



## Brave are the Lonely

*Heather Long*

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## **Brave are the Lonely** Heather Long

Meet Cody. Wolf Brother. Wild Cowboy. Wicked Lover. He's never met a woman who can handle him.

*When the spirit fever struck a town, a village or an outpost, it left few if any survivors. The white man blamed the Indian saying they used their mojo on them. The Indians blamed the white man for angering the spirits. The survivors knew it didn't matter. The Fevered were forever changed.*

*When death seemed preferable...*

Mourning his mate drove fevered wolf shifter Cody out of Texas, but a brother's need drags him back from the brink.

*...and good deeds never go unpunished...*

Gypsy princess Mariska only wants to protect her people and her freedom, but a dangerous choice puts her on a collision course with an angry wolf.

When Cody touches Mariska, his wolf cannot escape the hunger that fills him. For Mariska, Cody's touch brings her a pleasure she never imagined, but is it enough to heal his fractured soul?

As danger stalks them, they must confront who they are or risk losing Cody forever.

*His wolf. His woman. His way.*

## **Brave are the Lonely Details**

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Author : Heather Long

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## From Reader Review **Brave are the Lonely** for online ebook

### **Romancing the Book says**

Posted on Romancing the Book's blog

Reviewed by Sherri

Review Copy Provided by the Author

Cody Morningstar's wolf is in mourning for a lost love. Cody the man is struggling with the balance of man and wolf when the stakes are raised and he encounters Mariska, a fiery traveler. Their relationship burns up the pages as they are stalked by Distain seeking revenge against Cody's wolf. In the final encounter we learn that Distain has a secret of his own that tests both man and wolf.

Kid Kane features well in this story as the ever present brother and supporter of Cody. Not without his own fair share of getting into trouble, Ms. Long weaves in Kid's similar conflicts of loneliness and isolation. The bonding and brotherhood between Kid and Cody deepens as questions about Kid are confirmed and his story is left queued up for a future book.

The second book in the Fevered Hearts line up continues the strong alpha males with themes of family, love, and independence. Cody's internal conflict and its impact on those around them are well done creating a suspenseful page turner. The encounters between Cody's dual personalities and Mariska are erotic and explosive. The banter and commitment that grows between Kid and Cody defines the brotherhood between them. *Brave Are the Lonely* is highly recommended.

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### **Judith says**

A beautifully written paranormal romance, second in a series, that pulls the reader forward through the story that is populated with shifters, dreamers, workers of Native American art and magic, and a few gypsies thrown in. It is a clash of cultures and shifters with non-shifters, an interesting internal struggle between a man and his inner wolf (one of the most interesting internal debates of this kind I have encountered in paranormal fiction) and the ability of love and family loyalty to hold individuals in thrall during times of great hurt or grieving. Set in the old West, the characters could easily have been real, even the shifters with their difficulties, yet the story brings the issues of trust and loyalty into play and also highlights the different ways people process reality and how their traditions determine their actions. There are moments of deep emotion and some very intense loving, yet overall it is the story of a man named Cody, a shifter who is dealing with his the loss of the mate of the inner wolf. The man didn't want that particular woman but the wolf did. It's not a phenomenon I have encountered before. So how does that sort of divided heart become one again? It is the question that drives this novel. A truly good book and one that paranormal romance lovers should not miss.

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### **Margo says**

The second in a series about two families. Each has very special gifts, like the ability to read people's

emotions, the ability to make fire, the ability to shift. The other family is gifted with a strong commitment to hard work, to each other and the people who work for them. The shifter takes off with the youngest member of the other family who just wants to get away from everyone. They head west with no destination in mind but there is danger following them. A left over from book one. Also there is a band of gypsies who leave the shifter with a special gift. Will he keep it? I enjoyed the read.

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### **Sophia says**

I received this book when I won a contest and I had no idea until I started reading that it was part of a series. It took me a little bit to work out the world that Heather Long has created, but once I had my feet under me I really enjoyed the book.

The story's main romance is between Cody a wolf shifter and Mariska a gypsy girl. Cody is traveling west in his wolf form with Kid Kane as his riding partner. Both Kid and Cody are running from their pasts. Cody's wolf had decided that his adopted sister was to be their mate, but Scarlett ended up marrying someone else. Cody loves Scarlett as his sister, but his wolf half grieves. Kid is running from having to acknowledge his unique gifts and share this knowledge with his family. He has the ability to read emotion. It is not until they reach a fort high in the mountains of New Mexico that Cody is driven to shift into the man body because Kit has left him at camp and did not return from the trading fort when he said he would. After a little adventure there, he remains as a man.

Without their knowledge, Cody and Kit are being tracked by an angry revenge minded hunter who became their enemy from the first book. He plans to kill the wolf that bit him and the man who left him to burn in the fire.

Mariska is part of a small band of gypsies traveling west to make a new start by joining another stronger band. Her father wants her to marry the son of the other band's leader. She wants the right to choose. Their wagons are attacked by Apaches and it is Cody and Kid who rescue them. Cody saves Mariska from being taken by one of the braves. By the gypsy way, Mariska is now Cody's. She does not want to be his, but adversely she gets in a snit when the big blond blue-eyed stranger tells her grandmother that he doesn't want her. Later when her father returns, he offers the hospitality of the gypsy camp to Kid and Cody making it plain to Mariska that he plans to offer her to Cody.

Mariska panics and decides to drop some herbs into Cody and Kid's food so they will sleep and not give Cody the chance to claim her before their wagons continue west. Unfortunately, Cody doesn't drop off quickly enough and figures out what she did and her father is close enough to hear the accusation before Cody succumbs to the herbs. Due to her grievous breech of their laws, she is left tied to her wagon to be at the mercy of the two men when they wake up. She watches fearfully as Cody starts to wake and then is terrified when the man becomes a golden furred wolf who has anger and danger to her in his eyes.

The story becomes pretty exciting stuff from there so I won't spoil it for anyone.

This was my first historical western paranormal and it was awesome. I loved the world building. Cody, his adopted father and seven other adopted brothers and sister are all gifted in various ways because they survived what is known as the Fever. It is a mystical illness of sorts that generally decimates whole groups of people like the plague, but for those who survive it changes them. The Fevered are feared and must always be careful. From what I gathered, the first book is Scarlett, Cody's sister's story and she has the gift of

wielding fire. I must go back and read that one then continue with the rest.

The plot was exciting both with the action and the steamy romance between the feisty Mariska and the alpha male Cody. The story is told from many points of view: the brothers back in Texas, the family at the mountain home, Kid, Cody, Ryker, and Mariska. I had to work a bit to follow the switches because I was reading an Advanced Copy of the book that still needed cleaning up. I liked keeping up with the many people in the story and adding the hunter, Ryker's voice just added tension. The best was having Cody and Mariska's take on their growing romance. They are both passionate people, but come from two different backgrounds causing them to size up the same situation or words very differently.

As I alluded to when talking about the plot, there are many wonderful characters and they were the best part of the story to me. I like the paranormal and historical aspects, but the people are what made me keep reading to find out what was going to happen next. The brothers are so loyal, but playful and loving. I liked Cody and Kid's camaraderie where they always had each other's backs. Mariska was like a flame to Cody's oil and together- whoosh!

This series has good potential with all those brothers still needing their stories told.

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### **Tara Clegg says**

#### **MY REVIEW COURTESY OF FALLEN ANGEL REVIEWS:**

Brave Are the Lonely  
Fevered Hearts 2

After he lost his mate to another man, Cody left Texas with scarcely a backwards glance. With no destination in mind and only Kid for company, Cody's plan is to go until his wolf's grief becomes too much, then die. That all changes when he and Kid awaken to find the Gypsy princess, Mariska, left tied to a wagon as a gift. Suddenly, Cody is feeling more alive than he has in a while and the future no longer looks so bleak. The only problem is, the wolf inside him is opposed to Mariska- violently so. However, the more time Cody spends with Mariska, the more he is coming to think of her as his. Can he convince his wolf of the same?

As a Gypsy princess, loyalty and honor have long been ingrained in Mariska, but when her father gives her to Cody as a thank you for saving their tribe, Mariska can't help but retaliate. She never anticipated her actions would cause her tribe to leave her behind, but she quickly becomes glad they did. Cody has her feeling things she's never felt before, and in no time at all, she is head over heels in love with him. Being with Cody will be no easy task since she has to convince both man and wolf she is a worthy mate, but she is more than up for the challenge.

Once again, Heather Long managed to blow me away with her Fevered Hearts. I am completely, plum crazy in love with this series! Brave are the Lonely was captivating from cover to cover.

Torn between the desires of the man and the wolf, Cody was the definition of a tortured soul. I swear, I could feel my heart breaking for him! It came as such a relief that he found a woman who could bring happiness to

both sides of himself. And, oh, what a woman he found! Mariska was a spirited and adventurous heroine and a perfect match for Cody. When she learned about his wolf half, she barely flinched, and that reason alone was enough to make me Team Mariska. She and Cody shared excellent chemistry and fabulous passion that had me loving every minute they were together.

I am so glad Kid had such a big part in this book. He is one of those larger than life characters that readers can't help but love. Kid brings such fun to the pages with his personality and antics and I am more than anxious for his own story.

Rich in magic and mythology, with a storyline you can't help but love and characters you can't help but root for, *Brave are the Lonely* has everything a reader could ask for and is certain to leave you wanting more.

Reviewed by: Tara

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### **Teresa says**

DAMN I LOVE THIS SERIES! It's definitely one of my favorites- the books are magic!

This book is a million times sexier than the last one, and the sex was so H-A-W-T... scorching! There's nothing more wonderful than a romance with an excellent story AND great sex, but especially in historical romance the love scenes are often not that riveting... these books are an absolute exception, the hot scenes are AMAZING!

There was nothing I didn't love about this story- Cody is a wonderful hero and Mariska his perfect heroine. It's rare that I adore both hero and heroine, usually I don't like the heroine quite as much, but every character of the "Fevered Hearts"-series is amazing so far. I loved the continuing battle between man and wolf, it was so fascinating to read, and I felt so happy when the wolf finally made up his mind about Mariska.

The fact that Cody is BLOND (my personal fetish, you know) is just the icing on the cake among all the wonderfulness that is this book!!!

Kid is an awesome character, can't wait to read more about him. His gift is great, it makes him even more fascinating.

I so can't wait for the next book, I take it that one is about Micah, who will sure as hell make a perfect hero- I'm counting the days!

Heather Long's language is stunningly beautiful and takes you back in time and into the heart of her story with ease and gracefulness... I'm such a FAN, dammit!!!

What, I can't give ten stars? Well, I give EVERY STAR THERE IS, THEN!

P.S.: The cover is YUMMY! Even the wolf's fur has the correct color- perfect!

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## **Paula says**

### **Great Story**

This is the 2nd book of this series I've read. I usually don't read this kind of stories, but this author has me hooked. I don't want to tell you about what all characters are gifted with. Just take my word this is great book that you won't want to stop reading.

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## **Annie Slasher (Booked & Loaded) says**

This is an original review from <http://bookedandloaded.com> - this title was personally purchased and all opinions are my own. Original rating 4.5/5

Brave Are the Lonely is the second installment in Heather Long's Fevered Hearts series and follows Cody. Cody is a wolf shifter whos wolf is still in love with Scarlet, but the man is not.

Cody is a deeply complex character. His wolf and him are two separate entities and I always enjoy this type of view on shifters. When the man has feelings for the Traveler's princess Mariska the wolf does not agree. The battle Mariska ignites lights more than one kind of fire within Cody and his wolf. Long truly pulls you into the story and has the ability to make you see the story through each of the characters eyes. I love her ability to do this!

This series is swiftly becoming a favorite and I would recommend this to a broad spectrum of Romance lovers including historical, paranormal, and western fanatics!

I rate Brave Are the Lonely 4.5 out of 5 Bullets!

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## **Avey Shannon says**

YES, YES – Fantastic!!!! Highly recommended. The “Fevered Hearts” series’ story line, its action, its characters are perfect, this is not your usual Western-Cowboy read, it is an exciting addictive page turner. Can't wait to start the next book

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## **Amanda Gard says**

### **A good ending after a rocky start...**

I really like Kid and Cody, who are traveling together after the events of the first novel. The beginning when it is just the two of them is great. The issue I had was I absolutely hands down hated Mariska. She's a spoiled and prideful gypsy princess who takes offense at an imagined slight and poisons the men who saved her life in retaliation. I could not stand to read anything about her from her introduction until she finally gets her \$#!? together (which does thankfully happen before I could completely lose my marbles). She finally comes around as a strong but compassionate woman, but damn, it was really hard going there for awhile. The end is

full of action and anticipation. I can't wait to see what's in store for the Morning Star and Kane men.

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### **Lynn Vincent says**

Wow! What a wonderful story set in the old west, the Romany Travelers add a different twist to the story. The story is well written and the characters are diverse and strong willed. This is the second book in the Fevered Heart series. I have not had the chance to read the first book, but had no problem following the story. Cody was changed into a wolf shifter by the fever, which the Travelers call the Devil's Kissed. Cody and his wolf are conflicted, neither wants to give up control. Cody's wolf half is suffering the loss of a mate. Kid has left and Cody is following him to protect him. Kid also has been fevered, but will not admit it. Will Cody be able to make him tell his fevered gift? The two meet Mariska while saving her band of travelers from attack. Mariska and Cody start off on the wrong foot or paw, when she drugs both men. Left tied to a wagon wheel for breaking Traveler law Mariska is at their mercy. Will Cody forgive her? Will Cody find the peace he needs with Mariska? Will the evil that follows them catch up?

I give this great story in exchange for an honest review. It is well worth over a 5 star rating.

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### **Sassy Moms Say Read Romance says**

Oh I can gush about this book all day long. I loved it. Getting to see more into Cody and his wolf and how they are faring is fantastic.

Brave are the Lonely is book two in the Fevered Heart series. It starts a month after book one (Marshal of Hel Dorado) ended. We see how the journey for both Kid and Cody has gone. When they both left the Flying K ranch right after Sam and Scarlett's wedding at the end of the first book, we are left wondering where they've gone and how they are doing. Well in book two we get to find out. Where Kid Kane is dealing with his own issues and feelings by bedding every available female he comes across. Cody is dealing with the wolf's sadness and pain at losing his mate.

A big problem with Cody and his wolf is that they are of two minds and two hearts. Where Cody sees Scarlett as nothing more than a sister, the wolf always saw her as more. It takes time for the wolf to reconcile with that. Something that helps greatly is the fact that they come across some travelers.

Mariska is a princess in her Travelers group. Her father is what could be considered the "Chief or King" within the traveling gypsies. They are traveling because Mariska's father has promised her to a man in exchange for his help. Well she isn't exactly happy about those circumstances and fights with her father as soon as they camp for some time. Only problem is that some Indians have decided that they want what these travelers have brought with them. Cody and Kid both come in to help save not only the travelers but Mariska as well.

After a disrespect to their ways Mariska's family leaves her scared, sad and alone with Kid, Cody and his wolf. But it's due to this situation that Mariska and Cody begin to bond, helping man and wolf to heal as well. There travels aren't safe there is an unknown danger that lurks and follows them.

Like I said I can talk about this story all day. It rivets you to your seat. It grips you with action, love and adventure. It gives hope and shows healing. I promise you it's a story you won't soon forget or put down.

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### **Jaime says**

Heather Long has brought us the much anticipated sequel of Marshall of Hel Dorado with the release of BRAVE ARE THE LONELY. We finally get to see behind the mystery that is surrounding Cody and his wolf. The battle of wills that dominates this character leads to an exciting adventure that will make is almost impossible to put down. I was reading this book during a large reader's conference and I was picking it up during every spare moment I could find.

Being able to experience Cody's struggle of keeping control over his domineering wolf personality was intense at moments and hilarious at others. Our heroine, Mariska, was just strong enough of a female character to fit perfectly with the Alpha male without being overpowering. We also get to see more of the other characters we grew to love in the first book of the Fevered Hearts series. Having a taste of these other personalities makes me want to scream for more.

If you want a read that will give you the best of mystery, suspense, and steamy romance, you do not have to look further then BRAVE ARE THE LONELY. I cannot wait until the next book in the Fevered Hearts is released so I can dive into this imaginative world once again.

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### **Drmgrl99 says**

This book is about Cody (a wolf shifter) and Mariska (a gypsy princess). It is full of emotion, romance, and struggle—Oh, and don't let me forget the amazing SEX! Cody is licking wounds or a broken heart when he comes across Mariska and even though they fight it there is no denying it.

Brave are the Lonely is book 2 in Heather Long's Fevered Hearts series. I absolutely enjoyed book 1 Marshal of Hel Dorado, her writing twists really intrigued me and kept it exciting to read. Ms. Long has kept me reading and wanting more with book 2.

This is not a series you want to miss! If you're into Western, Paranormal, and/or Historical you're gonna love this. You get a bit of everything with this series and the writing, characters, and story line all keep you coming back for more and wishing that Ms. Long could write faster!!

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### **Joyfully Reviewed says**

The fever took everyone Cody loved and left him changed forever. Now he is two beings, human and wolf. His wolf saw a mate in a woman he couldn't have. The wolf wanted to leave the family Cody had claimed since he changed to find death, but Kid Kane changed his mind. Kid is also running from something. Now the two wander the west in search of what they do not know but what they find will change their lives forever.

Mariska is a Gypsy princess traveling with her clan when they are brutally attacked by Indians. Two strange men come to their rescue and her culture states they should be rewarded. Her father plans to gift Mariska to

the blonde warrior that saved her but she has other plans.

Cody and Mariska find themselves stuck together; whether they like it or not. What happens when you put a stubborn princess and a brute wolf together? One challenge after another may lead to more than these two can handle. Will they find their way in the West or will a foe find them first?

Brave are the Lonely is truly a journey for Cody. He learns more about himself and life. I enjoyed his introspection but most of all this novel came to life when Mariska entered the picture. Her fiery attitude gripped Cody, his wolf and this reader. The chemistry between these two characters is off the charts. Both of these characters have to deal with their feelings and what they think they should be feeling. It is quite the interesting story.

I also enjoy the relationship between Cody and Kid Kane. They develop a strong brotherly bond and it is explored more in *Brave are the Lonely*. Cody and Kid are both set apart from their other family members. In a way, they very much need each other to survive the path set before them. I really liked learning more about Kid and his mysterious fevered power.

I look forward to learning more about these Fevered Hearts in Ms. Long's next installment of the series! I find this story and each character unique. I enjoy the Wild West backdrop with its unpredictability. *Brave are the Lonely* is a grippingly wild and sultry romance filled with stellar characters and a cool plot.

Reviewed by Miranda for Joyfully Reviewed

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