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Shiver (The Wolves Of Mercy Falls Book 1)



Synopsis

From a dazzlingly talented young writer, a haunting and original supernatural romance in the vein of TWILIGHT. For years, Grace has watched the wolves in the woods behind her house. One yellow-eyed wolf--her wolf--is a chilling presence she can't seem to live without. Meanwhile, Sam has lived two lives: In winter, the frozen woods, the protection of the pack, and the silent company of a fearless girl. In summer, a few precious months of being human . . . until the cold makes him shift back again. Now, Grace meets a yellow-eyed boy whose familiarity takes her breath away. It's her wolf. It has to be. But as winter nears, Sam must fight to stay human--or risk losing himself, and Grace, forever.

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Customer Reviews

I loved Shiver. It was beautifully written. I am a big fan of Maggie Stiefvater's writing and I've enjoyed everything I've read of hers. However, I avoided Shiver because of the mixed reviews I heard about it. Finally, I decided to read it and I'm really glad I did because it was so much better than I expected. Shiver was written so beautifully. It was a slower paced, descriptive novel, which I enjoyed. I felt like I really connected with Grace, the main character. She was independent, curious, organized, and also a

little alone. Her family was very self obsessed, focusing more on their careers and social life, leaving Grace to fend for herself often. Grace's curiosity about the wolves, especially one she vaguely remembered from her attack as a child, seemed a bit weird at first, but not in an unbelievable way. I was drawn to the story in *Shiver*. I couldn't help it because of the way the author writes and the way she creates a sort of magic between the characters, the setting, and emotions. The thing about *Shiver* is that I'm so in love with the writing and the connection between Grace and Sam. It is beyond what I expected. Which is weird because the plot didn't ever really grip me and that's probably why I put off reading it for so long. When I hear people talk about *Shiver*, especially those who didn't like it, it sounds horrible. A girl who fell in love with a wolf before she knew he was actually a person? That's so weird. Absentee YA parents? Aggravating! Another introverted quiet girl? Boring! But for all of the things that make *Shiver* a run of the mill YA paranormal story, there are twice as many things that make it different, unique, and not at all annoying. Honestly, I think the only bad thing *Shiver* had going for it was the timing. It was released post-*Twilight* at a time when people were either craving more of the same or scoffing at the idea that a YA romance should even be a thing. The scathing reviews I see for *Shiver* are typically written during that awkward post-*Twilight* time period that I think was really hard for many YA authors. People either hated it because it was too much like *Twilight* or not enough like *Twilight* and I think that's a real shame. I liked *Shiver* because it was elegant and gripping. I cared about the characters in ways that I think sometimes only Maggie Stiefvater can make me care. I rooted for them. I understood Grace and her parents and the way her circumstances shaped her. I understood her curiosity for the wolves and I even understood how she felt protective over the wolf before she ever knew he was more than a wolf. I think it's been long enough after *Twilight* that YA authors and novels don't have to be compared to it. I think YA has come into itself and if ever there was a time to pick up *Shiver*, it's now when you can fully appreciate it without silly expectations and comparisons. If you are a fan of Maggie Stiefvater's writing, I don't see how *Shiver* will be a disappointment, even if wolves aren't your thing.

A Note About The Negative Reviews:

Some of the reviews that aren't positive mentioned that the author's prose was too much, the characters were too mature, Sam was too poetic for a teenager to be, and Grace was a terrible friend because of how she let Sam take precedence over her previous friends. I only mention these because I couldn't disagree more. When I was a teenager, I loved the sort of style that Stiefvater used in this novel. All of the books I

read over and over again were similar in tone. I connected to characters like Grace. I was poetic like Sam (and so were guys I went to school with, so the idea that guys can't be poetic just infuriates me. While I've never been romantically drawn to these types of guys, to assume they don't exist and having characters like that is unrealistic is ridiculous). I hate the idea that YA novels are judged half the time for having characters who are too mature and then half the time for having characters who are too immature. I think people ought to remember that, while teens tend to have similar characteristics, they are quite different from one another, too. Not only would *Shiver* have been probably one of my favorite books as a teen, but I think in many ways Sam and Grace were like me. And I felt like Grace's friends took her for granted some of the time and didn't always let her be fully herself and Sam did. And we should all remember how often we let new people who we connected with more have the front seat in our lives as teenagers, leaving some of our old friends in the back, forgotten. None of these things seem unrealistic to me at all. Sometimes I feel like people read YA even though they are too closed minded and they stick too much to their own preconceived notions of what teenagers feel/want/need/like/should be to really enjoy it. I highly recommend *Shiver*. It's a great book and I can't wait to read the rest of the series.

I enjoyed this semi-conclusion to this series. (*SINNER* is on my Kindle to read in a while.) This book has been sitting on my stack since 2011. So it would be safe to say that the details of the first two books in this series were quite hazy in my mind. Fortunately, I didn't have any trouble picking up the story again. The book is told in four unique viewpoints: Sam's, Grace's, Isabel's and Cole's. Each one shades the story through their perceptions and together we get a complete picture. When the story begins, Sam is "cured," Grace is spending most of her time as a wolf, Cole is desperately trying to find a "cure," and Isabel is dealing with her feeling for Cole, grief for her brother's death, and her friendship with Grace. Things are getting hard for the wolves as Isabel's father is determined to get the wolves removed from protected status and organize a helicopter hunt to exterminate them. Sam is coming to terms with his relationship with Beck as he learns things that change what he thought he knew. I really liked getting to know Cole better through this story. I also really liked Sam and Grace's romance. Though the ending is somewhat ambiguous, I am going to believe that Sam and Grace live happily ever after.

Nice read if you're in 8th grade or a freshman in highschool. Just seemed too young for my liking. I'm 19. I thought it would be fun. My mistake. I know the grade level and age group is for younger

people but I've read a lot of young adult, new teen fiction and really liked them. Like the Darkest Minds trilogy by Alexandra Bracken and the Legend trilogy by Marie Lu are very awesome and those two authors are my all time favorite. This book just didn't grab my attention. I ended up giving it to my teenage brother but he's too cool for books like that so it's at goodwill. Somebody will appreciate it.(p.s. It's in the 1st person point of view)(alternating from the wolf boy and girl..I think)

This was the best out of the 3 books. We got many P.O.V's for an all around look at what was going on. Grace has come back to her human body a few times but now she is back in Mercy Falls and ready to claim her name back and be in the arms of Sam again. She is now hidden away until her shifts are under control so she can be with her friends. Sam is loaded down with tons of stress about getting Grace back and feeling whole again, dealing with Cole, the town that wants to see him in jail for killing Olivia (Shelby is making his life hell) also killing Grace and hiding her body and on top of all this dealing with a crazed lawyer Tom Culpepper with his hunt to kill the whole pack by air. Cole has been working on his cure for the wolf in their blood and also how to force a wolf to turn back even for a short time. Isabel is dealing with her parents but also working on her feelings towards a toxic rock star Cole. But everything works out and Cole used his brain for the good cause and got his formulas in check. We even have a new friend in the mix, or at least allied in the police station, where the officer figured where some missing people have gone and what they are now, but also gives Sam and Grace a new future home for the pack to live and not cause anyone any more problems, cuz now he knows they are people and so he help stop a mass murder. With so much weight off of Sam's shoulders he's now just feeling like he did right by Beck, Grace Cole and the whole pack. BTW He has to change to lead the pack into their new home, of course Cole help him become his wolf but Beck choose Sam because he can keep his human thoughts even as a wolf where no one else can. It would be nice if we got to see a Epilogue to see years later to see how everyone is doing.

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