



Lost And Found

Eileen Griffin

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Dear Author,

It came as no surprise to anyone when we declared our intention to live together, we'd been closer than litter mates growing up and neither of us had ever looked twice at any of the females. It makes things easier all round, gay Felis are more than welcome in the Clowder as they pose no threat to the Toms. We help out with schooling and looking after the kits, do odd jobs for everyone and look out for the safety and security of the whole clan.

About a week ago, the ruling Queen gave us a new job. To look after this young man, barely out of kittenhood, and keep him safe. He's not from round here, which is obvious if you look. We run to heavy bone, muscle and long fur all of which is useful in the cold and rugged landscape we live in. He's different, lithe, extremely agile and totally naked! Well, when in cat form anyway. The only difference when he's human is that he sometimes wears clothes. He's opinionated, bolshy and likes the sound of his own voice—in both forms.

We aren't sure what we are keeping him safe from, but the threat is obviously very real—he's woken us with night terrors, but won't talk about them. Trouble is, whilst we keep him safe—there is no one keeping us safe from him. For years it's been just the two of us, but both of us feel more than a passing attraction for our charge. How do we deal with this difficult situation to make things right for all of us?

Thank you.

Photo Description:

Human photos consisted of three males, two—who each have short hair and some beard scruff—in a loving embrace on their bed, and the last one who is thinner and smaller boned, pale skin with longish black hair in a thin T-shirt and low-slung off-white pants. Cat photos consisted of two long-haired Maine Coon cats with tortoise-shell coloring, and a tan and black colored smaller cat with very short hair.

This story was written as a part of the M/M Romance Group's "**Love's Landscapes**" event. Group members were asked to write a story prompt inspired by a photo of their choice. Authors of the group selected a photo and prompt that spoke to them and wrote a short story.

This story may contain sexually explicit content and is **intended for adult readers**. It may contain content that is disagreeable or distressing to some readers. The M/M Romance Group strongly recommends that each reader review the General Information section before each story for story tags as well as for content warnings.

Lost And Found Details

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K says

Caveat - I am biased this story was written in response to my prompt put up for the Love's Landscapes event.

I wanted a cat shifter menage story which had some substance and that is what I got. I loved the fact that Ryder and Bram, despite their longstanding exclusive relationship could find space in their lives to bring in Tanner and help him through the trauma he had suffered. I liked how the story was set up and the background to what Tanner had been through to bring him the claim. And a huge thank you for making the Queen a strong and likeable female character.

Vivian says

Kitty shifter genocide, not as dark as you think.

Strong, gritty start to this hurt/comfort polyamory tale. I loved the unvarnished representation of warfare and refuge seeking and its aftereffects. I liked the characters, but the resolution was so easy and without problems. I guess I believe making a relationship work with two people is hard enough, add another and the difficulties should be exponentially more difficult not melt away. Loved the story, hated the rush to an HEA.

Julesmarie says

Adorably sweet kitty shifter menage.

Intriguing world, but I had the hardest time with the silliest thing. The Queen is called the Queen in the narration, but then all of the characters call her "regent" or "my regent" when they're addressing her. Queen and regent are mutually exclusive. A regent is a person who rules IN PLACE OF a king or a queen for whatever reason. When literally every single character in the story kept calling her that, I even looked it up:

"a person appointed to administer a country because the monarch is a minor or is absent or incapacitated."

Yes, I know. A silly thing. But every time someone called her "regent," literally EVERY TIME, I was pulled out of the story with the same "wait, is she the queen, or is she the regent?" question in my head.

Me and my OCD. >.<

The relationship was lovely, though.

Sandra says

Offered for FREE from the M/M Romance Group's Love's Landscapes event. Thank you too all the amazing authors who participated!

Serena Yates says

This is a cat shifter story set in 2014, but within an alternate reality; there is some reference to awful pogroms in the past, with shifters being hunted almost to extinction, and how history is repeating itself now. It wasn't very clear to me exactly what or why this had happened, or who was really behind the new flareup of violence, but then again, when do these things ever make sense?

The story starts off fairly bleak with one of the main characters being hunted because he is a shifter and a member of the "wrong shifter clan". His group is on the losing end of the battle between two such clans fighting for supremacy, and Tanner has to run for his life if he doesn't want to get shot on sight. He ends up in a shelter of a safe territory, run by another shifter clan, but his nightmares keep haunting him and he needs more than the shelter can offer.

In come Bram and Ryder, a loving couple who have been together for eight years. The clan's queen asks them to take care of Tanner, and over a few weeks, they do their best. Although they have never considered adding a third to their relationship, apparently Tanner is enough of a temptation for them to change their minds. Some very hot menage activities prove just the thing to help Tanner adjust to his new life.

If you're looking for an entertaining story with a sense of adventure, a touch of other-worldliness, and some shifting activity, then you will probably like this free novella.

Christina Marie says

Some bits were really good...but the romance was not developed enough for me. Everything just felt very rushed once Tanner was in the house, which made it almost impossible to be invested in the relationship between the three characters. Unfortunate, because I was kind of attached to Tanner. I was invested in *his* own personal storyline. Everything else, not so much. Oh well.

2.5 Stars

Crispy says

Cute kitty pics but the writing gave me a hair-ball, urk.

Vivian ?(????)? says

An endearing ménage love story with an interesting world and underlying plot of racial purging-- something which we see repeated over and over again in our world's history -- but ultimately focused on the development of their gentle romance.

Willow Scarlett says

I loved this polyamorous feline shifter story.

The main pairing is adorable, a believable relationship between two sweet if somewhat indistinguishable men. I really felt their love for each other. And I really felt their love for the third when they invited him into their lives.

There's a strong female background character and a lot of world-building which makes the HEA completely believable.

I'll definitely be re-reading this one in the future!

Sara Testarossa says

Sweet and sexy hurt/comfort polyamorous shifter story. Things I especially appreciated:

- Consent talk/check ins for/during progression sexual activity (things akin to "do you want this", "we can stop if you want"). This is something I love because it's good modeling of the importance of obtaining consent, the fact that consent can be revoked at any time, and it can be hella sexy to obtain consent and check in to make sure a person is still consenting. Especially given that:
- Though a diagnosis isn't stated, the refugee character clearly developed a trauma disorder while struggling to survive. The description of his emotions, coping mechanisms, and nightmares are a well-done depiction of how the immediate aftermath of trauma affects someone with PTSD. And the other characters do a good job in being helpful while giving him space when he needs it (which is also helpful).
- This story never had me internally screaming about the portrayal of polyamory. That may not sound like praise, but it is given I'm pretty nitpicky about portrayals of polyamory in fiction due to my own experience with polyamory and that of polyamorous friends (I try not to let it affect me when reading but it's tricky). I did have a few quibbles that came up but they were minor (to clarify, I'm not a believer in only "one true way" for polyamory to work, there are many ways it can. I just find it easy to find things that seem unrealistic or like characters making rookie mistakes in portrayals of these relationships - I'm speaking generally, not specifically about this story).
- As for the plot outside the romance, I thought the shifter civil war was interesting, enough so that I think I'd have also enjoyed this if it were longer and had more focus on that. That's a sign of good worldbuilding! (I'm not requesting more, it's just something I thought of.)

All in all, a good read that hit the right buttons for me.

Mandy*reads obsessively* says

3.75*

Shifters and a ménage?

This practically **screams** Mandy! :)

So much so, that during the Bristol Meet Anke saw this one released and make a point to recommend it to me,

(does this mean I'm predictable?)

The purging of a 'rival' race/people/nation....is something that has been repeated over and over again throughout history.

Just as people who risk everything to help save people from those horrible situations are found again and again throughout history.

(sorry for going off on a tangent, but I was thinking of so many regions and crisis while reading the beginning of this story)

Tanner has made it out, but his mind is still back in his home and all the loss he has suffered. Now, despite saying that, I didn't think this was a very dark or heavy story, so don't let that stop you from reading it.

He finds a safe place in the home of a very committed couple and slowly they become more.

This story had a lot going on, and I wished it was longer to really get the most out of it, but I still very much enjoyed it and wouldn't mind this one being extended to give more backstory and depth to it.

Serena says

My Rating System:

* couldn't finish, ** wouldn't recommend, *** would recommend, **** would read again, ***** have read again.

Katy Beth McKee says

Tanner has gone through so much and is having trouble recovering. When he is given safe haven with Bram and Ryder he isn't sure how to take his feelings. But together they form a bond that brings them all love and healing.

Riayl says

2.5

Verity says

[the only interaction between them seemed to be when Bram and Ryder would wake Tanner from a nightmare to give him comfort and touch. This left me with the feeling that what they felt for him was compa
