



Hunter's Moon

Lisa Kessler

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Sasha's future was stolen from her the moment she was bitten. Now she's on the run from the Nero Organization that transformed her from a human detective into a shape shifting jaguar assassin.

When a rogue bounty hunter threatens her younger sister, she'll be forced to fight, and with nowhere else to turn, Sasha will need to trust the one man who has every reason to want her dead.

Aren is a werewolf with a secret. While protecting his twin brother and Alpha of the Pack, he found his one mate for life. Sadly she's also the jaguar assassin who tried to kill them both. Now Aren is struggling between his animal nature to love and protect her, and his loyalty to the Pack.

Hunter's Moon Details

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From Reader Review Hunter's Moon for online ebook

Marlene says

Originally published at Reading Reality

Hunter's Moon is a more than worthy successor to the first book in Kessler's Moon series, Moonlight. In fact, any author who is thinking about using the fated-mate trope should check out this series for an example of using that otherwise tired trope in a way that is definitely NOT a short cut to romance and is still filled with both loads of romantic and suspenseful tension.

The story of Hunter's Moon picks up a few months after Moonlight, and is a bit dependent on some knowledge of the previous story. It took me a bit to remember "where we left our heroes" but I think there was more depth to the family relationships in the story because I did remember. Your mileage, of course, may vary.

In Moonlight, Sasha tried to kill Adam and Aren and capture Lana in order to get the mysterious Nero Organization to give her a cure for the unfortunate case of jaguar shifter that she had been infected with.

Several problems in that scenario. First, there ain't no cure. Second, Nero is so damn evil, they wouldn't give it to her if there was. And third and fourth, well, third and fourth turn out to be the point of the story in Hunter's Moon.

In the big brawl that ended Moonlight, Sasha head-butted Aren. While this does not sound like the beginnings of even a beautiful friendship, it was skin-on-skin contact, even if it did make Aren see stars. It was enough for wolf-shifter Aren to recognize Sasha as his mate.

Yes, we have fated mate trope again. Aren-the-person doesn't even have to start out liking the person his wolf wants. He's still stuck. And for life, at that.

But Sasha doesn't know, doesn't care, and even when informed (much, much later), doesn't have to acknowledge that such a thing exists. She's a jaguar shifter, and jaguars do NOT mate for life. This is his problem, not her problem.

Aren not only has to win her over in some version of the old-fashioned way, he has to do it in spite of the fact that they have really bad history together, and that his entire Pack has really bad history with her.

In Moonlight, this problem existed but it was impersonal. Wolves didn't like jaguars in general, not necessarily Lana in particular. With Sasha, it's very personal. She really did bad acts against the Pack.

Sasha can't figure out how or why Aren is able to put it behind him. She's certain that the rest of the Pack never will. But she needs their help, because the Nero Organization has sent a rogue werewolf to hunt her down and kill her.

And he's planning to use her little sister as bait. Or a snack.

Escape Rating B+: The story in Hunter's Moon is a bit darker than the one in Moonlight. The stakes seem higher and the dastardly plots seem that much more nefarious, even though the Nero Organization is less obvious in this story than they were in the first book.

There's an awful lot of sub-plot in this one about family, and family has a way of twisting people up more than almost anything else. The pack is "family you make" and they are a tight knit bunch. Adding Lana and Sasha into the mix, along with the strain of the constant attacks because of them, creates a lot of stress that some members are handling less well than others. There are lots of explosions waiting to happen.

Adam and Aren's long-lost uncle shows up, and turns out to be working for the other side. Well, one of the other sides. Maybe.

But the whole thing hinges on Adam's need to protect his wife and children, set against Aren's desire to protect the woman who is the only chance he'll ever have at a wife. While Sasha believes that the only way that she can protect herself and her sister is to never depend on anyone but herself.

There's even more major tension in this story related to family, including revelations about the Nero Organization.

One of the things about evil organizations that never ceases to amaze me, they always go the supersoldier route, and it never ends well. Not for the soldiers and not for the organization, but they keep making the same mistake.

But the different ways they screw it up are what make books about them so compelling.

Cayla says

Loved it!

Pam says

Hunter's Moon Review

This is the 2nd book in Lisa Kessler's Moon series.

I received this as an ARC copy for an honest review. I am a Lisa Kessler fan. Her books grab me & keep me coming back for more. Love the Moon series. I did a happy dance when I was asked to review this book. Sasha is a turned Jaguar who led Nero to Aren's Sister-in-Law Lana. Aren is a Wolf. In the last book She had shot Aren in the ankle & he carried her away from the fight. In which Aren's Alpha father was killed, and his brother Adam became the new Alpha. In this book Aren has been following Sasha & killing off Nero's assassins that are trying to kill Sasha.

My shoulders tensed up. "Look, I will admit I was bitter when my leg didn't heal up the way I'd hoped it would. But I figure it makes us even."

"Even?"

I nodded. "When I followed Adam and Lana to San Antonio, I went with one goal. I wanted to kill whoever made a move against my brother. Simple. I didn't care who you were or why you were there, I hated you because you were a jaguar. Even though Adam trusted her, I thought Lana was setting him up. You know why I was so sure of that? Because she was a jaguar. I didn't even know her, but I thought I did just because she didn't shift into a wolf."

"You were protecting your family. Justified suspicions based

on past experience.”

Now who does not love a sexy wolf. Aren has realized that Sasha is his mate.

Dammit. I yanked out the sofa bed, directing my frustration to the hotel furniture in the process. When I finally got into the bed, the cool cotton sheets soothed my hot skin and my equally hot temper. Fate was really fucking with me. First I find my mate and she's trying to kill me, now we're on the same team, and...

And the woman drove me crazy.

They link up together to defeat the Rabid Wolf that Nero sent to eliminate Sasha. This wolf finds out about Sasha's sister Nadya so they send her to Adam & Lana for protection. The Pack gets involved & the story heats up. There are some steamy scenes. Sasha has some trust issues that Aren has to resolve before he can claim his mate. If you like a good steamy shifter book then do not hesitate to purchase this one. You will not be disappointed. It is another great book by Lisa Kessler.

From a fan... Pam James

Marta Cox says

This is the second book in Lisa Kessler's "Moon " series and is easily a standalone novel but I do feel that it would be better if readers were to read "Moonlight " first . Ms Kessler has written about a world with shifters in it and her take on werewolves and jaguar shifters is not to be missed.

The two central characters here are Aren a werewolf and Sasha a jaguar shifter. They previously met when Sasha was acting as an assassin for Nero , a secret organisation that's trying to build its own army of super soldiers. Sasha had been lied to and told she could obtain an antidote to her condition if she played along and captured Aren's sister in law. Needless to say that didn't go down well and now Sasha is on the run from both Nero operatives and the Werewolves.

Unfortunately for Aren when they met he realised that fate is a twisted bitch and has made Sasha his mate and he's left tracking her down .

Sasha is on the run but Nero have sent a rogue werewolf after her and he's getting too close for comfort. Realising that her baby sister is in danger she turns to the strongest and most honourable male she knows, Aren. Sasha finds the guy insanely attractive but how can he or his pack ever forgive her for her previous actions.? Aren asks his brother to hide Nadya , Sasha's younger sister and reluctantly Adam agrees. Sasha never asked to be a shifter but her police experience makes her a sharp lady who's capable of taking care of herself but this time she knows she's out of her depth. The werewolf assassin is closing in and although the wolves are hiding Nadya they are not going to forgive Sasha. Can Aren convince his pack that he needs her? Will Sasha ever look at him and realise his feelings are true? They will have to survive in order to find out! This was an easy and very interesting read. The old dilemma "love thy enemy" has never been more fitting and what a tangled mess these two characters find themselves in. The young couple shift into different species and there's been so much deception that at times their problems seem insurmountable but the hero Aren never has any doubts about his lady. He's hard wired to protect his Alpha and pack and Sasha is über protective of her sister. Yet they find themselves pushing against the odds as they learn to trust each other. Lots of hot loving adds to the story.

The only thing that might not sit well with some readers is the fact that we read it as first person as each chapter is told from the point of view of either Aren or Sasha but it just felt seamless to me as the writing flowed so well. The author makes you feel part of the story which only enhanced the experience. I haven't read the first book and now have to seek it out and I'm very happy to recommend this book . Also I'm so intrigued to know what happens next as there is a certain wolf that I feel will be getting his own tale next(pun intended!) .

Shauni says

Ready for a romp on the wild side? Then you just need to explore Lisa Kessler's Moon Series.. When one wolf shifter discovers his mate is a Jaguar it's rather unique, when his twin discovers the same thing it's getting a bit weird here. I mean cats and dogs?? But seriously, it's not bad enough that their mates are cats but Aren's mate, Sasha, is the assassin who was sent to capture Adam's mate. Leading to a domino effect.. the death of their Alpha (and father) as well as another pack mate. if it's one thing the pack knows, Sasha is the enemy. So how can this match ever work??

Sasha was a good cop, an exceptional cop until she fell for the wrong guy. First he kills the witness she is supposed to be protecting then he bites her.. changing her from a regular human to a shifting Jaguar. And as if that's not enough, now that he's turned her into a monster he has dangled the chance for an antidote in front of her. All she has to do is become an assassin for their rather shady organization. An organization that has ties to both big money and the government. Of course corruption is running rampant. Once Sasha wiggles her way in she discovers that there is so much more to the organization than meets the eye. Secret breeding programs, altering DNA on perfectly respectable shifters so they might become a "super team". And what's worse is Sasha just knows that if they ever discover she has a sister.. her sister's life is going to be ruined as well. So Sasha is on the run with only the cat who shifted her to help (which is just wrong on all sorts of levels). You'd think surviving a fire that should have killed her would be enough.. but now she has one of the wolves on her trail and there is no escape. Except when she discovers another assassin has been sent after her, she knows the one person she can rely on is the one person she should never trust, Aren.

Aren is a werewolf with a mission and a secret. Ever since that crazy jaguar shifter tased him then shattered his ankle, Aren has known she was his mate. How does one accept that? His mate is the one female who he should never be around and certainly can't trust. And yet he is constantly drawn to her. And in need of protecting her from the crazed maniacs who claim to be her bosses. She has no one now and Aren knows she needs him. When out of the blue she calls him and asks him to help protect her sister, Aren knows now is the time. If they can not connect now they just might never do so.

An interesting dilemma.. Love your enemy.. Poor Sasha had no clue, she wasn't raised in this world she was forced into it. She only had her sister left. Only the deeper she looks into this mysterious world the more she finds out. They conspiracies have conspiracies.. no one is trustworthy so how can she believe that the man whose father's death she was responsible for would even want her for a mate? Aren and Sasha are an interesting couple. While they have shifted into different species their general make up is the same. Family first. Then serve and protect.. yeah not so far apart. They just have to figure out how they can ever make this work.

This book was written in the first person format, switching from Aren's PoV to Sasha's you would think this would be distracting but it rather enhances the story. Makes it more intimate and still allows you to be an observer. I am not usually a fan of first person but the way Ms Kessler chooses to switch back and forth really adds a certain dynamic to this particular story. I don't think I would like it on a regular basis but I did enjoy it with this book and most likely with this series.

And yes my friends, as I write this review I see similarities to a certain Ghostwalker series.. but honestly, I didn't catch that until I started writing the review. The story itself captured my attention, the characters were dynamic without being overwhelming and the connection worked. Don't worry about getting lost in a jungle of stories.. this series is all about these characters. A rather good book and I am certainly looking forward to more.

Shauni

This review is based on the ARC of Hunter's Moon, provided by netgalley and is scheduled to be released on October 21, 2013

Denise Van plew says

Received the arc for a honest review. Pardon the pun on this but this was a howling excellent hot read. Howling is used because it brought to mind the call in the wild that the wolves do to communicate with each other. And no matter in a pack the Alpha knows when something isn't right and that is exactly what Adam knows with Aren. In this one of the series follow Aren and Sasha's ups and downs, out of control situations and hair raising danger they encounter. This is one hot intense wolf male that will do anything and about everything for his mate regardless what comes their way. And talk about issues she has em for sure. Just a challenge any good wolf is up for I would say. Telling you he is my kind of guy and if she is smart she will sink her jaguar claws in and not let go and hang on for life. Ha Ha funny how Adam and him-same taste in women kinda. Think you could ever love your enemy or have them be accepted by family and friends once you did? Now Aren being the exceptional man he is doesn't let that put him off. Once the enemy now realization she is his mate is one mind blower for sure but funny how love can be that way. Watching over her places her in his path and him in the line of fire and the crazy wolf and other factions after her puts her in his corner for a crazy ride. When it places her sister in jeopardy who does he call but someone who will understand in hopes of a safe place until it is finished. Fighting herself and her growing love for Aren she really needs to save it for the psycho wolf hot on their tails and the group who wants her dead for real and could possibly be after her sister too. What a adventure this certainly turns out to be nail biting times even if I did not want to keep them that is. And did I mention all the hotties in this pack-oh yeah. A unique aspect in this series in the twin thing in this pack that takes it from being ordinary to that added twist that keeps a reader involved and coming back for more. Never a nodding off moment in this one. Can she learn to trust after all? Can Aren and Sasha really come together and stay together? That would be a howling success at the end then would it not? Now why would I spoil it for you and tell you the answer guess a person would have to read it for themselves to find out. Would not want to be accused of spoiling your own howling good time in the discovery to the answers.

Amanda says

when I started reading this book I didn't know it was the 2nd book in the series, but I was able to follow the story well without having read the first. This book kept me on the edge of my seat wanting to know what would happen next. I loved that it never had a boring part. so ready for the next book! ! but for now I'm off to read the first one :)

Sony says

I'm in love!

I loved reading Aren and Sasha's story. This author is quickly becoming one of my new favorites. This story has on the edge of your set action, suspense, and hot sexy time.

Holly says

LOVE!! I really don't know how else to describe how I feel about this book! I started this book knowing it was going to be amazing, and not once was I let down. I am typically a sucker for the hero from the very first book in a series, but I gotta say, I think Aren might have topped Adam with this one. Sasha and Aren are great as a team and when Sasha finally lets her guard down, they become an amazing couple. This book has action, romance, and maybe even a few explosives, so what more could one want? I HIGHLY recommend reading this, but suggest you read *Moonlight* first if you haven't already. While you can read this one and gather a pretty good concept of book 1, you would seriously be missing out on another amazing story. I received an ARC from the publisher for an honest review.

Carmel (Rabid Reads) says

Reviewed by: Rabid Reads

I enjoyed *Hunter's Moon* quite a bit more than book 1; it helped that I already had a feel for Kessler's wolves and the history between the main couple definitely helped make this installment's insta-love romance more believable. The Nero plot line continues to add intrigue and an element of danger to this series' story arc which means that there's plenty of action on both sides of the bedroom door. All-in-all, another solid werewolf book from Lisa Kessler!

This novel picks-up not too long after *Moonlight* and I thought that the author did a good job of bringing readers up-to-date on the latest Sloan Pack news. Adam and Lana are now the proud parents of twins and I appreciated that there was a nice continuation to this series' overall story arc. I liked how the Nero organization shifted its focus from one heroine to the next and was pleasantly surprised by some of the twists along the way. The kinks in the werewolf lore that bothered me in the first installment seem to have also been ironed out which was a definite bonus as well. There's been real growth from book-to-book and I hope that this trend continues with each new addition.

Aren and Sasha drew me in faster than Kessler's previous romantic duo; I think them having a backstory definitely helped to establish better chemistry. I'm also really enjoying the set-ups for each book. They get me psyched about reading the next installment and lo and behold, already I find myself looking forward to Gareth and Nadya's tale! Sasha's character is especially well-developed; not only does she kick some serious ass but she's also an emotional wreck which makes her and Aren's relationship interesting to say the least. I'm definitely diggin' that the mate bond only seems to affect the males (so far) because it's refreshing to see alpha werewolves falling all over the women for a change.

The main romance runs hot and cold but in a good way; the drama wasn't overdone but did help to add a nice level of conflict to the relationship. This series definitely has a high steam factor and fortunately, Kessler doesn't skimp on any of the delicious details which is always a plus in my opinion. I loved the way the author created a happily-ever-after that was right for Aren and Sasha rather than the customary white picket fence finale. The ending left me feeling satisfied and anxious for the next installment.

Hunter's Moon is an addictive read that's sure to get you hooked on Lisa Kessler's werewolves.

Nicola says

4.5 stars.

Spoiler-free full review of the series **HERE!**

Lora says

This book is better than Lisa Kessler's the first book Moonlight. Sasha is a jaguar shifter who was bitten against her will. She is a cop on leave with trust issues that she battles with throughout the storyline. . I love strong female characters that can take care of themselves. Ms. Kessler did her research on this cop character; the only thing missing was a black sense of humour as law enforcement types always have that characteristic. Aren is a werewolf, who against his will battles his attraction to Sasha and finally accepts that she is his mate. Aren is a very loyal, hot werewolf who trusts his instincts to guide him with his relationship with Sasha.

Sasha and Aren's story is hot and very sensual. I can actually feel the characters making love and connecting emotionally. The love scenes are especially good from Aren's point of view.

I like Sasha as she is a complex character and her motivations are always interesting and I enviably want to know more. I knew when I read Moonlight that I would be buying the follow up eBook Hunter's Moon as I just had to know more about Sasha's character

I also love the twists and turns with Nero as they become more depraved and scarier as the story progresses. I like the complexity of Nero. Their true goals coming to light provides their motivations, which are not obvious to the reader. Thornhill is truly a depraved character. Sebastian is the enigma of the series so far and adds another layer of twists and turns to the storyline.

Another intriguing character is Nadya. She is Sasha's kid sister, who turns out to be secretly psychic and Nero's actual target all along. Being a loyal reader and curious person, I will be buying book 3 Blood Moon. If you love the paranormal genre do yourself a favour and try Lisa Kessler's fast paced, well written hot paranormal romances with some serious ass kicking thrown in.

Crystal says

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

Sasha used to be a detective until she got with the wrong guy and became a jaguar shifter. She made some bad decisions trying to become get a drug to become human again. Now she is on the run and trying to save her sister. Seems like the only guy that can help her is the one that she shot, Aren.

Aren is a wolf shifter and he is trying to protect Sasha because she is his mate. Only thing is, is she tried to get his brothers mate and she is the cause of his father dying and another pack member. Getting the pack to help her is going to be hard.

Even though I didn't get to read the first book I enjoyed this one. I didn't feel like I was missing anything and I learned some of the things that happened in the first one in this book. I really liked how Aren stood up for Sasha, against his pack and even his brother. That shows what true love is.

I enjoyed the storyline and getting to see more of the pack and I can't wait for the next book to come out. I know that it will be very intense.

Sin says

Hunter's Moon

Meet Sasha who was bitten by a Jaguar shifter and turned against her will. She is an ex-cop and an excellent marksman. When we last saw her she had shot Aren in the ankle, and told Nero where to find Lana and kidnap her.

Meet Aren a born werewolf shifter who after being shot by Sasha dragged her to safety during the foiled kidnap attempt of Lana. Aren has been shadowing Sasha and killing people sent by Nero to take her back. The reason? She is his mate.

For more humor, romance and mystery please read and enjoy. :)

This is the sequel to Moonlight. Lisa has again kept me riveted to the book and wanting more. Lisa Kessler

Rhianna says

My new favorite couple!

With the blurb doing such a great job of laying out the basics of HUNTER'S MOON let me skip resummarizing it and jump into why I loved it.

Kessler has quickly become an "auto-buy" author for me. Not only does she have an exceptional talent for taking paranormal romance staples and giving them great new elements that rock, she has an amazing gift for voice. I don't care for first-person alternating perspectives much, and especially not in romances, but she managed to really make it work. I'd dare go so far as to say that I felt much more invested in Aren and Sasha's relationship getting their story right from them. If you tend to read both Urban Fantasy and Paranormal Romance Kessler is an author you should be paying attention to.

Action-packed and intense, HUNTER'S MOON delivers everything I love in a good read. As a fated-mates hater I love that while the werewolves find their one mate, jaguars don't in this series. It adds an excellent drama that makes Aren and Sasha's feelings for one another so much more enjoyable. I love that they even talk about whether his feelings would be the same if he wasn't forced to love her by his animal instincts. Meanwhile, the villainous figure after Sasha and her sister keeps them from getting too comfortable.

If you enjoyed MOONLIGHT you're going to dig the new information on Nero and even some new stuff about the Sloan family. By the time the central action ends the world has opened and twisted and will leave you anxious for the next book. The romance itself ties up in a fashion I found pretty amusing (and those of you who have some knowledge of Kessler's interests will love it) and sweet in a theatrical kind of way.

Sasha and Aren are one of my favorite romance couplings to date, the only problem I found with the story was the hang up she had that prolonged the inevitable HEA. I just wanted to give Sasha a nudge in the side with my elbow and say, "come on... seriously?". Once she gets her head on straight though it makes for an excellent ending.

If you love shifter romances and heroines who don't really need rescuing, just a partner to have their back you simply must read HUNTER'S MOON.

Notes: ARC received via publisher.
