



Winter's Light

M.J. Hearle

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Blake is gone.

He sacrificed himself to save Winter, leaving her alone, unprotected... hunted.

An ancient enemy is rising, but Winter is no longer the innocent girl who was fated to die at Pilgrim's Lament. She will not wait to be saved. She will do what she must to survive, even accept an unsavoury alliance with those who destroyed her love.

In the gathering darkness, the enemy of an enemy is not always a friend, and Winter must find the strength to stand alone and fight for the one she loves. For she is the key to unlocking the secrets beyond the veil of shadows.

And she is Blake's only hope.

Winter's Light Details

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Author : M.J. Hearle

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From Reader Review Winter's Light for online ebook

Brodie says

4.5 stars

Three months have passed since the tragic events at Pilgrim's Lament. Three months Winter's has had to deal with her grief over losing Blake, while living with the knowledge of all she learnt about the Dead Lands and her own unique abilities. She's about to attend her high school graduation - putting yet another piece of her life behind her - but what she doesn't realise is that life after school may offer something far more unsettling. Attacked by two Demori, Winter finds an unlikely saviour in Sam, one of the Bane who aided in Blake's demise. He may have just saved her life, but can she really trust him? More troubling is that Winter now has a deadly enemy in a Demori who will stop at nothing to exact his vengeance.

Winter shines for her strength and initiative in this novel. She's determined, a girl on a mission, fueled by love and the promise of saving what she thought was lost to her. She's very independent and I liked seeing her faced with difficult decisions. While sometimes you're warning her against doing something, you can sympathise with her reasons why and she's smart enough to understand the risks. Sam was a very welcome addition to the cast, I loved that Hearle probed deeper into his character. He may not have always done the right things, but he's now away from his father's influence and a much better person for it. He's trying to atone for his past mistakes and while you have suspicions that he may still be hiding something from Winter, you can't help but feel for him. I also love that we saw plenty of Jasmine. Too many times the best friend is there but often gets pushed to the side when the heroine is off on a dangerous supernatural mission. Here, Jasmine knows of the otherworldly dangers Winter is entangled in and regardless of the risks, she sticks by her friend's side, loyal until the end... despite that she's just as terrified as Winter!

As with Winter's Shadow, Hearle once again gives us a glimpse into the past - two thousand years ago, to be exact. I especially loved this element of the story. Lamara was a fascinating character who made a decision powered by love, just as Winter is doing now, but it lead Lamara to the heart of the Dead Lands. Straight into the terrifying hands on the Malfaerie. I so enjoyed reading the time spent there, because the Malfaerie are horrific, power-hungry things and I was caught up in Lamara's tragic, yet darkly thrilling story.

We're still immersed in the haunting atmosphere of Hagan's Bluff, but we also see more foreign scenery with the Dead Lands and a glimpse of Paris. And it's in Paris that we meet the Bonnaires, a long line of family (perhaps not all by blood, but definitely by loyalty) who hunt down the Demori. They want Winter for a very specific reason... but are their motives to be trusted? And is Blake's potential rescue worth the risk of what they want to unleash?

Sacrifices demand to be made and Winter must learn to trust her instincts. But when they're warning her against the one plan that may save Blake from his eternal doom, how can she turn away? The stakes are raised even higher in the sequel. Hearle brilliantly weaves two captivating tales from the past and present, which intertwine despite the time that separates them. Winter's Light will hook you back into its dark and eerie world from the very first page and once you turn the last, you will be hungry for the next book after the cliffhanger you're left on! Packed with even more action and intensity than the first, Winter's Light keeps you on constant alert, with twists you won't see coming until the very last minute and danger that urges you to read faster.

A must read for anyone who enjoyed the first book and definitely a series you should try if you're looking for something new in a slew of paranormal cliches!

?Julicious Book Paradise? says

First thing first... A HUGE THANK YOU to Paranormal Wastelands for doing this Bloggerhood of the Traveling Book and to Pan Macmillian Australia for giving copies and give us a chance to read this book.

Second, this book is only available in Australia for now, but we can cross our fingers that it could change in a near future if he was to find a publisher on this side of the Globe.

Now, to my review...

I will admit that it took me a while to get into the story this time. The first chapters seemed to stretch long. I understood Winter's heartbreak over losing Blake, but I was in need of something happening.

And just like that, M. J. Hearle seemed to hear my prayers when two new Demories appeared on Winter's graduation day and her life was about to be changed again.

But Demories are not the only ones back; Sam makes a return in Winter's life. I wasn't sure how to feel about his return. Even when I realized there would be more books, it was more obvious than not that he would come back, but I wasn't sure how I would feel about him and wonder if he would make me change my mind about him. But through the book, the readers are finally getting to see a side of him that we didn't see while his family was shadowing him. Though at the beginning, Winter knows that whether she can trust him or not, she needs him to help her with her quest about finding Blake.

My favourite character though was Jasmine. She's what I call a true friend who even if sometimes she can be tackless, she's there for Winter from the beginning to the end. Her explosive personality made this story even more interesting for me. I personally would like to see Jasmine and Sam getting closer if it was ever possible for her to forgive him.

Winter didn't get my attention as she did in the first book, but I like it like that since we got to know the other characters more.

And the add of the story of Lamara and Blake's journal entries was a good move. I liked to read a bit more about someone who's like Winter and I liked we got to know Blake slightly more. It's not enough, but more than what we got from Winter's Shadow.

Overall, once the action started, M. J. Hearle got me hooked once again in Winter's world and I'm looking forward for the next book.

Erin says

Overall, with the stakes much higher than ever before and with many sacrifices awaiting Winter, WINTER'S LIGHT will certainly take you on a journey of self-discovery, mystery, and what it means to fight for what you love most in the world. Both well-written, entertaining, and fascinating, if you loved the first book Winter's Shadow then there's no doubt in my mind whatsoever that you're going to love this sequel too!

Full review: <http://talesoftheinnerbookfanatic.blo...>

Celine says

Review originally posted in: <http://forget8me8not.blogspot.com.au/...>

Cover:

I love the snowy theme of the cover and the girl's white dress. The white theme makes Winter's red hair and the title's red font stand out!

Story:

Is Blake gone forever?

It's been 3 months since Blake sacrificed himself to save Winter's life. Winter has graduated from high school. Winter's life is never the same since she met Blake in Pilgrim's Lament. Winter longs for Blake and yearns for him through the lodestone Blake gave her. She unexpectedly attracts other Demori who are nothing like Blake. One day, Winter is suddenly struck by the idea that Blake might still be alive after the lodestone gives her a sight of Blake suffering in a room. Winter is now determined to do one thing, to save Blake no matter what it takes...

I really enjoyed M.J Hearle's debut novel, Winter's Shadow and was really excited for the sequel, Winter's Light. By the time I finished reading Winter's Light, I was very impressed with how enjoyable the sequel was. It was even better than the first book. Before I started Winter's Light, I was hoping that Blake would somehow appear in the story plot even after what happened at the end of Winter's Shadow. He did appear in Winter's Light, but in ways I never thought of. I really loved how M.J explained more of the world of Winter's Shadow. The book is still written from Winter's POV but the book is not completely written from Winter's POV. There are chapters where it's a story about the Key and the portal. There are also excerpts of Blake's diary which I really enjoyed reading about. I'm really glad that I can read excerpts of Blake's diary because it makes me feel as if he's still in the story. The story plot was very exciting and I loved how things are further explained and everything seems to connect now. Winter's Light is absolutely well-written and the ending made me really dying to get the third book. I can't believe it ended that way!

Characters:

Winter is a very strong-willed character who I really adore. I love how she never stops loving Blake and tries to save him and see him again. Sam is also a great character. I didn't like him in Winter's Shadow because he wanted to kill Blake but he changed and helped Winter a lot in this book. I found Jasmine quite an annoying character. I didn't like how she was not supportive of Winter and did not believe her until the middle part of the book where she finally became the best friend Winter needed. I also love the new characters introduced in this book such as Magdalene, Yuri, Elena who are a part of the Banes and each have their own secrets. What surprised me most was the entrance of Ariman in this book. It was definitely unexpected but makes the story even more exciting! I really missed Blake and I hope that he appears more in Book 3!

Overall:

Winter's Light is a gorgeous sequel to Winter's Shadow, bringing you a story of Winter's struggles, love and hope for Blake. This well-written story will once again pull you into the enthralling world of Demori. If you love Winter's Shadow, you will definitely want to read Winter's Light because the sequel is even better!

Thank you Pan Macmillan Australia for the review copy!

Lisa says

Rating - 3.5

The Short Story? - A fantastic addition to a deliciously enticing paranormal series! Hearle sure know how to write one heck of a cliff hanger! Winter's Light was a treat to read from cover to cover. Filled with mystery, action, sacrifice and loss Winter's Light completely blew me away! A sequel I would definitely invest in, Hearle hauntingly beautiful world-building will have you craving for more!

The Long Story? - I did a double-take when I first received the book - it's HUGE. Sitting at 440 pages, for someone like me who rarely ventures past the 350 page mark - I was a little unnerved. However Winter's Light had me hooked from page 1 and I was completely captivated by this well-written story. I think it's safe to say that I enjoyed Winter's Light more than Winter's Shadow. Romance takes a backseat but it still plays a huge part directing the course of the novel. Hearle take us out of small town Hagan's Bluff and into France where Winter is faced with new challenges that will do anything to separate her from her beloved Blake. Fantastic twists and turns, completely unpredictable and filled with action. I'm especially impressed with the final showdown, Hearle has written a fantastic finale in which he has left as a cliff-hanger *shakes fist*! One thing is for sure though, I will be biting my nails waiting for the release of book 3! Extraordinary work!

I don't think I'm ever going to get over how well Hearle writes as a girl, I harbour secret theories about his gender.... but that aside, the characterisation was superb! From the moment we were introduced to Winter in Winter's Shadow, I've always taken a liking to her. She's quite timid and shy but she's got a heart of gold and her determination and faith and love really is something to be admired. She's a strong character and in many ways she's a heroine but I feel that at times she's a little bit of a damsel in distress. I think what Winter needs is martial arts lessons! But she's such an amazing character, I really admire her strength. I've taken a liking to Jasmine and Sam in Winter's Light, both play an essential role in the novel and their fierce friendship with Winter was touching.

In a nutshell - Winter's Light completely took me by surprise. I wasn't sure what I was expecting but it wasn't this beautifully crafted novel that makes some of the other YA paranormals I've read look like ... well, crap. Loved Hearle's world-building, the concept of the Deadlands and the Bane and everything in between was original and a delight for a reader's imagination. Fantastic characters that inspired me and make me want to jump in the pages and fight besides them. Winter's Light is an unputdownable novel that's a jewel amongst the rest. Two thumbs up!

Michelle novelsontherun says

RATING: 4.5 WARRIOR WINTER STARS!!!

M.J has written a wonderfully haunting, in parts, sequel to Winter's Shadow with all the characters we got to know returning, and some new additions. There are twists and exciting action scenes. Visually this book is quite breath taking.

The Demori are still drawn to Winter with Sedoris and Benedict on her case. Sadly Blake is no longer there to protect her, but she is not alone in her fight.

I love Jasmine she has turned into this gorgeous spitfire. She is a great bff, ready to be brave and stand up to the plate, even though she doesn't really know what she is up against. She takes quite a few knocks and bounces right back again. What I love is her loyalty to Winter. She is quite fearless when she wants to be.

A lot changes in this book. Winter has to learn to trust Sam, but is he trustworthy? I really felt for Sam in this book, his beliefs are being challenged, by those he trusts and he must do some soul searching and make some choices of his own. What path will Sam take?

Winter has a dream/vision that gives her hope. It is what Winter clings to, she has a lot of faith in what she saw and she will do whatever she needs to do to find Blake.

We are introduced to new characters that play an important part in the choices Winter makes. Winter is trying to make the right decisions, trying to trust the right people. One minute she is graduating, the next.....

She must learn to lie to those she loves to find the one she fell in love with.

M.J. has woven beautifully Lamara's story, Blake's diary entries and Winter's journey, revealing to the reader how Lamara's life impacts Winter's life. Winter, as a Key, is coveted by many and they will stop at nothing to get her.

I have a wait for book 3, but me thinks Winter is turning into somebody that will not let anything stand in her way of finding Blake.

When you can trust few in your life it is time to get serious, man up and arm yourself for what lies ahead and take control of the reins. Winter is turning into a force to be reckoned with and I don't think I want to be standing in her way when she sets her sights on her enemy.

Winter's Light will take you on a journey of discovery of a starcrossed love that is strong and worth fighting for. It will have you reaching for that crossbow, finding your inner strength and a fearlessness you never knew you had. Say goodbye to the old you and welcome the new warrior within.

“Ce que je fais ce soir, je fais pour elle.....”

Nancy The book junkie says

Once again a huge thanks to the amazing bloggers of paranormal wasteland for doing again a travelling book for this serie! They gave me the opportunity to read a sequel i've been waiting for a while!

So Winter's Light is the sequel to the YA paranormal novel Winter's Shadow. If you haven't read the first book don't read this review as it can spoil you some details from the first book.

I have to admit at first i wasn't sure i would like this book as much as the first one when i realized the storyline would probably lack some Blake regarding the end of the first book and also because in a lot of series the second opus is not as good as the first one but M.J Hearle delivered once again and beautifully written story, as addictive as the first one but in a completely different way!

Right from the start i could tell this story would be different from the first book. Winter's haunted by the dead of Blake and can't go on with her life. Right when she think that all the supernatural stuff is behind her she got targeted by the Demori and that's when Sam come back in the picture. I have to admit that with what

happened in the first book i wasn't Sam biggest fan. Like Winter and Jasmine i doubted he was trustworthy and was pretty sure he had his own agenda when he started helping her but at the same time i felt bad for this teenage boy who was stuck at a young age in the family business, want it or not. The lack of Blake also gave the opportunity to put Jasmine in the spotlight. In the first book Jasmine was only this strong willed, full of energy and eccentric best friend but in this book i was glad for the sparks she was bringing in the story because like in the first book Winter's pretty passive during most of the storyline except toward the end when she decide to take matter in her own hands and i had a hard time relating to that because she's suffering the loss of Blake so much that i was expecting her to be more forward in her attempt to bring him back.

I really loved how M.J Hearle entwined the story of Winter, Blake's journal and Lamara, it brought an amazing depth in the story and i can't wait to read the conclusion of this epic story!

Becca says

I just love it!

Crossbows, machetes, lodestones, WITCHES! (who on earth could've seen this last one coming??) After getting to know Winter as an ordinary girl with a normal life (not that losing one's parents could ever be normal, but still) and seeing her struggle to accept all the paranormality that fell on her head out of the blue we now see a different girl. Her kind and compassionate nature is still there, but this is a girl who doesn't hesitate to throw herself into the claws of the unknown to save the one she truly loves.

"Sadly, Winter supposed that's all it really was when you came right down to it. A bit of boy trouble"

But what a boy, and what a trouble! In this book Winter finds out that the Skivers are not the most dangerous thing lurking out there in the periphery of her vision. And when compared to her current tangle of unexpected danger she found herself in, they might seem the last thing she should worry about.

*"She considered writing a note for Lucy. What could she say? **Hey Sis, gone monster hunting. If I'm not back by dinner it's probably because I had my soul sucked out. Don't wait up"***

I didn't find much gaps in the book - if any. The style is remarkably improved (It was great from the beginning, now it's even better) I suffered for a while waiting for the events to pick up. And then when they eventually did I was blown away! Truckloads of surprises. So many enemies turned allies turned friends. And so many almost-friends turned allies ended up enemies!! The surprises were... well unbelievably surprising. Especially the final two. If I had an inkling about the first one, the second left me with my mouth hanging open. Who could have imagined?!

*Before I finish I have a comment, an issue. Call it what you wish:

I strongly believe that God wouldn't leave those monsters of creatures play with human souls as they please. But then again, it's a work of literature so...

Now I'm leaving you with a final quote, with hopes that next year will hurry up a little so I can get the third

installment of this amazingly woven, remarkably different new world.

"What I do tonight, I do for him" Winter murmured, and opened the door"

Novels On The Run says

MICHELLE'S REVIEW:

RATING: 4.5 WARRIOR WINTER STARS!!!

M.J has written a wonderfully haunting, in parts, sequel to Winter's Shadow with all the characters we got to know returning, and some new additions. There are twists and exciting action scenes. Visually this book is quite breath taking.

The Demori are still drawn to Winter with Sedoris and Benedict on her case. Sadly Blake is no longer there to protect her, but she is not alone in her fight.

I love Jasmine she has turned into this gorgeous spitfire. She is a great bff, ready to be brave and stand up to the plate, even though she doesn't really know what she is up against. She takes quite a few knocks and bounces right back again. What I love is her loyalty to Winter. She is quite fearless when she wants to be.

A lot changes in this book. Winter has to learn to trust Sam, but is he trustworthy? I really felt for Sam in this book, his beliefs are being challenged, by those he trusts and he must do some soul searching and make some choices of his own. What path will Sam take?

Winter has a dream/vision that gives her hope. It is what Winter clings to , she has a lot of faith in what she saw and she will do whatever she needs to do to find Blake.

We are introduced to new characters that play an important part in the choices Winter makes. Winter is trying to make the right decisions, trying to trust the right people. One minute she is graduating, the next.....

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M.J. has woven beautifully Lamara's story, Blake's diary entries and Winter's journey, revealing to the reader how Lamara's life impacts Winter's life. Winter, as a Key, is coveted by many and they will stop at nothing to get her.

I have a wait for book 3, but me thinks Winter is turning into somebody that will not let anything stand in her way of finding Blake.

When you can trust few in your life it is time to get serious, man up and arm yourself for what lies ahead and take control of the reins. Winter is turning into a force to be reckoned with and I don't think I want to be standing in her way when she sets her sights on her enemy.

Winter's Light will take you on a journey of discovery of a starcrossed love that is strong and worth fighting for. It will have you reaching for that crossbow, finding your inner strength and a fearlessness you never knew you had. Say goodbye to the old you and welcome the new warrior within .

“Ce que je fais ce soir, je fais pour elle.....”

Vivien says

3.5

The absolute worst thing has happened. Blake is gone. With every decision, whether good or not, there are always consequences. Blake sacrificed himself to save Winter, but in doing so he left her alone. Not only alone but unprotected and hunted.

Winter is no longer the same innocent girl who was once fated to die. She is a survivor. She understands that at any cost, she will be the one left standing. Even if it means an alliance with an enemy. The very one who destroyed Blake.

In the shadows an ancient enemy rises. One with a score to settle. To succeed in a fight for the one she loves, Winter must find the strength to stand alone. For she is the key. The one thing that will unlock the secrets beyond the veil of shadows. And above all, she is Blake's only hope.

Since the official synopsis has a spoiler, I guess I won't hide this. Though, mentioning that Blake is a goner right away for those hoping to get a feel of the series really is a whopper of a spoiler. Other than that, this is a good sequel for those who enjoyed the first book. Winter's Light starts right where Winter's Shadow ended. There is a bit of a recap to catch you up from the first novel. But it doesn't overwhelm like some recaps can.

I did enjoy Winter's Light more than its predecessor. I thought that Winter's character really developed nicely. While she still had a tendency to let things roll along, she did grow some spine. There were times that Winter really took the bull by the horns. And really, when you're in a fight to save your true love, I expect some ferocity. Another thing I really enjoyed was the further development of the back story. The history is always a highlight for me and this addition really appealed to me. It also really amplified the world building and added so much more that we didn't get from the first book.

Even though this book is over 400 pages, I thought the pacing was done really well. I kept zipping through the pages, wanting to know more. It really kept me on my toes. The end is where everything came together and it was well worth the read. However, prepare yourself. There is a cliffhanger. It's really perfectly set up to make you need to know what happens next. My interest is really piqued and I'm definitely going to be reading the third book.

*Won in a Goodreads First Reads Giveaway

Chelsea says

Review to come!

Lauren K says

Winter's Light is the sequel to M.J Hearle's debut YA paranormal novel Winter's Shadow. This review may

have spoilers to Winter's Shadow.

Winter Adams is mourning the loss of Blake, a Demori who sacrificed his life to save her. But when Winter has visions of Blake via the lodestone he gifted her to keep her safe, she becomes convinced that he is alive somewhere in the Dead Lands.

In a showdown with a couple of evil Demori who want to suck the life out of Winter, Sam (the guy who tried to kill her and Blake in book 1) comes along and saves the day. From this, a mutual truce is ignited and a friendship ensues. They decide they need each other; Winter needs Sam to find Blake and Sam needs Winter to help take down the evil Demori. Problem is, Sam is a Bane and the Bane are the enemies of the Demori, including Blake.

In a desperate attempt at finding her love, Winter strikes a deal with the Bane. She will contribute her ability as a 'key' to open the gates to the Dead Lands for the Bane and in turn will be allowed entry to locate Blake. Winter, Sam and her feisty best friend Jasmine fly to France to a big eerie castle to meet the Bane and put their plan into action.

Despite Winter's gut feeling that something isn't right, she goes along with the Bane with the hope of reuniting with Blake. She feels she owes him this given he saved her life. But when Winter's heart takes over her intuition she finds that she may not be able to take everything at face value.

Winter's Light has a slow-building suspense much like Winter's Shadow and to be honest, at first I thought I wasn't going to enjoy the sequel. But by the half way mark I was turning the pages quickly to find out what happened next. Much like the first book, I felt Winter was quite passive throughout most of the story, until near the end when she actually steps up to the plate and begins to make decisions for herself. At times I found her passivity frustrating, but I could understand her haziness, given she was mourning Blake's loss. I really enjoy Jasmine's spark and I think she compliments Winter well and brings out her personality a bit more. I also liked seeing a different side to Sam this time and felt he quite genuinely cared about Winter. I have a feeling a love triangle is in the midst although Winter's probably oblivious to this! Although absent physically in the story, Blake is brought to the readers' mind through excerpts of his journal.

Winter's Light is an intriguing sequel to Winter's Shadow by Aussie author M.J Hearle and extends the story of love, loss and sacrifices set in a unique paranormal world.

Rachel (The Rest Is Still Unwritten) says

Read in March 2012

Thank-you to Pan Macmillan Australia for proving me with an ARC of this to read and review

Winter's Light is a darkly intense follow up to Winter's Shadow by M.J. Hearle that doesn't disappoint with it's rich description and enthralling storyline!

I find the world crafted by Hearle in this series to be hauntingly beautiful. Hearle's prose is exquisite; deeply gothic and one that flows easily, sweeping you up straight into the story. It captures you from the very beginning and it's easy to get immersed in the tale. In Winter's Light, the storyline from Winter's Shadow continues and the tragic events of the first book continue to impact on the storyline of it's sequel.

The combination of past and present that Hearle blends is both tantalizing and intriguing and the inclusion of new mysteries and new characters weave with old to leave you glued to the pages and eager to know what's next. I loved getting a glimpse into some of the events that are a part of the history of the Malfaerie and Demori and learning more about Lamara, the young woman we've only heard about proved to be insightful. It was easy to be drawn to her desperate plight and brave nature.

Winter has been through an incredibly lot lately. The last three months have been hard on her and losing Blake has taken its toll. I find Winter to be a fantastic heroine to follow! M.J. Hearle writes her voice with such perfection that it's no problem at all to slip into her head. She undertakes such growth throughout this book in her determined quest to save her lost love and her inner strength that she demonstrates definitely endeared her more to me. Her ability to make tough choices and her desire to do the right thing make her a force to be reckoned with; I can't wait to see what she'll do next.

While I'll be the first to admit I missed Blake, Jasmine continues to be a fantastic character and best friend to Winter and Sam steps up in his search for redemption. I love Jas. Her witty remarks and devotion to her best friend is beautiful and I found I really loved Sam in this book. I liked him in the first book, but here he truly touched my heart with his desire to make up for his actions in the first book and his desire to be a friend to Winter. I also liked Elena. As one of the new characters introduced and part of the mysterious Bane, I admit she wasn't who I thought she was at first sight and I loved seeing Hearle unveil her character. I'd definitely like to see more of her in future books.

With twists, turns and betrayal, Winter's Light is a spectacular read! A heart-racing and surprising ending is bound to leave you begging for more and desperate to know what Hearle has in store for this series next!

Amanda says

3.5

Winter's Light is the second book by M.J Hearle in the Winter Saga. It's been three months since the events at the end of Winter's Shadow and Hunter is about to graduate from high school, along with her best friend, Jasmine. Her older sister has started dating a guy called Dominic and it's made her a lot more relaxed. Winter is still wearing the lodestone that Blake gave her and unfortunately it attracts some unwanted attention. Luckily for Winter, Sam and Jasmine are there to help her out and tag along for the adventure.

As I mentioned above, I don't want to spoil anything so I won't discuss too much more of the plot. This time the in addition to the story told by Winter's perspective we jump back in time to Lamara's original trip to the Dead Lands and we learn the story of how Ariman, Blake's father, came to be. Also, thanks to Sam, Winter has a translation of Blake's journal to read through and excerpts are shared with us throughout the book.

Winter definitely comes into her own in this sequel. I mentioned how appearance-conscious she was in the first book and she was definitely a damsel in distress that didn't listen to warnings. In this book she's much stronger and more determined to do what she thinks is right. And while Jasmine can be mean and abrupt, she was a really good friend to Winter and helped her out on a few occasions. Sam was also a great asset, always watching out for Winter and providing her with the information she was desperate to have. They both offer Winter great advice, that while she doesn't want to hear, she knows is true.

Again the action in this book was fast-paced and it lead up to a big finish, including a cliffhanger which I think will make way for a great third instalment of this series.

As I mentioned in my review of Winter's Shadow, there were some Twilighty aspects, but I'm happy to say there weren't as many in Winter's Light. There was a scene in a clearing where Winter is almost attacked and that reminded me of the scene in New Moon but only just. I think M.J managed to break out of the stereotypical paranormal romance framework and gave us a much more interesting and unique story.

We do learn more about the history behind Blake's heritage and also the organisation that Sam is a part of and again I thought the mythology was well thought out and created an authentic world for the characters.

Winter's Light is a great follow up to Winter's Shadow and it's sure to please fans of paranormal romance. International readers can purchase it online and Aussies can find it in local book stores.

My copy was provided to me by the wonderful people at Pan Macmillan Australia.

Tee loves Kyle Jacobson says

Thank you to Paranormal Wasteland for allowing me to read Winter's Light. As most of you know M.J. has been trying to get his book published in America but it is only available in Australia by Pan Macmillan. Thank God Darkfallen and Greta were able to get some books and send them around to us Blake die hard's in America.

In Winter's Light we finally get to see the back drop for where Blake came from and who his parents are. We also get the background story of how the portal to the other world was opened. We also get to see a person we thought was dead and a person who had to flee.

Winter is graduating from high school and she is excited about looking for Blake. She no longer will have school in the way so she can devote herself to finding where he went and if he is still alive. Plus on top of everything that is going on Winter has to worry about her sister who has fallen in love with a guy that Winter thinks is weird.

Come along for a ride of mystery and lies uncovered and betrayals you will not see coming. I can't wait for book three because I need to find out what is happening between Winter and Blake and of course my main man Sam. This is one of those books you can't put down because you need to see what is happening next.
