentarily to deal with current circumstances, you just know it's going to rear its head sometime in the future. Or in other (shorter) words, several characters have difficulty staying on course because they have a thirst for revenge.

AT ANY RATE. *Scarlet Moon* is a thrilling read for fantasy lovers.

Note: I received a free copy of this book via Unicorn Questor for an upcoming blog tour. I was given the book with no expectation of a positive review and the review is my own.

Tara says

A thoroughly enjoyable ride, fast paced, edge of your seat book. Grabs your attention from the start, the characters are instantly likeable and it's such a fun, pick me up book.

Thanks to netgalley and the publisher for a free copy of this book for an honest opinion

Laura A. Grace says

I can honestly say this book took me for an adventure. The feelings I felt strongly throughout most of it...slightly...changed near the end. I didn't expect that and it definitely caught me off guard. I'm not even quite sure what to be feeling going into book two. Nothing and no one are really as it seems. It will be interesting to see where things go next.

Ryan was definitely my favorite character and a lot of the upset feelings I had going on were about his story. I'm nervous to hope for what will happen for him in book two, but hopefully he gets what I feel he deserves. <3

The bond between animals and humans was awesome. One of my favorite things, especially how that bond affects both of them. I also liked a lot of the world-building aspects.

Curious and intrigued to read book two!

Lake Reviews says

I would like to thank Netgalley and Gilead Publishing for providing me with "Scarlet Moon" for free, in exchange for a honest review

This is in third person point of view and jumps around to different characters throughout the story. I personally don't enjoy that when reading. The story line is enjoyable; we are seeing people that are marked hunted and finding why. It has loads of action and fantasy in it. The story line is catching. Making you want to know what happens and drawing you in for more. I got halfway through before I couldn't read anymore. The jumping around got to me. I enjoyed the idea of the story and all the characters are well thought out. If you can handle the jumping around to characters, enjoy fantasy and action, you should give it a try.

Kara says

The cover of this book really got my attention and I saw a video on facebook showing DuPonce's attention to detail over this cover, that alone made me want to read this even though I knew nothing about the story. I also didn't agree with some of the low rated reviews so I decided to give this book a chance and I have to say it's better than I expected it to be.

Jayden is the most important character and the story starts out with her hanging out with her four brothers, training with her dagger. I liked her immediately because she hesitates to kill even though it will save her life and her brothers are adorable. Her brothers and parents are killed right in front of her and even though this story is full of violence, that beginning scene bothered me the most. The writing is sooooo good that the reader loves Jayden's family right away and their loss is tangible for the rest of the plot. Jayden isn't the same

after their sacrifice, but it's a necessary part of her journey.

Then we meet Ryan, who is Jayden's betrothed, and he is nearly killed right away also. Jayden joins up with Anna, Logan and eventually Ethan who send her on a quest in an effort to save Ryan's life. As Jayden and Ethan get close, I wasn't satisfied feeling like this was a love triangle, one of my pet peeves in fiction. However, I came to realize that it isn't a love triangle and my heart wanted Ethan for Jayden.

There are wolves, a black lion creature, and a unicorn and only one of these creatures is with the good guys and they are ALL extremely dangerous, but it was fascinating watching how Logan, Jayden and Ethan battle these creatures.

I found it VERY interesting how the characters bond to wolves and how Anna bonds to the trees. Made every character in the story important to the plot, which reminds me of Narnia :)

Queen Idla is easy to hate, her soldiers are neverending, the story had me cringing as they were killed throughout the story, but nothing bothered me as much as Jayden's family being killed. There is a LOT of blood shed in this story, but I was so into what would happen next that it didn't slow down my reading. It felt like the movie Braveheart in a few scenes and Ryan loses blood as well as spits up blood while fighting for his life. Felt like that needed to be said for any sensitive readers out there.

I'm interested in knowing what happens to the assassins Thea and her sister, Kara....also want to know more about Rebekah and Connor. Was a little confused about Connor because it seemed like he turned into an animal in the end.

I was concerned about the type of magic in the story, but it's mostly healing herbs that get used and characters that communicated with animals they are bonded to. The nasty queen deals with dark magic, but it wasn't creepy for me (it's minimum), I was just nervous about the characters I loved being hurt or killed. Logan and Ethan really get beat up by the bad guys, Ryan suffers in the beginning, and it was challenging for me to see these young men so brutally dealt with, yet I understood that in a fight with good versus evil, violence does happen. Something happens at the end that had me shaking my head and thinking this better not happen or everything I hoped about this book will leave me unsatisfied, the ending is kind of a small cliffhanger but it left me with hope.

Yes, the chapters keep changing who the character is so you have to keep up, but it gets to the point where the main plot is about Jayden and Ryan so I don't believe this takes away from the story at all. The writing had me captivated from the beginning and overall I would say this is an impressive debut. I only recommend this book for fantasy readers but I think those who appreciate a fantasy book with characters who persevere against impossible odds will enjoy Grimm's storytelling style.

Thanks to NetGalley and the publisher for this review copy. The thoughts expressed are my own.

Cassia Schaar says

If only school didn't make reading take so long! I really liked this book. The beginning was especially well written and hooked me--i read the first half in a single day and whenever i got the chance between classes i would sneak chapters. There's a huge array of formidable villains, a cast of loveable heroes, and a world of really unique renditions of creatures. Super pumped for Amber Eyes (especially now knowing what the title is referencing ;))

Nicki Chapelway says

Ugh. The feels... the feels. Are. Dead.

It wasn't as much of a massacre as the first time I read it. I couldn't even eat dinner that night because my stomach and my heart had somehow ended up tied into a knot. I nearly threw the book against the wall and rated it one star even though I had enjoyed it immensely, if it weren't for that epilogue... *sighs deeply because of pain*

I love all of the characters and here's a short list of what needs to happen in the next book: Logan and Rebekah need to make up. Ryan needs to find a nice girl. Ethan and Jayden need to end up (view spoiler)(view spoiler) I don't think I ask for too much.

I remember the first time I read this, being very confused for the first fifty chapters or so because there were so many characters. But hang in there! You'll come to love them all. Even the ones who don't make it *sobs*. There is some violence and lots of blood that might make someone with a weaker stomach squeamish. I grew up watching Lord of the Rings so I'm fine.

I have so many unanswered questions. Fortunately I have Amber Eyes on hand (finally- that was a cruel trick to play on me, Grimm, making me wait over a year for it).

I initially received a free copy of this book for review. But all opinions are 100% mine.

Ralene Burke says

I pretty much devoured this book. The author does a great job of building suspense, raising tensions, and throwing in twists. I can't believe I have to wait for the 2nd book. She has some unique characters and an engaging plot. Everything a person could want in a good fantasy novel.

Paula Vince says

Strong fantasy isn't usually my first choice of genre, but I was requested to read this and it's quite a fascinating story once we grasp it.

It's not the easiest plot to latch onto at the beginning. The story is told in third person with five alternating points of view, so initially we are shuttled from one perspective to another without knowing what's going on. Since the characters themselves aren't even clear about the happenings elsewhere in their realm, it stands to reason that the reader won't be either, until enough time has passed that we begin picking up the threads of the fast moving story, with its deception, violence, loyalty and adventure.

There are several main characters but foremost is Jayden. The story starts when her beloved parents and brothers are slaughtered trying to protect her from aggressive soldiers who attempt to abduct her. Jayden was a child born on the night of the Blood Moon. These young people have distinct, identifying birthmarks and unique skills that set them apart from others. Evidence seems to indicate that the Feravolk people are behind

the attacks, giving her good reason to hate them.

Jayden's fiance, Ryan, is seriously injured with a poisonous arrow as he helps her escape, setting her off on a quest to save his life. It's vital to get hold of a specific rare herb which only grows in the Valley of Hidden Ones, where she and her friends must contend with dangerous animals, including unicorns. They are also forced into the proximity of the corrupt queen's royal army, who really are responsible for the attacks on Blood Moon children.

Jayden's companions include her protector, Logan, who happens to belong to the Feravolk, and his wolf companion Westwind. For those who enjoy lovers' triangles, there are emotional moments when Ryan's brother Ethan joins them, especially since he is a dashing and heroic main character himself. Jayden has always known she's never felt passionately in love with his brother, so the stage is set for tension.

The monarch, Idla, deserves to take her place in the ranks of literary evil queens. She has her own selfish reasons for wanting to get hold of all the Blood Moon children, and sneaky ways of setting about it. Other members of her court include Franco, her despicable son, Oswell, her chief advisor, and assassins Thea and Kara, the 'Destruction Sisters'. Logan's wife Rebekah is also forced into the queen's service, along with their son Connor, for reasons the reader has to discover.

There is a dark fairy tale feeling about Soleden, the setting, and the characters are endearing with lively dialogue and heroic perseverance. This book is almost 400 pages long and there are sequels coming, so readers who enjoy long, epic fantasy adventures should be well satisfied. However, others may find it a challenge, trying to make sense of a world we don't understand, and being forced into the head spaces of people who do.

Thanks to Net Galley and Enclave Publishing for my review copy.

For more reviews and book talk, visit my blog, <http://vincereview.blogspot.com.au/>

Shantelle says

I absolutely loved it! I was looking forward to reading another book by Enclave Publishing, and *Scarlet Moon* by S.D. Grimm was my chance! I won it in a giveaway, and so received a signed copy of this epic beauty.

Scarlet Moon is a fantasy tale, first book in the series CHILDREN OF THE BLOOD MOON. It follows a young woman named Jayden, and a myriad of other main characters, on a dangerous and enlightening journey to escape evil and discover truth.

This was truly incredible fantasy - with a fairy tale touch. I enjoyed it oh so much! The world. The characters. The mystery. The fight of good vs. evil. The romance. This book was unique and captivating. So many interesting people, and intriguing ways their lives all wove together! I'm still trying to figure out some things - can't wait for book two, *Amber Eyes*! Eeee!

I liked the Christian allegory, and hoping to see that blossom more as this series progresses. I just really adored Jayden. Something about her was unique from other YA female protagonists. I loved the character development she went through, and her personality and reactions. So very much looking forward to journeying more with her.

And Ethan! Oh, Ethan! I don't even know what to say yet.

I'm intrigued, and scared, with what's going on with Ryan. Really want to see where that's going! (*Amber Eyes*, come quickly!)

And just all the other characters! I want to see what happens! I want to continue their journeys!

The animal's (particularly wolves') part in this story was so cool. I love it! And unicorns! And protective bonds. And everything! I simply adore how *Scarlet Moon*, though on the darker side of fantasy, had this fairy tale feel. Perfection.

So yes, violence and some gruesomeness. A warning there, if you're sensitive to that sort of thing. I feel S.D. Grimm handled it all fairly well, but still, it does air on the darker side.

But hope is there, still! Though some parts of *Scarlet Moon* wrenched my heart and stole my breath, overall, this book utterly delighted my fantasy-loving self. If you enjoy Christian fantasy, you must pick up this novel!

Meghan Edwards says

I received a free copy from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

In the first chapter we are introduced to nine different people. But don't worry about remembering them, seven are murdered by the end of the chapter.

In the second chapter we have more people introduced, but again, they are not to be remembered unless thugs and drunks are important. However, we do have a new narrator telling the story. A narrator who is used to introduce yet a third party who reasonably cannot be the first narrator as this is set in a two week time span prior to the first chapter. Which means in two chapters there is now a dozen or so throwaway characters and potentially three people telling the story.

Then we have these mysterious magic users who have different names who appear to be hunting down these –other- magic users that are the three narrators. Following? Good, because in chapter three we have more characters to be introduced to. Plus some of the magic users are actually non-magic users with magic items from the magical beings who want the children.

Chapter four opens with a fourth narrator, this is the point where I stopped reading.

Tricia Mingerink says

This book is amazing! I seriously stayed up way too late finishing it!

I've been dying to read it ever since it came out, and it didn't disappoint.

It is very easy to read, though there are a lot of characters introduced at the beginning. It didn't bother me, though, and the style was so clear I was never confused whose head I was in for the POV. The book focuses more on plot than character, which is actually a plus for me as far as personal reading preferences. :)

It is a Christian fantasy with more hints of Christianity than some Christian fantasy I've read. Many of the characters are struggling to trust the Creator and the path He has set for them.

The end...I would've been really heartbroken and hated the end, if not for the final epilogue. Now, I just really, really, really want book 2! Seriously!

