



Fanged and Confused

Carrie Humphrey

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To humans, the Brairberry Estate is nothing more than Folklore. It's a legend of a place that existed, then suddenly, didn't exist any longer. To the paranormal community, the Briarberry Estate is as real as they are and promises hope and sanctuary. It's a place for new beginnings or abrupt endings, but that outcome depended solely on the person making the choice. Kedah never knew the Estate existed until her life became something more than a merely human. Fangs and confusion clouded her life and when she fell into the Brairberry Estate doors, her entire world seemed to flip. Doran, a resident of the Estate and immortal of some kind, added to the confusing mess, causing Kedah to question just about everything of her new life. When Kedah's sire suddenly makes a surprise reappearance, complicating her already complicated life, she finds herself quickly drowning in a sea of bad decisions and mistakes. With the uninvited, but much needed, help of Doran and a few volunteers of the Briarberry Estate, Kedah makes her grand entrance into the world of the paranormal where she'll either survive with the help of a whole lot of luck and wits, or die, for good this time.

Fanged and Confused Details

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From Reader Review Fanged and Confused for online ebook

Katie Jones says

I was able to meet Carrie in Huntsville and I decided to take a chance on her book even though paranormal isn't something I usually read. I finished this book in 2 days and am already wanting to start it over again. Kedah being the clumsy vamp that she is makes me laugh, but I feel for her with situations she falls into. Jensen is such a dad figure towards her I find it endearing. Aiden is a smelly dog, but I wouldn't mind having him on my side. And Doran...oh my lord what can I say about him. He is compassionate, fearless, and a downright bad ass when it comes to something/someone he's protective over. I truly hope that there is more to this story because I couldn't put it down and didn't want it to end.

Alex Avrio says

Fanged and Confused is a little rough around the edges, but I found myself thoroughly enjoying the read.

The plot centres around a woman in her mid-twenties who has recently been bitten and become a vampire, and her attempts to make sense of the new world of paranormals that she now finds herself in. She gets taken in by the local paranormal refuge, where she is given tantalising glimpses of what it means to be a paranormal, and the moral code she should now live by. Naturally, no one is keen to tell her everything and ruin the fun of watching her make a mess of things as she stumbles through on her own.

The crux of the plot revolves around her struggle against the evil vampire who turned her, and now has some control of her and wants to use her in his dastardly plan to take over the world. I found myself completely drawn into the world and involved in the lead character's plight, and I was soon invested in the plot. There are some great characters and world-building in this book, which made the whole thing engaging and allowed me to enjoy the ride. The back stories of the god characters were particular highlights, and the evolutions of the relationships between the characters was also convincing.

I guess I should mention some of the bumps, so you can decide whether these might interrupt your enjoyment. The dialogue throughout is incorrectly punctuated, and there are extra words that aren't needed such as even, actual (for example: I have no idea how to even be a damn vampire/she wasn't sure she had the actual strength). For me, the repeated use of the word 'anyways' grated on me, but maybe that's just me. I also felt the expected climactic battle fizzled out into a relatively simple win for the heroes, although this is clearly set up for bigger battles to come in the next books in the series.

All in all, I felt that most of the more difficult things (world-building, characterisation, emotional depth, tension-building, plot development) were done well, but some of the easier things to fix (dialogue formatting, word use) would have benefited from a little polish. I expect these will be sorted out in future editions, and I give it 4 stars as the positives outweighed the negatives.

Paula Sayre humphrey says

Very engrossing, once you open the book you can not put it down. You instantly become invested in each

character, their lives and story.

The farther along their story you go the more you NEED to keep going.

You close the book when it is over and get depressed because you can't stay with your new friends any longer and just want the next book to be there

So I will be here waiting for book 2 Hurry please

Segilola Salami says

Fanged and Confused is a cute little book and I enjoyed reading it. That said, I found myself a bit confused by some parts of the story.

5% in, the book caught my interest but raised a few questions very early on. Kedah is a newly turned vampire and her sire had abandoned her. the book starts off with her stealing blood from an office. I get that vampires have heightened senses and all but I would have loved to know how she knew exactly where the fridge with the blood was that no one saw her the very first time. also, how do you book an uber w/o a destination?

I do have to say that I find Carrie Humphrey to be a very talented author. There were parts of the book that had me laughing out loud. It was not meant to be comedic to reading her description of a jealous god was just too funny.

The only negative for me was that there were a few typos that broke my reading flow, leaving me to re-read sentences. Regardless, I still recommend that you give the book a go

Katie Epstein says

When I first started to read this book, I was intrigued by the unique story of Kedah and how she deals with becoming a newly turned vampire.

Learning more about the vampire Jensen and the mysterious Briarberry Estate was very interesting—as was learning about its inhabitants—and this story arc was a great addition to the story.

Overall, I enjoyed the book, although at first, I really couldn't connect with Kedah, unable to put my finger on why. I think it was because on the odd occasion she came across as younger than the actual age she was portrayed to be. However, please don't let that put you off because when Doran is introduced—oh boy—does that change!

Doran is a character who I feel was written very well. His depth, his conflicting character and the way he feels for Kedah is superb, and it is when he is introduced do I feel that Kedah truly comes into her own.

In regards to the plot, there is the odd thing that happens a little too conveniently along the way, but this is easily forgiven by the way you're enchanted by the different characters—Aiden the werewolf being a great example of this.

Aside from a few grammatical errors, this story was brought to life through great writing, and even though it looks to be part of a series, there are no cliffhangers to annoy those who prefer standalone books in this genre.

This book would have easily been a five star if not for the points raised above. A great premise to endless possibilities for the Briarberry Estate!

Shelley Schott says

I thought this was such a fun and interesting book to read. I loved that you got to know each character I connected to them on another level. I can't wait to see what happens to each of the characters but really aiden! =] I want the next book already

Nicole says

This book.... what can I say but I want sooo much more. I found it a great escape from real life, and connected on some level with the characters I met. Kedah is whitty, and Jensen is charismatic, and Aiden, is a whole lot of give me more! Getting thrown head first into the world of the paranormal with out a float isn't easy for Kedah, but she doesn't let that get in her way, and she figures it out as she goes! I cannot wait for the second installment in this series, it just isn't getting here fast enough!

Anna Lane says

Fanged and Confused relates the story Kedah – a newly-turned vampire- and her struggle to understand the new world she lives in, its rules, and her immortality.

The book opens with her attempt to steal blood, and Jensen catches her. Their interaction is quite misleading because it's not Jensen but Doran who's the love interest. Jensen invites her to a refuge where she learns about the paranormal world, and, as such, makes a lot of mistakes.

The gist of the book is also about Kedah's struggle with her 'sire', Max –the vampire who turned her. He's vicious and ruthless. Vampires are vulnerable to silver here –which defies the norm (silver affects werewolves). Kedah is a well-developed character, and when, tortured by Max, she suffers from the silver cuffs, we empathize with her.

Doran's intensity, the concept of soulmates (Anam Cara), newborn's lack of control (Kedah), and mind control (Max's) remind me much of Twilight –Bella, like Kedah, talks in her sleep though Edward is no Celtic God. As in Twilight, the rogue vampire (Max) is building an army. The ending was somewhat predictable.

Even though the book feels familiar, I like the fact there's no swooning or you're-my-savior reaction from Kedah. She's a strong heroine and tells Doran that she can't be committed to a long-term relationship. Such a commitment deserves some thought after all, given they're immortals.

The prose is well-written, though, at times, I feel it languishes as there are too much description and inner thoughts. Things, of course, pick up when Max enters the scene, which is past the halfway mark.

It was an enjoyable read and an excellent debut for YA paranormal/vampire romance. I look forward to more of Kedah's adventures.

Missy Taylor says

What a great book! The characters were engaging, the story was well thought out and interesting. I read a lot of YA and NA paranormal and this is one of the best I have read recently. The story line was not tired or

used, it was a fresh take on the paranormal. Its a must read!

Lisa Marie Barrera says

Most Intriguing Story I ever Read!! Carrie Humphrey is a First time AUTHOR for me and She BLEW ME AWAY WITH FANGED AND CONFUSED!! From the Very beginning I was Hooked and wanted to know what is going to happen Next!!

Kedah is a newly- turned vampire (4 months old) and was abandoned by her Sire. She struggles to understand her New World lifestyle and her immortality. Then meets Jensen, a charismatic older vampire which catches her stealing blood from his blood bank since that is only her Food Source now. And is very interested in her story as to Why she was going about the wrong way instead of just asking for blood. So Jansen invites her to The Den (The Briarberry Estate) which she is Not quite sure it still exist. But Jensen assure her that its there and only to the Paranormal World. But he makes sure to send her off with a cooler with some "supplies" she needs to take home. Of course Jensen really couldn't care that she was stealing blood. It was better than murdering people but he cared that she seems to alone & absolutely clueless about her nature.

Kedah still lives with her Human Best Friend Sadie which she saved her Now vampire life and knows she is Not human anymore. Also she works Nights at a Diner- Greasy Spoon within walking distance of their house and a Mysterious boss aka Cook. So getting to and from at late hours was not much challenge until one Night going home...All Hell Broke Lose!

Kedah was approached by two ugly big men but was not interested in robbing her but to do "other" damage. That's when she see Red and her vampire instinct take over which she has no Control Over plus not sure what she is capable of doing. The Cook was able to talk her out her rage to calm her down and realized the damaged she did by all the blood. Jensen was called to "clean up" the mess and warn her that she Cannot do that again...so she needed to go the the Den.

After much debate, Kedah decided to checkout the The Den where she meets Doran which gives her the rundown of the Rules of the house. Where The Den is for the supernatural & caters to Their every needs so that they are not lonely or lost.

Doran was so intrigued by Kedah that he couldn't understand why there was a magnetic connection but knew she was freshly turned & under six months old as far as he could tell. But all could think about was her emerald green eyes and chestnut brown hair that had slight waves to it. And her cheeks flushed with annoyance and frustrations because he kept baiting her which he found it was a Sexy look for her.

Kedah is clumsy but FIGURES out along the way what she can Do and Not Do. Plus she is Drawn to Doran like a Moth To A Flame but knows he is NOT of Her Kind. Has alot of Action, Laugh out Humor and Emotional Compassion between the two characters. THIS IS A MUST READ BOOK!! I CANNOT WAIT FOR MORE FROM CARRIE HUMPHREY!! ?????

Donna Till says

This is a book that I found quick and easy to read, I was able to put it down and easily go back to it. The characters are Kedah who has recently been turned into a vampire and abandoned by her Sire. Dorian who is a god, Jenson is a vampire and Aiden the werewolf. Kedah has to learn how to be a vampire as well as dealing with all the trouble she seems to attract!!! I am looking forward to reading book 2!

Lisa Redfern says

Quirky, Enjoyable, Vampire for Dummies

‘Beautifully average’ Kedah is klutzy and clueless; she’s a new vampire attempting to survive on stolen packets of donor blood.

Without a mentor, she sucks at being a vampire....until the Briarberries invite her into their secret fold. Once there, Kedah encounters other paranormals; a handsome but snarky Scotsman who is ‘old enough to have invented right from wrong,’ and a hunky werewolf changeling who helps develop her natural talents.

Feeling like an imbecile with ‘fangs that pop out like an uncomfortable boner of the mouth,’ Kedah stumbles through a brewing vampire war while trying to protect her loved ones.

Fanged and Confused is a fun story with relatable characters, humor, and romance.

Unfortunately, a few distracting writing stumbling blocks lowered my star rating for a book that could be a solid five-star read.

Jane says

Truly Excellent

Excellent, convoluted, multilayered, intriguing plot. Excellent world building as to how paranormal folk fit into today's world. Excellent character development: they are realistic, imperfect, interact realistically, have faults and strengths, and grow forward with all that happens. Excellent pacing. Excellent editing.

::Content::

There is no instalove and no one is virtually controlled by their sexuality. Mate recognition is gradual. There is almost no swearing. There is no graphic sex (awesome that!) and while the feelings are there, they are tied to a deepening relationship and not described in detail. There is violence: also not graphic, not detailed out, and not frequent. There's some scattered swearing, far less than you'll hear in public.

I much appreciate finding a paranormal series focused on excellent storytelling rather than erotica. Erotica may sell well, but a true storyteller doesn't need it to keep a reader engaged in their story. I'll be buying the whole series. Bravo, Carrie Humphrey!

Bookish Addict says

This was a pretty good paranormal read. Kedah really is a confused vampire who was turned and left to fend for herself. Her survival and control has surprised many older paranormal creatures who have come to adore her clumsy and innocent antics. Doran is an ass and doesn't have a filter, so their interactions are really funny and entertaining. Fun, clean paranormal romance.

Mary Woldering says

What if you just realized you're a vampire....

Kedah of Fanged and Confused didn't know much but the hype about vampires when she was turned and abandoned. Starving, but unwilling to go out and take a victim, she steals blood and meets Jensen and later Doran. Together they offer her refuge in a vast alternative safe house where she can come to terms with immortality and feeding herself. They have a "no kill" policy. Her sire "Max" is a standard nasty vamp who controls and tortures his victims. The story moves from one of her learning her survival and her vampire skills as she discovers herself, to love, and to ultimately battling her own sire. There's drama, tension, humor and danger on every page...really no slow moments. Usually I don't like YA books because many are thin on characterization. This one was well developed and the visuals of Kedah's surroundings were skillfully detailed. I was captivated and will be waiting for Briarberry Estate #2 whenever this talented author brings it forth.
