



Body Magic

Poppy Dennison

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Sequel to Mind Magic

Triad: Book Two

A pack is only as strong as its weakest member. Rocky Harris knows how the system works. He's been on the bottom rung his whole life. But when his alpha consigns him to the High Moon Pack to help them improve security, he finds his beliefs not just challenged but outright assaulted.

Cade Montgomery's confidence took a hit when the pack's cubs were kidnapped on his watch. He's prepared to do anything to protect his family, even if it means working with Rocky. Maybe Cade doesn't trust Rocky, but with the turmoil surrounding pack Alpha Gray's unpopular decision to break tradition and mate with a mage named Simon, Cade knows more threats are coming.

Then someone declares war on shifters and puts the entire pack in danger. Cade and Rocky will need each other's strengths to survive the impending battle—and the power of their growing attraction.

Body Magic Details

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Author : Poppy Dennison

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From Reader Review Body Magic for online ebook

Ingie says

Written February 26, 2015

3 Stars - A good second installment to a nice PNR series

Book #2

I enjoyed listening to the first book in this 'Triad' shifter-series (not standalone's). Once again is it narrated by Robert G. Davis (6:30 hrs).

• •

The second book about the wolf shifters in the *High Moon Pack* continue where we left the *mage* **Simon Osborne** and his new mate, the pack-alpha **Gray Townsend**, in the first book (#1 - Mind Magic (3 stars)). We once again meet them all, the cubs, the aunt, the new vampire grandpa and some pack members.

Body Magic tells also the story about when the pack-wolf **Cade Montgomery** get his eyes on **Rocky Harris**. Rocky is a visiting shifter who is there to help the pack with their security system. He is a man with secrets and not that popular when he is questioning Alpha Grey, his mate, and the way of life in this (strange) pack.

As with the first book is this sweet, steamy and fun with some (bloody) suspense parts. I enjoy this cozy family feeling and these not always totally flawless characters. I can't but loooove these adorable cute cubs. I like the plot and storyline and I'm satisfied with the narrators job.

#1 ~ ...BUT there are to be honest also some less good things. For example this repetition of the characters' names in to many sentences and in my opinion also too much telling, instead of suggesting or showing. ~ Add to that a few minus points to a rather obscure and abrupt end.

#2 ~ ...BUT there are also some very applause worthy stuff as a dark-colored main character and the fact that a smaller shifter actually can 'top' a larger one. ~ At last! Wow!

Body Magic is yet another easygoing and nicely told good-feeling romance from Poppy Dennison. If you are a fan of shifter books, as me, are these quite okay.

I'm looking forward to pick up and listening to book #3 as well. (Will it be some intense man-loving vampire and wolf shifter there?)

I LIKE - nice wolf love

The 'Triad' series by Poppy Dennison with four 100-200 pages books: (view spoiler)

DaisyGirl says

3.0 Stars

Rocky Harris is the omega of his pack. While on assignment to the High Moon Pack to upgrade their security system, Rocky's alpha tasks him with infiltrating the pack, befriend the Alpha, and gaining insider information which will be used to take over the pack. Cade Montgomery is in charge of security. His confidence took a hit when the were cubs were kidnapped on his watch. Despite the fact that he doesn't trust Rocky, he is willing to work with him for the sake of protecting the pack. Both Rocky and Cade fight their growing attraction but in the end succumb to their mutual desire. Rocky's traitorous ways, however, may destroy their relationship before it even starts.

This book was alright. I didn't care for it as much as I did the first one, for a couple reasons. First, despite this being Cade and Rocky's story, the majority of the book focused on Gray and Simon. Although I LOVE Gray, Simon is getting on my nerves. Second, when Cade overheard Rocky's conversation with his alpha and learned of his betrayal to the pack, he confronted Rocky who defended his views! As if!!! Cade should've knocked his punk-ass out! Third, I didn't like the resolution of Rocky playing double-agent. That was a BIG TIME betrayal. I would imagine it to be unforgivable for most packs. But Rocky scraped by with barely a scratch. I don't even recall him apologizing to Gray. Whatever.

Bottom-line: an entertaining sequel but I didn't care for it as much as the first book.

Dee Wy says

4.5 stars - I am so loving this series. The entire pack is involved in this one and all the action kept me glued to the story. I'm late to the party in reading this but now I can read them all in a row. On to the next book.

Sadie Forsythe says

This book had a few qualities I love finding in m/m romances—a romantic lead that's not cookie-cutter white (not one of the main couple, but still a main character), a mixing up the standard sex roles (letting the little guy top), etc. And I honestly found the writing less stiff and off-putting than in book one, though I still think names were used too often in dialogue. So, for the right reader this will probably be a real winner.

However, despite involving werewolves, mages and vampires it still felt very, very much like the main focus of the book was domesticity. A LOT of time is spent watching Simon marvel at how wonderful it is to

suddenly find himself part of a family, or how much he now loves Gray, or what it feels like to suddenly realise he's a stepfather, etc. Which is fine, of course, but not what I would have expected from the synopsis.

Further, and even more irritating, Cade and Rocky, who I thought the book would be about, are mere side characters and their romance is little more than a distraction. I felt the same way about the 'danger to the pack' subplot. It was barely hinted at and overcome easily. Again, the main plot was happy homemaking. And unfortunately I'm just not into that.

Cole Riann says

Re-read on 4.30.13 - Review stands. I'm re-read in preparation for the third book!

Review posted at The Armchair Reader.

****Beware! Some spoilers for those who haven't read the first book****

Earlier this year I picked up a book on a whim by an author I'd never read before. I ended up absolutely charmed by the book that just seemed to have something special that made it rise above its few flaws. In looking at it, it was hard to pinpoint exactly what made it special. Though there are elements unique to the story, in general, it is a plot that we're familiar with. Still, I absolutely adored *Mind Magic* by Poppy Dennison. At the time, I didn't know that there might be a series planned, so I was frustrated with the things left open ended. This is now the second book of what will be three and I'm very pleased that my wait was rewarded with another book that I could really enjoy.

Based on the three types of magic in this world, *Body Magic* continues where *Mind Magic* left off. Simon the mage is newly mated to Gray, the alpha of the High Moon Pack. Under Gray's leadership they are a progressive pack, flouting tradition and breaking the rules when they see the need for it. They've done this in a big way by the mating of Gray and Simon. Not only is mating between different magics taboo, but simple contact between them is severely frowned upon. But Simon has shown himself to be a rather unique mage, as well as an ever increasingly powerful one after he was almost killed by his old tutor at the end of the first book and his grandfather Cormac (who really deserves a book of his own!) killed the tutor, sending all of that power back into Simon. Now the two are working on getting Simon in shape for his 25th birthday, the secret ritual that will bring Simon out of his apprenticeship and into his full power. In addition, Simon and Gray are feeling out what being a family is like, and Gray's son Garon, the alpha heir, has a lot to do with that with his *big* personality and his secret of having more than one kind of magic, a rarity among shifters.

Besides the continuation of the romance between Gray and Simon, in this book we get to know Cade and Rocky much better. Cade is the alpha best friend and handyman around the pack. He's fiercely loyal after finding a family in the pack as the only man of color and never being treated differently as he would in other packs. Even though he doesn't trust Rocky, the wolf from another pack that has been brought in to shore up their security systems, he finds that he's starting to have feelings for him. Likewise, Rocky is a secret omega, caught up in the self-repetitive cycle of hate and shame that makes him a lapdog for his alpha, who is the only one that knows the real objective Rocky has while visiting the High Moon Pack -- reconnaissance. His own alpha is looking for information he can use to bring down Alpha Gray and bring the disgraceful and shameful pack that is flouting were rule to its knees under his own new leadership.

When the mysterious attacks on were start again, the new pack is on high alert. They'll have to make sure

their cubs on extra safe this time around, after they were kidnapped the first time and almost completely drained of their magic. And even though they are a little more prepared this time around, they still to little about what they're up against.

This sequel had that same something special I was hoping for that I loved about the first book. It is a little more subdued than the first book, which in setting up the whole story had more action. In that sense, this book definitely seems like a typical middle book of a trilogy, though I didn't find it to be less than in any way as I have found some other middle books. Much of the story is dedicated to the growing relationship between Cade and Rocky, who definitely have a rocky time of it that's for sure, as well as Simon's fear of committing his life to a mate and family after so little time knowing Gray. This was, perhaps, my favorite part of this book. Not only do I adore Simon, but seeing him with Garon is always a treat because the little boy has so much personality. There's a development in the book that I won't reveal in regards to their family that I also absolutely loved. I really love Cade as a character -- he's naturally lovable because he's fiercely loyal and kind. Rocky is different. I still feel pretty neutral regarding him, though his journey throughout the story is perhaps one of the biggest parts of this book. He's a conflicted character. His need to belong has made him accept the horrible treatment he's received at the hands of his alpha and pack. He's confused by this new pack that doesn't seem to follow the rules and I think that uncertainly and fear of the slim hopes he might have that this pack really could be his salvation, is what makes him outwardly hate some of the decisions they've made, most especially the union between Gray and Simon. Seeing him change and seek redemption, buoyed by his relationship with Cade, was nice, but I will enjoy seeing him grow and hopefully be less duplicitous in the next book.

I love that the author made the choice to both introduce a new romance in each book and continue the ones from before. The characters are all so close, that simply revisiting the past couples wouldn't work, and having them be fully integrated into the book really makes sense, as well as the fact that their stories really aren't over. Technically, all three books could simply be about Gray and Simon, they have enough going on for it, but I tend to really like books with multiple romances, so this really worked for me.

I admit that I'm a bit sad there is only one book left. I'm also curious as to who the couple will be, unless Poppy surprises us all and doesn't have a new romance, just the previous couples. I could live with that, but I confess that of all the characters I still want to get to know better, Cormac really deserves some loving of his own. If she gives me more of Cormac and more of the family time I love so much, I will love the last book which by the title alone intrigues me with thoughts of what it could be about (it will have to be called *Soul Magic* right?). Oh, well I suppose she'll have to wrap up the mystery they're trying to solve as well :) Nevertheless, I'm not worried because I really have enjoyed both of these books so much, I'm simply hoping that there isn't too much time in between that I'll have to wait, twiddling my thumbs.

John The Cosmic Wanderer says

Great continuation to book 1 and we also get to read more of Simon and Gray. I thought their part ended in book 1. I usually get annoyed when there are multiple POVs but Cade and Rocky's part flowed nicely to the entire story. This was a really fun read & love the world this author has created. 4.5

Monika says

Second books in a series can sometimes be a letdown not much happens, you get introduced to new main characters and the rest of the cast you grew to love from the first book have a very small part or no part at all in the second book. A lot of times in a series each book can be a standalone and I often wonder what makes them a series? My idea of a series is a story that is a continuation with all the characters playing a role and yes new ones added.

I really loved the first book in this series I fell in love with Simon and Gray, although Simon is still my favorite, so I was ecstatic that they played a big part in this book. The love between them is stronger and the fact that they are equals and not your usual Alpha and his mate is perfect. Now add in Cade and Rocky and this became on very hot and sexy book. Cade and Rocky's story isn't that insta-love, let's have sex, bite me now you're my mate. There is an attraction right away and yes sex fairly soon between them but the relationship has a few bumps that need to be worked out so a slow build to a loving relationship is in the works and by the end of this book they are well on their way.

The mysterious attacks on the pack that started in the first book continue and even though we don't find out a lot about the why and from whom I love how the mystery is unfolding keeping me interested and anxious to find out what is going on. There is a small surprise that I would consider a spoiler if I wrote about it so I'm not going to go there except to say I am so in love with it that I can't wait for more.

I loved this book more than the first which surprises me. Second books are not usually the better of the bunch so I'm hoping the last one will be better yet! If there is one downfall to reading a series like this it has to be that you have to wait for the last book to get all the answers, but when the series is as intriguing as this one I don't mind the wait.....much! ;-D

I highly recommend this series.

M'rella says

WARNING: spoilers!

But then the book is predictable, so I am sure you figured the juicy bits out already.

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This is a Happy Book, A Jory Book ...only better! We all know Jory is good with in-laws, grumpy old men, wolves ...um, dogs ...same crap, children, dishes; plus he is adorable and sexy. Guess what? Simon is all that, plus he *sparkles* and levitates.

Then there is Cade and Rocky, hornifying each other in every bush, corner and building of the village. Then of course, there is Gray and Simon sexing like rabbits in between breakfasts, coffee, pancakes, games with children, computer games, plants and other happy things. For like 70%.

Speaking of children in or near my books:

Then at 70% poop hits the fan. Everyone is fighting or dying or chasing deadly things, except for the council, of course. Seems, they dropped directions to all the uber popular hot spots in the toilet and missed all the fun, including dog fights (and, I guess, bets?). Now, who wouldn't be cranky after that? So, the old pervs decide to confiscate the only shiny they could still get their claws on - Simon.

BUT - thank god for Rocky! The lowly omega saves Simon, shames the balls off the council and grucks Gray's beta in the... oh, that would be a spoiler :P

=====

This book: first 70% - happy, happy, happy; last 30% - gruesome and violent with a cliffy.

I like: first 90% - gruesome and violent; last 10% - happy, or somewhat happy.

Told you, it's me. ONE STAR.

Lady*M says

4.25 stars

I had to rate this one higher than the first, especially since author didn't leave Simon and Gray dangling in the wind, but continued their story. She also started the new romance between Cade and Rocky and didn't make them fall madly in love in the middle of that madness. She just opened the possibility for something more to grow between them. I'm hoping that Cormac saving Liam means that "grandpa" vampire will and Grey's Beta will be in the next book to complete the Triad. All in all, quick and pleasant read.

Whitney says

This is book two in Dennison's Triad series. I liked the first book a lot, but this one was bit disappointing.

On the one hand, I'm glad Dennison did a follow up with Simon and Gray because book one, Mind Magic, left such an open ending and unanswered questions. Body Magic pretty much starts where book one left off. I was fine with that. At first.

The plot blurb to this book is not at all accurate. This book is maybe 30% Rocky and Cade, and 70% Simon and Gray and I think that should've been made clear. I liked seeing what Simon and Gray were up to, but there wasn't much to Rocky and Cade's side of the story, which is what the blurb alludes to. So I wish the book blurb had been more honest about what the book was about. I just wish that Rocky and Cade had more development and Simon and Gray had their own continuing book.

I did like that Cade was a biracial black man. Is the man on the cover supposed to be him? His skin is described in different shades in contrast to Rocky, but I assumed he was darker so the cover makes it confusing.

The world-building is very visual without being long-winded, which I like. There's still a lot we don't know with regards to the different magics, which I'm sure will be revealed at the series goes on.

Overall, I liked the characters and the writing style (though the chapter breaks were in weird places to me). I'm just not sure if I'll continue the series, though.

2.5 out of 5 stars.

Mandapanda says

You need to read the first book in the series (Mind Magic) before this one or you'll be disappointed. Body Magic picks up right where Mind Magic finishes. According to the blurb this book is about Cade and Rocky but in fact Simon and Gray from book 1 get more page time. The High Moon Pack is just starting to accept its Alpha (Gray) being mated to a Mage (Simon). Representatives of the Were Council arrive to judge the mating but an Alpha from another pack (Malone) has a spy in place to prevent the wedding from going ahead and intends to challenge Gray for leadership. Malone's spy, Rocky, is an Omega who has been abused all his life. He's worried about the Mage/Were mating but his attraction to Gray's second in command, Cade, is changing his mind.

I would call this ending a cliffhanger. Rocky and Cade barely make it to a HFN and the threats to the pack from Malone and also a powerful were/mage/vampire killer are not resolved at all. The author didn't spend much time on Cade's and Rocky's romance and subsequently I didn't feel that attached to them. I did enjoy Simon and Gray's ongoing romance though. Maybe we'll get more of Cade and Rocky in book 3 but then we'll have 3 couples to follow and I don't think that would work for me. There is a very cute mountain lion shifter called Riley that would definitely appeal to those who like kids in their m/m romance.

Jessie Potts says

I enjoyed this second book but it was mostly still about Simon and Gray rather than Rocky and Cade. I also wish that the author would have gone into more detail as to what an Omega wolf is. Aunt Maggie says it's a 'wolf who needs more training' but then Cade could tell Rocky was an Omega by the submissive tilt of his chin... We also have no idea just how bad Rocky was treated in his old pack and what that had to do with being an Omega.

All in all cute, but definitely needed some more back story to make this perfect.

Penumbra says

[
Mind Magic focused on Simon, an apprentice mage, and Alpha wolf, Gray. This story on the other hand, included not only Simon and Gray, but also dealt with the building relationship between Rocky, a wolf from another pack

Julesmarie says

FIRST RE-READ 12 February 2017

I liked this both more and less the second time through. The things that annoyed me the first time were even more annoying. But the things I liked, I still really liked. I'd probably not have given it 4 stars this time, but I'll let the rating stand, since I didn't dislike that much.

Favorite Quote:

"You don't have to like them to learn from them, young one."

ORIGINAL REVIEW 25 November 2012

I only just now read some of the other reviews for this book and it's interesting how different my experience with this book was from some other reviewers'.

I felt like Simon and Gray's story wasn't finished at the end of the first book, so seeing in the blurb for this one that it was about a new couple actually disappointed me. Especially seeing that it was about Rocky. I felt so guilty at the end of the first book because I'd not been able to like him, and seeing that book 2 was about him I felt sure I'd been supposed to like him.

So I was actually delighted to find out that this book was as much about Simon and Gray as it was about Cade and Rocky. (And relieved that I wasn't supposed to like Rocky after book 1... :P)

Just like in book 1, I liked the way Ms. Dennison used so many familiar elements, but that she did it in a way that felt fresh. (Especially the little mountain lion cub! SO adorable!)

I loved getting to see how Simon and Gray are dealing with their relationship. It was especially fascinating to see them working through dealing with suddenly being mated when it wasn't one of those cases of insta-love recognition of your mate. Simon's panicked look when Garon told Kirby they kiss all the time 'cause they're in love was hilarious.

I think my favorite thing about this book, though, was Rocky. It was delightful watching him relax as he started to see that Gray's pack really was sincere in how much they all cared about each other. And I thought that he and Cade fit together just so beautifully.

What keeps this from more stars is just a few things that pulled me out of the story. (view spoiler)

Overall, a very fun read. I'm looking forward to book 3!

Katerina says

Diving in next book in 3....2....1....

