



Marked by Odin

Coral Moore

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After killing his sadistic brother, Brand inherits the responsibility for his brother's brood. Now, he must convince the brood that their barbaric way of life belongs in the past and demand change in order to secure their future.

Crushed by the death of his mate, Gunni believes it's only a matter of time before he succumbs to the loneliness that plagues his life. He follows Brand out of loyalty, but he secretly craves the peace that death will bring—until he is confronted with the most infuriating human he's ever met.

Leo is a throwback who has never quite fit in with human society. Drawn into the savage world of the werewolves, not entirely against his will, he discovers that the Broods of Fenrir don't fear much... except him.

These three conflicting personalities unite in pursuit of an unscrupulous trapper who has taken a member of Brand's brood captive. They must track him down before he uncovers what they are and their secret is revealed.

Marked by Odin Details

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Author : Coral Moore

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From Reader Review Marked by Odin for online ebook

Aidan says

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Purr More says

4.5 stars - I read the first book in this series, Broods of Fenrir, a while ago and really enjoyed it. When I saw this one show up on a giveaway I didn't hesitate to request it. I was confident that it would be an enjoyable read. My assumption was correct and I absolutely enjoyed this book, but it did give me a surprise I didn't expect. It ended up being a good surprise for me, but I think some other readers may not appreciate being blindsided when the story develops into a male/male romance. And this book is definitely a romance. The story revolves around Gunni and Leo's building relationship that must overcome obstacles. Other aspects of the story almost take a back seat for a significant portion of the book. There is the eventual "I love you" moment, lots of smex, and an HEA with no cliffhanger...so yeah, romance.

Based on my experience with the first book and this book's cover art, blurb and tags, I had a certain expectation for the story that was turned on its head as I read the book. Fortunately, I'm a romance reader and I like m/m romance so it turned out fine for me. In fact, it turned out more than fine (I'm sooo happy for Gunni!) but a reader expecting a more straight-up (no pun intended) urban fantasy may be sorely disappointed. So with that elephant in the room out of the way, let's move on to the review.

The story picks up a time after the first book ends and you will see several of the same characters in this story, primarily Brand, Dagny, and Gunni. However, the story will end up focusing on Gunni and Leo. Brand and Dagny will play a secondary role but still in the story in a significant way. Almost like an ensemble cast but with a heavier focus on Gunni and Leo.

The opening scene involves Gunni and it really caught my attention and drew me in. Why? Because of what happened to Gunni in the first book. My heart hurt for him and I was already emotionally invested in his character. I wanted him to have a happy ending. Gunni in his wolf form is doing some recon on a brood that Brand needs to get under control. Gunni is spotted so he runs and then gets run over by a car. He ends up at a vet's office. I had thought the vet, Cass, was going to be Gunni's love interest and as the story progressed, it seemed to point in that direction with Gunni even having protective feelings over her. Then suddenly Leo comes into the story and wham...the story just takes a total turn into another direction. I almost wonder if Cass was an intentional romantic red herring. I even went back to the blurb to reread it and I can now (with my knowledge of the story) see a very vague hint at it but without knowing the story, I would not have picked up on it.

I did like the romance between Gunni and Leo. It was very tender and emotional. I thought they made a good match. They both had emotional scars that needed healing and they complemented each other well. I believed in their relationship and felt a connection between them. The sex in this story is explicit to a certain point but it does not reach what I consider an erotic romance level. It felt like the author was being careful not to cross certain lines in her descriptions of the love scenes but did so without resorting to corny euphemisms (which I so appreciate!). There were even a couple of scenes that faded to black. Even though more explicit scenes would not have bothered me, I felt the author struck a good balance and there was

enough to help build the connection between Gunni and Leo. Did I mention that I am soooo happy for Gunni? Because I am!

As I mentioned briefly above, the conflict involving the poacher does take a back seat at times to focus on the romance and that part of the story actually did seem to fizzle a bit, but there is some intrigue and it does come back into the story eventually. Much like the romance, the plot takes a sudden turn and goes in a different direction. It doesn't come out of nowhere though; there are events earlier in the book that set it up if you pay attention. In the end, I think it played out in an interesting way.

I enjoy the author's writing style. It is easy to read and flows well. The dialogue for the most part is comfortable and felt natural to me except for some moments during the love scenes that felt a bit corny but I expect that from almost any romance. I mean love can be corny at times, right? As long as it doesn't go overboard, I'm okay with it.

I really enjoyed this book. In fact, I liked it better than the first book. It was a page turner for me and I look forward to the next book. I'm very curious who the focus will be on in the next story. There are also a few things that come up later in the story that I think will be carried over. I recommend reading the first book, *Broods of Fenrir*, before you read this one. The characters carry over and there is an overarching storyline. Also, understanding the emotional place that Gunni is in (which is a result of what happens in the first book) is important to the story, IMO. I definitely have the next book on my radar and look forward to continuing the series. I'm giving this book 4.5 stars but will round up to 5 because I'm leaning more in that direction than the other. And for the last time I just have to say...I'm sooooo happy for Gunni! :)

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Includes Table of Contents

(I received a copy of this book from a giveaway in exchange for an honest review)

Lauren says

The second installment in the series is lacking a little of the first one. Even though there were some fascinating new characters the old ones caught my reading interest more. The interactions of the old characters seemed more plausible than with the introduction of the newbies. Also even though I did find this to be an enjoyable read the story seemed to fizz out overtime not keeping the same consistent entertainment.

Note: I won this book from LibraryThing's member giveaways from the author

Rebecca says

For those of you who have read *Broods of Fenrir*, prepare yourselves. Coral Moore has a big surprise in this book and it is a surprise I can only describe as marmite - you will either love it or hate it.

First off the first and final thirds of the books as classic in style to the previous, full of intrigue, shape-shifting, danger, secrets, lies, action etc. The kind of stuff we all loved about the first one. The second third however, and it does seem to be slightly more than a third in truth, involves male love. And I say love in both meanings of the word. Now in this equality world we are all part of many might not find that surprising and perfectly acceptable. For me personally however it was a curve ball I didn't see coming and I did feel a bit uncomfortable with. Mainly because it was a huge piece of sexual romance fiction involving men which isn't the type of writing I usually read. A small voice kept whispering the words Fifty Shades in my ears but I just kept skimming over the uncomfortable bits in the hope that we would eventually return to some different kinds of action and suspense which it does at the end and in a way that allows now only relief from the male love scenes but also produces its own surprises. Especially as it involves my favourite character of Brand but also implies significant power changes and indeed struggles to come in the third book if and when it's written. I only hope the third book retains a lot more of the first in its genre style and plot line than this otherwise I might have to bid farewell to my nordic shape-shifters.

Jasmyn says

Warning: While this book contains some m/m sexual situations, don't be afraid of it - or you'll miss out on an amazing story.

Marked by Odin brings most of the lead characters from book 1, Broods of Fenrir, back to help Brand claim his new inheritance. Focus moves to Gunni and his utter devastation from losing his mate. Gunni has refused to change out of wolf form for a long time and Brand is worried that they may lose him forever. When Gunni finds himself in quite an embarrassing predicament (I was laughing so hard) he changes his tune and returns to human form - only to have his life turned upside down.

Brand's new brood is a mess - and that's putting it nicely. While he has his hands full trying to change their ways Gunni develops a relationship with a strange man they rescue from a barn cellar. But this isn't just any man and Gunni finds him irresistible - which is very taboo in brood society.

A very sweet love story between two people that care very much not only about each other, but everyone that touches their lives. A huge surprise waits for you at the end - I finished the book with quite the jaw-drop when I discovered exactly what "Marked by Odin" means.

(Tori-Smexybooks) smexys_sidekick says

Originally posted at <http://smexybooks.com/2013/01/review-...>

Overall Rating: C+

Favorite Quote: "Big, bad carnivores like to cuddle too, huh?"

Brand has defeated his sadistic brother and taken ownership of his Brood. He is now working to bring his Brood into the 21st century and stop the barbaric behavior they have been indulging in before they drive themselves into extinction. He is also trying to keep Gunni from fading into death. Gunni is still grieving over the violent death of the love of his life, Alice, and it is slowly killing him. When Gunni and Brand

chance upon a deadly trapper who has caged members of the Brood, they also encounter Leo, a human who appeals to Gunni and his wolf in ways he has never felt before in a man. But Leo is a shaman and considered an enemy of the Brood. When Leo is hurt trying to help Gunni locate a missing brood member, Gunni heals him, initiating a bond of sorts, and suddenly the hole in his soul begins to close. Now Gunni must make a choice. Will he adhere to Brood tradition and let Leo go? Or will he follow with his heart and accept the healing love Leo can provide?

Marked by Oden picks up a few months after *Broods Of Fenrir* ended. Brand is struggling to bring his brood under control and dealing with some heavy personal issues with his mate, Dagny. Though we see Brand and Dagny, this installment focuses heavily on Gunni and a romantic relationship he embarks on; to the point where other subplots take a distinct backseat. I admit to being surprised on how much softer this book was. While we still get occasional bouts of violence, you don't feel the same anger or darkness in here that was felt in book one. I missed that. I expected to get the same story but we don't in here. In fact, I'd be hard pressed to call this installment an Urban Fantasy. It definitely has a strong PNR feel to it and the romance produced may leave some readers dismayed and a little put out.

I adore Gunni and was pleased to see him in here. My heart broke for him in *Broods Of Fenrir* and I wasn't sure how or if Moore would be able to pull him back from the abyss. I was very surprised, but pleased, by the route she choose. Gunni is like Brand; he's loyal, forthright, and very protective of those he loves and cares about. He will do as commanded by Brand, but he is inching closer and closer to the edge each day. Emotionally crippled, you can literally feel the pain that Gunni carries with him. The guilt of failing Alice and the pain of her dying eats away at him with the sureness of acid.

Leo, a human shaman, is a delightful addition to this world. An interesting mix of human mortality and magic, he has always existed on the edges of society; shunned for his power and his sexuality. When he meets Gunni, the attraction is instantaneous. Leo, an empath, feels the emotional turmoil that rolls through Gunni and attempts to help him, which in turn brings Leo to Gunni's and his wolf's attention. Leo is exactly what Gunni needs but Leo is unsure if Gunni is ready to accept love in the form of another male.

Moore does a wonderful job on Gunni and Leo's romance. She slowly develops their love, allowing them time to get to know one another and adapt to this unusual situation, though the sexual attraction is hot and heavy. I wouldn't call it erotic because a number of the scenes tease then fade to black, but it works. It's all very sensual in the telling. Moore focuses more on the emotional aspects; their thoughts and desires, rather than overwhelming us with never ending physical descriptions of the act.

"It was like being devoured and reborn, over and over again...

He no longer knew, or cared, where his desire ended and Leo's began.

Because he didn't want the delicious torment to end, he skirted the edge as long as he could before he gave in..."

Leo and Gunni were good together. It's an emotional journey for both of them as love has not treated either of them kindly. They not only have to handle their burgeoning feelings for one another but also prejudice in the Brood. I love watching two alpha males work out their differences both in and out of bed.

The secondary characters are all just as richly designed as our protagonists. I enjoy that the women in this book are as strong and deadly as the men. Moore further enforces this as we watch the women in here deal with death, grief, and revenge. I enjoyed seeing Dagny and Brand, and Isabel makes a few appearances and no, she has not toned down the crazy yet. Moore isn't one to shy away from controversy and has no qualms about sacrificing a loved character if the story demands it. We are given some lovely clues to future

storylines which has me chomping at the bit to see what is in store for them all.

There are three story lines that run concurrently throughout. As stated earlier, the romance is the strongest storyline and takes over the book. I was disappointed that the trapper storyline didn't develop more and take a stronger stand against the romance. It was interesting and was revealing nicely but fizzled out; though a subplot that developed along side it did play out nicely and I enjoyed the twists injected into it. I also wanted to spend a little more time divulging into the history of the Brood and the other various Broods. Moore gives the information sparingly and I keep hoping for more.

The main conflict wraps up nicely with action, intrigue, and a surprise that I never saw coming. I enjoyed this foray back into Ms. Moore's world and look forward to visiting again.

StrangeBedfellows says

A good book, but the first one was better. Gunni never struck my interest in either story, especially whenever Brand was around to steal the show. Whereas the first story was instantly compelling and fulling charged all throughout, this one started off interesting and mellowed into blandness. Some new characters were introduced, but for me the tidbits between Brand and Dagny still remained the most interesting. True, Leo added some nice variety since he's the only non-Brood character to hold any significant screen time, but I still needed something more.

Susan says

Coral Moore's Broods of Fenrir books recall to mind the strong works of the progenitors of the paranormal genre, the disparate MJDavidson and LKHamilton. Unlike the anemic Twilite, Moore's books have strong characters, both male and female, and engaging plot lines. She does not hesitate to kill off sympathetic characters to advance her story line. She truly breathes new life into the werewolf (aka the breeds) subgenre. I found her books so compelling that I read them on consecutive evenings, wanting to know more. As a long-time reader of paranormal fiction, it is rare for a new author to so grab my attention. She has found a new fan in me. I highly recommend her books if you like solid characterization and absorbing plot lines.
