



The Healer

Sharon Sala

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It is a gift that may cost him everything.

All his life, Jonah Gray Wolf has had an uncanny connection to animals and the power to heal the sick and wounded. Driven from the only home he's ever known by those who wish to harness his gift for profit, he becomes a drifter, working in out-of-the-way towns, never staying long. It's a lonely life, but Jonah knows he's still being hunted-he can't afford to get close to anyone who might learn his secret.

In West Virginia he finds Luce, a tough but beautiful loner who knows all about keeping people at a distance-a kindred soul with whom he might dare to make a life. But the hunters have caught Jonah's scent again. Danger is coming to their mountain refuge-a confrontation that will be decided only by a force of nature.

The Healer Details

Date : Published March 18th 2008 by Mira

ISBN : 9780778325444

Author : Sharon Sala

Format : Mass Market Paperback 329 pages

Genre : Romance, Fantasy, Paranormal, Romantic Suspense, Suspense, Paranormal Romance, Adult

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From Reader Review The Healer for online ebook

Georgina says

The Healer is a nice, easy read.

I enjoyed the writing, not too wordy but not lacking in description either - I love that style.

Pure escapism; you don't want to think too hard about it but if you're in the mood to be entertained, I think this one delivers.

The romance is sweet but, again shouldn't be over-analysed, ie - leave off the feminist hat.

One thing that bothered me is the hurried ending. All fixed up pretty quickly, although kudos to Sala for her twist with the identity of the bounty hunter - didn't see it coming but then maybe I wasn't on top of my game; I'm sure plenty of other people saw it coming.

A good way to pass a lazy day.

Jane Stewart says

Gentle, soft, vulnerable, female meets male with supernatural powers. Above average. I enjoyed it. A feel good ending.

REVIEWER'S OPINION:

It's not for someone in a feminist mood. Don't expect depth, fascinating characters or entertaining dialogue. Just view this as a pleasant escape. It had none of my pet peeves. It's a touching, sweet story. I was pleased and somewhat surprised with how things played out with two of the bad guys. There is a little sex, not much, it's sweet.

I list Native American as a genre simply because the author described Jonah's appearance as such. The story does not include Native American traditions or folklore.

STORY BRIEF:

A female wolf walks into an Alaskan town with a two-year old boy holding onto her ear. She leaves the toddler and walks away. Dr. Adam Lawson raises the boy as his own. Jonah has a gift for healing animals and humans. He places his hands on the injured, a glowing light surrounds them, and the wounds are magically healed. Animals come to Jonah and talk to him. Jonah also has other interesting supernatural abilities.

When Jonah was about 21, Major Bourdain was on a hunting trip in Alaska and got ripped open by a bear. Jonah healed him. Bourdain was obsessed with owning Jonah – to keep Bourdain healthy and living a longer

life. Bourdain hired bounty hunters to bring Jonah to him. The hunters killed Jonah's father (Lawson) and captured Jonah. Jonah escaped with help from animals and has been on the run for ten years. Bourdain continues to send hunters to catch him.

Jonah arrives in a small town in West Virginia. He's looking for work and a place to stay for the winter. He meets Lucia who is being stalked. Jonah stays in Lucia's home to help protect her from the stalker.

DATA:

Story length: 323 pages. Swearing language: mild, including religious swear words. Sexual language: mild. Number of sex scenes: 5. Total number of sex scene pages: 7. Setting: 1977 and 2008, mostly West Virginia and Alaska. Copyright: 2008. Genre: paranormal romantic suspense, Native American.

jenjn79 says

I saw one review that said this book was a little hokey...and I guess there is a certain hokieness to it from a certain point of view. But I absolutely LOVED this book. Once I started, I couldn't put the darn book down. It's got such a unique and interesting storyline, and the romance is wonderful.

The Healer is a story about Jonah Gray Wolf, who at about two years of age, was brought into a remote Alaskan village clinging to the fur of a female wolf. The townspeople were horrified and fascinated all at once by the bizarre oddity. Jonah was taken in by the local doctor, but it wasn't long people the people began to realize there was something strange and different about him. Aside from his unusual kinship with animals, he could also heal a person with just his touch. After some fear, they accepted him and grew to love him as one of their own. But then Jonah healed the wrong person, a man who wished to control and contain Jonah for his own selfish purposes.

To save himself and those around him, Jonah went on the run for ten years. He slept in the wild, worked when he needed money, and communed with the animals. Then one day he encountered Lucia, a woman distraught over her gravely injured dog. Jonah helps the woman, but the first time they touch, each realizes there is something special between them. Soon Jonah is settling into life with Lucia, but he knows trouble is coming. Not only is the man still after him, but someone is stalking Lucia. And all too soon, the quiet life he'd had for only a short time falls apart. He decides it's time, though, that he stood up to his troubles. Including doing anything and everything to protect Lucia, a woman he loves more than anything.

This was such a wonderful, touching book to read. I loved Jonah. He was such a fascinating selfless character. He's got this amazing gift, but he sees it at just who he is. Despite the trouble it causes him, he never turns his back on someone in need. He's just one of those truly good guys. And I loved how he talked to the animals, like they were just people. It was amusing to read at times.

I also liked how the romance in this book played out. I don't always like it when authors do the "love at first sight" thing because it often comes off kinda cheesy and unrealistic, but because of the nature of the characters in this book, it just worked for them. And it's nice to read a romance once in a while where it's just pure romance. No angsty "I love you but I don't want to love you" stuff, or break-ups and getting back together at the very end. Jonah and Lucia meet, and that's it for them. It was very sweet to read. The kind of stuff that makes you sigh and wish you were them.

And on top of all that good stuff, the storyline was interesting and rather original - with Jonah a gifted healer

on the run from a man who wanted to keep him locked up so Jonah would always be available to heal him if needed. Definitely not the type of story you encounter often. Plus there was Lucia's stalker...which might have been a little superfluous, but it added some nice dimension to the story. And it was fantastic how Jonah solved that issue. Sala also surprised me near the end with the identity of one of the "bad guys." I was expecting how that played out. So kudos on that! I like being surprised!

Basically, this was just a very enjoyable read from every aspect. A great romance, great characters, a great storyline. Sure there were a few flaws, maybe, but I can't even think of what they were because I liked everything else about the book.

So this is a good book to read if you love romance, animals, can suspend "reality" for a little bit, and like interesting storylines - or if you are a fan of Sala's books.

Julianna says

Reviewed for THC Reviews

"4.5 stars" *The Healer* is a combination romantic suspense and light paranormal romance. I call it "light," because there are no supernatural creatures like vampires or werewolves, no witches or wizards, no fantasy worlds, or anything else that would make it wholly paranormal. All the characters are human, although the hero's origins are admittedly unknown. He possesses a tremendous gift for healing any living thing, human or animal. He can also communicate with animals and can emit a type of psychic pulse that can temporarily control another person and make them do things they don't necessarily want to do, but he only uses this part of his power in self-defense. Finally, he can track via scent much like a canine and also has a sixth sense about when things are going to happen or when a certain person is nearby. While the hero's powers are fairly extensive, he inhabits a world that is of the contemporary small-town variety with lots of suspense. The heroine has a stalker who has every intention of raping and killing her, while the hero is on the run from a major baddie who wants the hero's power for his own gain. So there's plenty going on to keep the story moving at a fairly fast pace that kept me engaged throughout.

As a toddler, Jonah was walked into the small town of Snow Valley, Alaska by a female wolf. No one knew where he came from or how he came to be with the wolves, but he has an obvious connection with them. When no parents or relatives could be found, the local doctor adopted and raised him. Even as a child, Jonah exhibited the ability to heal animals. After Jonah was grown but still a very young man, Major Bourdain, a millionaire, came to town on a hunting trip and was attacked by a grizzly. Jonah's father was away delivering a baby, so Bourdain's friend came to get Jonah, who healed him. It became the only time in his life that he regretted healing someone, because once Bourdain realized what had happened, he decided that he had to control Jonah's power for his own financial gain and so that he could live forever. He sent hunters after Jonah who ended up murdering his father, and Jonah has been on the run from him ever since. For the past ten years, it's been a lonely, solitary existence, always trying to stay one step ahead of the men Bourdain sent after him, until he ends up in the small town of Little Top, West Virginia, where he meets and falls in love with Lucia, the heroine. Then he realizes that the running has to stop, so he decides to make a stand.

I loved Jonah. I'm a huge fan of Native American heroes, especially those with long hair, and that's certainly Jonah. He's also another one of my favorite hero types, the gentle giant. He's a big man, but so very kind and gentle, particularly with women, children and animals. He's no pushover, though. When he's angry, his powers can make him a very dangerous man to be around for the person who riles him up. I also love the fact that he can communicate with animals. Even the most ferocious beasts turn into pussycats around him. Not

to mention his incredible healing abilities, which has always been one of my favorite “superpowers.” Oh yeah, and a man who can give a woman the Big O just by touching her? Yes, please! ;-) Jonah, quite simply, hit many of my favorite tropes, which is also going to put him high on my list of favorite romance heroes. The only thing about Jonah that made me go, hmmm..., is that he has this deep connection with the animals and even tried to protect a tiny field mouse from being eaten by predatory birds, but he himself eats meat, which seemed a little strange and at odds with his abilities, but this isn’t explained.

Lucia was the sole survivor of a car accident that claimed the lives of the rest of her family when she was only a teenager. After that she went to live with an aunt and uncle, but when she couldn’t deal with the uncle’s unwanted advances any longer, she ran away. Eventually she settled in Little Top, where she works as a waitress at the local diner and lives in a rustic mountain cabin owned by an elderly lady. Lately she seems to have picked up a stalker who has been leaving notes for her. At first, they were merely a little creepy, so the local sheriff refused to do anything about it, but they’ve gradually gotten more threatening over time. After Lucia’s dog, Hobo, was caught in a trap that she suspected was set by the stalker, she ran to the gas station looking for help. Jonah had just arrived in town and offered to come with her. By the time he got Hobo out of the trap, the dog was pretty badly injured, so Jonah healed him, leaving Lucia stunned by what she witnessed. However, she can’t help feeling a connection with the man and a sense that he can be trusted, so when she finds out he has no place to go, she offers him the spare room in her cabin and sets him up working as a handyman for her elderly landlady. Not to mention, she figures that having a man close by might dissuade her stalker from coming around anymore.

I really liked Lucia. She’s a strong Latina woman, who is very open-minded and accepting of Jonah for what he is. She’s impressed and in constant awe of his power, rather than being afraid of it. Her landlady, Bridie, thinks of her as a daughter, and pretty much everyone in town likes her and knows she’s a hard worker. Lucia is just an all-around likable heroine, so the only small issue I had was that I felt like her characterization could have been a little more developed. I thought perhaps her past and her feelings surrounding that could have been brought out a bit more, but at the same time, I recognize that this was primarily Jonah’s story and between that and everything else going on, there wasn’t a lot of extra room. So in the end, I wasn’t too perturbed by this.

Overall, I very much enjoyed *The Healer*. It’s a unique story that really drew me in and definitely kept me reading. I waffled a bit on my rating between giving it 4.5 stars and the full five, but went with 4.5. Aside from Lucia’s weaker characterization there were a few other minor things that bothered me just enough to drop the half-star. Jonah and Lucia fall in love very quickly, within only a couple of days, which kind of pushes the bounds of credibility a bit. But the two things that helped to mitigate this some is the paranormal element which implies that they are somehow soul mates and also the author is very good at expressing the deep emotional connection between these characters. One other thing that I wasn’t overly fond of is that the author engages in head-hopping narration. Especially in scenes involving multiple characters, she may change the POV every paragraph or two. I was still able to keep up with it, but I couldn’t help wondering what it might have been like to get that deep POV that’s only afforded by staying in one character’s perspective for an entire scene. Lastly, I did pick up on a tiny bit of repetition, but it wasn’t too bad. Although together, these things were enough for me to knock off the half-star, they didn’t really detract much from my overall enjoyment of the book. It was my first read by the prolific Sharon Sala, but it definitely won’t be my last. I look forward to exploring more of her backlist soon.

Shirley says

WONDERFUL

I enjoyed this novel so very much I had to read it a second time. I have long been a Sharon Sala fan and this novel cements my fanship. From the beginning to the very end our hero, Jonah casts a spell. I highly recommend this novel

Carrie says

I would describe Sala's writing as simplistic, no advanced or challenging sentence structures or vocabulary. However, this has an interesting story and several good characters which makes reading it a pleasant way to spend a few hours.

Dawn ♥ romance says

A good paranormal romance with plenty of action that moved right along and had my attention throughout. The hero was definitely an interesting character. There were lots of heart touching moments. Jonah is on the run from someone trying to control his power to heal when he crosses paths with Lucia who needs help with her dog caught in an animal trap.

Paranormal Romance says

The hero has been on the run for over 10 years and in that time, he's kept from showing himself to humanity as much as he can. But now that winter is coming, he must leave his seclusion in the mountains and venture into the small Virginia town for employment and a warm place to sleep for the winter. Yet the moment he steps foot into the town, he encounters a beautiful woman and her pleas for help. The things about the hero is that despite the dangers surrounding him and his gifts, he can't say no to those who need his aid. So, he immediately follows the heroine up into the woods where her beloved dog is bleeding and dying after getting caught in a bear trap. The hero breaks the dog free and then proceeds to magically heal the wounded animal until the dog is fit as a fiddle. The heroine is absolutely stunned. Never before she would have ever imagined it to be true unless she saw it with her own 2 eyes but this beautiful man is something greater than human. When he makes it known he needs a place to stay, she offers her spare bedroom because though she is very much like him in that she's a loner, she is also lonely. This man, whoever he is, attracts her like a moth to the flame. She orgasms just by touching his naked chest, for goodness sake. Both parties are very aware that this intense desire and overwhelming sense of peace and love between them exists but it's the choice whether or not they are willing to engage it. Turns out that they are just too perfect for each other because as they soon find out, neither have ever been more open or more connected to another human being in their lives. They share a traumatic past. Where the heroine was orphaned and sent to her abusive aunt and uncle before she ran away. The hero's adopted father was murdered and the hero himself kidnapped for his magically healing abilities. And they both share an uncertain future. The heroine is being stalked by a perverted and dangerous man who makes her fear for her life. And the hero is scared that all his healing and good deeds towards the townsfolk will attract the attention of those who hunt him. He's tried hard not to have anyone who these men could harm or use to get to him but with the heroine, he can't help but love her and want to be near her. No, this time, no more running. He'll kill anyone who thinks about harming her and this enemy will know true fear by the time the hero's done with him.

Stellar book. At first I doubted the quality of what was to come because it was a little jumpy and hodge podge but it settled into itself and delivered an interesting story with amazing characters. The heroine was super sweet and unsure about herself at first because she's spent so much time alone. But when she meets the hero, despite only knowing him for 48 years, she's smart enough to know that whatever lies between them is something far more special than either of them can know. While she was a good character on her own, the hero was the show stopper. My god, he practically radiated strength, calm determination and sex. Never before have I ever encountered such a quietly powerful man in my life and I really hope they don't just exist in books because.....wow! He spoke to animals, he healed the sick and dying and when someone spoke to his woman in a disrespectful way or dangerous way...he went off. But it did it in a way that still kept his dignity. He dealt with the disrespectful sheriff by literally staring him down like a freaking wolf and demanding the law handle the stalker situation before he did. And when he found the one responsible, he dragged that man out of the house and down the street before he entered town and made the man confess to his crimes. By god, the hero was a magnificent specimen and one that set fire to the pages. I thought the plot was okay, not really suspenseful but good. I liked the quiet little town life the hero and heroine experienced but it seems there was always a disaster for the hero to sort out. Lovely book.

Michelle says

Good book. Have some touching scenes that will move your heart.

Lori says

I loved everything about this book! Jonah Gray Wolf is a healer on the run from a man he once healed. This man wants to capture Jonah and use him to his advantage. He will stop at nothing to get this great healer. Jonah stops in a small town to rest for the winter. That is where he meets Luce who is afraid of the person who is stalking her. Together they find a deep connection that they can't explain. And together they fight against those who want to harm them. Great plot with engaging characters! Jonah is every woman's dream guy!

Shirley Merritt says

A exciting thriller first time reading any of Sharon Sala books she really keeps her story where you hate to put it down. Will read more of her books.

Buggy says

Opening Line: *"The rangy she-wolf, still thin from the passing winter, paused at the edge of the tree line above the valley."*

Oh I liked this one. It was just such an all-round great read. With an original and captivating storyline and hero unlike anyone I've read before, I can see now why Sharon Sala is so popular. The writing is top notch,

the romance wonderfully done (sweet with an undercurrent of sexual tension yet without any annoying melodrama) and the story filled with unique and well-drawn out secondary characters -you'll feel like you know the residents of the small mountain town. We get two bad guys here, one of which you spend the entire book trying to figure out the identity of. THE HEALER is also especially great if you're an animal lover because our hero talks to them in a very Doolittle way except sexier.

That's right, Jonah Grey Wolf, what a fantastic selfless character. Not only can he talk to animals but he has the ability to heal with his touch. He also has great hair, can give our heroine an orgasm just by looking at her and is just an all-round nice guy. I don't usually go for the beta heroes but I couldn't help myself here.

Now while this story is filled with the supernatural it manages to stay out of the paranormal romance territory and remains strictly a contemporary. Actually one of the things I appreciated most about Jonah Grey Wolf's character is that his abilities and formative years are never explained, he's just able to do what he does, he's just a healer.

At the age of two a female wolf carries Jonah Grey Wolf into a remote Alaskan village and leaves him there. It is all that is known about the mysterious boy who is quickly adopted by the town doctor. As the years go by it becomes obvious that Jonah is different; with a mystical connection to animals and the power to heal the sick and wounded.

When a visiting hunter gets attacked by a grizzly Jonah of course heals the tourist but he may have shown his secret to the wrong man because now Jonah has tuned into the hunted. Bad guy #1 (Major Bourdain) wants to harness Jonah's talents in a quest for immortality and will stop at nothing to claim his prize. With his village in danger and a million dollar bounty on his head Jonah leaves Alaska and becomes a drifter, roaming town to town, never staying long or getting too close to anyone.

His travels eventually take him to West Virginia where he comes to the aid of a Lucia Maria Andahar and her giant dog Hobo who is caught in a trap. Jonah heals the dog and accepts Luce's hospitality of a meal and roof for the night. The pair strikes an immediate connection and despite himself Jonah stays.

Luce has ulterior motives for inviting the stranger to her secluded cabin; ever since she began receiving threatening notes she hasn't felt safe there. But Jonah can't stay and he definitely can't fall in love that would only make Lucia a target for his enemies. Wolves mate for life however and maybe it's time Jonah started fighting back.

369jb5

BJ says

Interesting story, H raised by wolf or is he part wolf? His story is great and now he is being hunted for his talents, it may kill him. The h has a stalker, H falls for her and uses his talents to protect her. There are lots of colourful characters, and the only thing is they everyone is too good. It was a good read.

Aparna Tankha says

I love this book. Read it numerous times.

ksstannard says

Great story

Jonah and Lucia have enemies, but they also have each other. The descriptions of Alaska and of West Virginia are rich and detailed. The people are strong as the earth they are at one with. Loved this tale.
