



## Shadow of the Hawk

*Curtis Jobling*

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## **Shadow of the Hawk** Curtis Jobling

Enslaved by the Goatlord Kessler, young werewolf Drew finds himself on the volcanic isle of Scoria, forced to fight in the arena for the Lizardlords. With the help of an unlikely ally, he must find a way to break free - but who has ever managed to escape?

## **Shadow of the Hawk Details**

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Author : Curtis Jobling

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# From Reader Review Shadow of the Hawk for online ebook

## Liviania says

While I prefer to read series in order, I did skip the second book in the Wereworld series. I caught on to what was happening pretty fast, although I did miss one or two important instances of character development. I do think it's best to at least read the first book (RISE OF THE WOLF) before jumping into SHADOW OF THE HAWK, because it lays out the groundwork for how the world works and introduces many of the characters. (This is a series with a gigantic cast. Forgive me if I get any names wrong.)

Drew, our protagonist, is the last of the Gray Wolves and has a claim to the throne of Lyssia. His half-brother Prince Lucas wants to keep the throne in Werelion hands. They each have their supporters, although Drew begins SHADOW OF THE HAWK cut off from his and stuck in slavery, serving as a gladiator. (I'll give you three guesses as to whether he incites a rebellion, first two don't count.) Meanwhile, his staunchest allies are sailing to a prospective safe haven and the two coolest female characters from the first book are MIA. (Gretchen and Whitley, you are missed.)

The rightful king who will bring peace to the land is not a new plot in children's fantasy. But Curtis Jobling's take is appealing. There's lots of different societies to be navigated, all sorts of monsters, and you'll probably like at least one of the main characters. At times, SHADOW OF THE HAWK does feel a bit too sprawling. Drew's fortunes change several times and his brother Trent makes a meaningful journey, but most of the other plotlines have less direction. (And I can't even talk about Hector, oh my.)

I've enjoyed the two Wereworld books I've read, and they're surprisingly quick reads. (Each book is rather thick.) But the quickness might be because they're often shallow. SHADOW OF THE HAWK has a high body count, but I wasn't all that affected by the deaths. Some of them were certainly horrible, but there was none of that horrible wrenching feeling that occurs when a character you empathize with dies.

But, as you can probably guess from the covers, this is a series for young boys. I suspect that they eat it up - even if their parents might be unhappy about some of the violence. But SHADOW OF THE HAWK is well suited to its intended audience and a pleasant enough diversion to older fantasy fans.

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## Bari says

This was book 3 in the Werelord Series. There have been times when I get really into a series and the first two are really good and then book 3 just somehow doesn't live up to my expectations. This was definitely not the case here. Book 3 was just as good as the first 2.

Werelord series is a unique blend of fantasy (shape shifters of all types), high adventure and action that will keep the pages turning.

I stumbled upon this series a while back and so glad I did.

This is a really great series and can't wait for book 4.

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## Joseph Leskey says

Well, this was quite good and expertly interesting. I enjoyed it not a small amount. Although, I had was somewhat perturbed with some parts. But they are mostly spoilers, so I shan't voice... er, write convert to text my perturbation.

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## SJH (A Dream of Books) says

This is the third installment of the engrossing and exciting Wereworld series by British author Curtis Jobling. He can't write these books fast enough for me! No sooner have I finished one then I'm eager for the next to find out what's going to happen next to all the characters. Something major nearly always happens at the end of each book as well which leaves me biting my nails and unable to sleep until I know the next publication date.

The story picks up with Drew enslaved by the Goatlord Kessler and on his way to Scoria where he's forced to fight as a gladiator for the Lizardlords. He is determined however to gain his freedom and return to Lyssia to claim his kingdom back once and for all and knowing Drew, I have no doubt that he'll do so in the end. He has an inextinguishable spirit and true grit and no matter what stands in his way he never gives up and he always overcomes the obstacles put in his path. He's endured a lot since discovering his true heritage and he's suffered both pain and despair but I love his loyalty and his single-minded pursuit of what's right.

In a separate plot strand, the story follows the Boarlord Hector, who is onboard the ship the Maelstrom. Hector has been my absolute favourite character in the series from the word go. He's also probably been the one character who has changed the most throughout the story and for this reason (and without giving anything away), I'm starting to worry that redemption may now be out of his reach. His regular communing with the dead has affected him greatly and he may never return to the Hector I knew and loved. I would love to see him meet up with Drew again because if anyone can reach out to him and put him back on the right path then it's his best friend.

There are some great new characters introduced in 'Shadow of the Hawk', including the Hawklords and one of my favourite things about these books is getting to discover all the new Werelords and their unusual talents, as well as all the unusual places they end up. I also enjoyed seeing Drew's brother Trent again who wants to track him down but eventually begins to discover the real truth about him.

Curtis Jobling definitely delivers after the success of the first two books. There's action, adventure and excitement in abundance and I was glued to the pages throughout. This book, as is the whole series, is stonkingly good! If you haven't come across the Wereworld series yet then I implore you to rush out and grab the first book now. Once you've started you won't be able to stop reading this epic fantasy adventure which will sweep you away into a whole new world.

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## Deepti Bharadwaj says

The book is an excellent read. The plot is very exciting and doesn't leave you disappointed, though I must say the alarming death rate in this book did annoy me. The third book in my opinion is the best of the the first

three. The way Drew's character has grown since the beginning of his journey leaves me impressed again, even though he seems to become more and more like Eragon as the books progress.

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### **Mad about says**

Another amazing wereworld story! so glad i came upon this series. its so well written and keeps you gripped as to what happens next.

i dont think ive taken more than 3 days to read any of them and cant wait for the next one.

a world of Lycanthropes that are civilised and known and respected by all in their world is a refreshing concept for shape shifter books

In Shadow of the Hawk drew is taken to an Arena to be a Gladiator among other unfortunate Lords and is desperate to break free and return to the fight

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### **Nathan Riffle says**

Wereworld

Shadow of the Hawk

By Curtis Jobling

Imagine finding yourself as a prisoner. You are desperate to get out because your rightful heir to the throne. Wereworld; Shadow of the Hawk is great at making things intense with action and adventure. This book has many shapeshifting humans that turns into many amazing creatures. One of the shapeshifting humans is a guy named Drew. He can shape-shift into a gray wolf. The way Curtis can explain the way the human body shape-shifts into their creature is quite intense. I like that Curtis limits the gore. I like that Curtis can explain a character as if you were standing right next to him/her. Curtis goes more in depth in the action than most authors do. The thing that he does that I don't really like is the jumping between characters. I like that in this book you'll see some big words that you might not know or understand which means you'll learn more words. I'm not one to like reading but when I started this series of books I couldn't get enough. I really liked this book because of the intensity of the action and adventure. This book is a total 469 pages which might seem like a lot but if you're into the story as I was then it'll just take you only a few weeks to read. Before you read this book you should read books 1 and 2 because this book wouldn't make as much sense in some parts.

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### **Darren Hartwell says**

Be warned, reader. I will try my hardest not to include any spoilers about Shadow of the Hawk in this review, but I cannot promise the same about the previous two books in the series. If you have not yet read them then you may want to look away now.

I loved the first two Wereworld books. The first was brilliant, and the second, Rage of Lions, even better. So much so that it made it into my list of top picks of 2012. I know that many others share my admiration for these books - so no pressure then Mr Jobling.

Did I say pressure? The man must thrive on it as Shadow of the Hawk is yet another outstanding addition to

the series, the only downside being that having finished I am now thoroughly annoyed that I won't be able to find out what happens next until the fourth book, *Nest of Serpents*, is published in June.

There is very little time in the story between the close of the last book, and where this one kicks off. Drew is held captive by the evil Kessler, a Weregoat who has made a name for himself as a slaver. He has only one plan for Drew - to deliver him to the Isle of Scoria and sell him as a slave. Meanwhile, his close friend Hector has managed to escape the armies of the Catlords, and is safely on board the *Maelstrom*, in the company of Manfred, Vega and Queen Amelie. I say safely, but that isn't strictly true - his dabbling in the dark arts is beginning to have quite an effect on the young Wereboar, but more about that later.

In this new book we are granted the opportunity to 'meet' a whole host of new Werecreatures in this book, and Curtis Jobling maximises this treat for his readers by taking his characters off to different places, just as Tolkien did in *The Lord of the Rings*. In *The Fellowship of the Ring* we are introduced to the lead characters, and then in *The Two Towers* Frodo and Sam head off for Mordor, whilst Pip and Merry are taken in a different direction by the Orcs. These diverging story strands enabled Tolkien to show us more of the incredible world he created, and Curtis uses a similar device in this book. Therefore, we get to meet a plethora of new characters on Scoria, where the enslaved Drew is forced to become a gladiator; and we also get to see other parts of Lyssia and its seven realms, and its inhabitants, as Drew and his party head out across the ocean. Mr Jobling seems to manage all of these new additions to his story with consummate ease.

Now that he is away from the friends he made in the first two books, we really get a chance to see how Drew grows as both a character, and as the rightful heir to the kingdom of Lyssia. His life has changed in a way that few young people can identify with - from farm boy, to prospective king, to slave/gladiator, all in a matter of months. Most young people would find this impossible to cope with, but the honest and loving upbringing that Drew experienced seems to have given him the foundations he needs to take all of this in his stride. In the first two books there were many moments where he suffered extreme (and totally understandable) self-doubt, but there were a few key scenes where his natural gift for good and kind leadership shone through. In this third book these moments begin to occur a little more often and we are now really beginning to see the potential king that lies within the boy. Drew also seems to be becoming more confident at leading, even to the point where he will lecture one of the realm's other kings about the evils of slavery. A king, it must be said, who could quite easily have Drew slapped in silver chains and executed for his disrespectful words.

Whilst all this is going on, there is of course the other plot strand running - that of Hector and his companions. I am sorry to say that the future is looking fairly bleak for Hector - he is now firmly attached to the vile of his dead brother Vincent, a spectre that is invisible to all except Hector, and who never misses a chance to goad his brother, gradually eating away at his self-esteem. It was a horribly fascinating experience to read as Hector slowly seems to descend into a kind of madness, the flames of his growing paranoia constantly fanned by Vincent's cruel taunts. Who knows where Curtis Jobling will take Hector next? Perhaps even betrayal of the people he called close friends? We will just have to wait and see.

There are two popular characters from the first two books in the series that are conspicuous by their absence in *Shadow of the Hawk*. Gretchen and Whitley also managed to escape the grasping claws of the Catlords at the end of the last book, but for the story of their adventures since we will have to wait until June. If you have seen the cover of *Nest of Serpents* you will probably have already guessed that they will feature quite heavily in that story. I guess Mr Jobling could quite easily have used their story as a third plot strand in *Shadow of the Hawk*, but instead he chose to focus on Trent Ferran, the son of the couple who brought up Drew as their son, and as good as being Drew's brother. As we discovered at the end of *Rage of Lions*, Trent is hungry for revenge on the creature he believes murdered his mother, and so we see him now riding with

the armies of the Catlords, hunting and killing enemies of the new state. Will he find out the truth before it is too late, or will it all end in tears for the angry young man?

If there was a book award going for best series then Curtis Jobling would surely be on the shortlist, and if he won I for one would applaud the decision of the judges. If he manages to sustain the quality of storytelling across the remaining books in the series then the Wereworld books may one day become recognised as one of the best fantasy series for young people of all time.

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### **Timothy Pitkin says**

A good chapter in the story of Wereworld but there are a few problems like for one I felt there may have been too many storylines as we keep jumping from Drew's story to Hector's and then they throw in Trent and it kind of makes the story feel a little bloated as there is just so much to keep track of. Like to be honest I would have cut out Trent's storyline and maybe saved that for a big reveal as it does seem kind of pointless as nothing really significant happens there. And maybe used more time to develop the other werelords and their backstories. But still nice addition with just a few problems and kind of curious about Hector's future.

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### **Jesse Wyant says**

"Wereworld Shadow of the Hawk" was a really great book. I really liked the story line, and how all of the characters were so defined. The author, Curtis Jobling, does a really great job at getting a reader interested in a book, when I was reading it it made me not want to put the book down! That is how good of an author he is.

The plot of the story is to show that as long as you have a common goal, anyone can be the most likely of partners. In the story, Drew, Taboo, Drake and Behemoth, along with Krieg all teamed up to kill the leader of a gladiator ring that they were apart of. They then decided to team up together to go against the cat lords to regain all the land that was taken away while they were gone.

The main characters of the story are Drew, Taboo, Krieg, Griffyn, and Behemoth. At the beginning of the book, they all seemed like the most unusual group of friends that I have ever read about. Taboo is a were-tiger, Krieg is a were-rhino, Drew is a were-wolf, and Behemoth is a were-mammoth. Griffyn was a were-hawk, but his wings were cut off when the cat lords started to take over.

The book does not really say what the time or place that it takes place in. If I had to guess what time period it was taking place in, I would have to say that it would be in the Golden Age of Piracy. I say this because the story talks about being on pirate ships. The place is in a totally different world. I say this because it is talking about continents that do not and never did exist.

If I had to recommend this book to anyone, it would probably be to kids over the age of ten. I say this because it is appropriate for little kids, but still has some violent scenes, and some swearing. If anyone likes to read about mythological creatures, this would be that book.

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## Griffin says

Wereworld book #3, Shadow of the Hawk, is a amazing book that completely lives up to the expectations set by the first two books. As with the last two books, it can get a bit gory, so I would definitely recommend it for older teens. If you have read the last two books and enjoyed them, you will surely love this one. It starts right off where the last book ended. In the his other books, Curtis Jobling amazed me at his ability to evenly distribute the action throughout his book, keeping them interesting, but not completely all action. In this book, he has not let me down. He is incredibly consistent in his writing, and the book does not disappoint. The ending, though a bit bland ended the book nicely, with enough suspense to make you want the next book. All in all, a great book.

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## Kristalia says

### Final rating: 4.5/5 stars

I was captivated by the first two books in the series Rise of the Wolf & Rage of Lions, especially after reading the second book, which proved to be quite cool. This can be sad for Shadow of the Hawk as well.

**I have to congratulate Jobling for having interesting plot twist ideas, because some of them certainly shocked me.**

**I didn't expect half things to happen, and it is just regretful that so many things have gone wrong.** And by that i mean that you expect something to finally go right, and boooooom, you have a huge plot twist which make you gasp!

Just the way the second book ended. With lot of people dead or missing. While we are at missing people, **two women were MIA in this book - Gretchen and Whitley.** They were completely cut out from the book, but i didn't mind that (since the next book seem to be just about them).

**So, the story is:** Drew is sold to slavery, to be a gladiator (Imagine a shapeshifting gladiators. That's certainly new.); while Lucas is back on the throne; Trent is miserable and he wants revenge against Drew, so he joined the Werecats; Hector is getting even more insane; and the Wolf council is on the sea, making allies and such. Many things are happening and just like the other books from Wereworld, this book is pretty dark as well.

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### Characters :

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So, here we are, stuck with Drew, Hector, Kessler, Trent, Djogo, Vega, Wolf council, and many many more people.

I must say that some characters have turned for worse, while some had become better. Some characters who were evil become good, while some good characters (WHYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYYY) go evil (and by evil, i



mean like....70% evil).

Once again, some of them get killed when you are least expecting it, and it was just... heartbreaking. Jobling made characters so well, even the side ones, so you can't help but feel...at least something when they die.

There were new characters introduced (especially from the Arena (called Furnace)) and many of them are already well characterized :D And i can't help but laugh over what happened to me when i said "Hey, i like this guy". He died in the next chapter. And damn, and he had cool name too and was an awesome were(iwontsaywhat) :(((

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**Overall** :

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Dear reader, you should read this series - it's awesome. Can't wait to read the sequel.  
#I REGRET NOTHING



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#### **REVIEW(S) RELATED TO THIS BOOK:**

- ? Rise of the Wolf (Wereworld, #1)
- ? Rage of Lions (Wereworld, #2)
- ? Shadow of the Hawk (Wereworld, #3)
- ? Nest of Serpents (Wereworld, #4)

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#### **Joseph says**

This is the third book in an absolutely fantastic fantasy adventure series. I'm looking forward to book four.

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#### **TheBookAddictedGirl says**

4¾ Out of 5

A brave hero, a band of gladiators, an imposter king, a vengeful knight, a world full of Werelords and Wereladies, Wereworld is a place like no other, a world more fantastical and magical than any I've read about for a long time...

Drew Ferran, rightful heir to the Westland throne, is a prisoner. The Goatlord Kessler has the young Werewolf in his possession, taking him to the land of the Lizardlords. There, Drew will be forced to fight as a gladiator, and make unlikely alliances in order to escape alive, from a place no one has broken away from

before...

Hector the Wereboar, Vega the Sharklord and Werestag Manfred are fleeing from the Catlords, aboard the notorious pirate ship Maelstrom. But as the spirits haunting Hector grow stronger, he is left wondering whether the true enemy is closer than they thought...

I honestly don't know what I was expecting when I started this – especially as I haven't read any of the other books in the series. A cross between Narnia and Teen Wolf perhaps? I don't know. Most definitely not the fantastical, action-packed, magical, pure awesome book that was *Shadow of the Hawk*. From the word go, I was sucked in. I fell totally and completely in love with the world. I just could not put it down, in a constant adrenaline rush from start to finish. I know I have to get my hands on the previous two books in this series: I want back into Lyssia! ASAP!

Drew Ferran, the last Grey Wolf of Lyssia, was smart, fast and strong, willing to do anything to survive. I found him proud, kind, good, loyal and giving, with a good heart. Drew was just really noble: a real king. His thinking was inspiration and he always spoke his mind. And while he wasn't afraid to use violence, he preferred to talk things out. Drew was a king of old, honourable, brave, defiant and passionate. And I fell in love with him from the word go!

Baron Hector, Boarlord of Redmire, was haunted by "Vincent-vile", the spirit of his dead twin. He really missed Drew, and he had a good heart. But the black spot on his hand, that grew every time he "dabbles in communing" with spirits, showed that something was wrong... And the Vincent-vile was just horrible, always saying cruel things. All he wanted to do was help Drew, but he was truly out of his depth...

Count Vega, a Sharklord, the Pirate Prince. To start with, I felt Vega was heartless, that he killed too easily. But soon after, I started swaying, changed by his snarky humour and the care he showed towards his crew and the Weres on it. And, before long, I had decided that I loved him. Ok, so he's a pirate – a Were pirate at that. But he has a good heart. He was really rather sweet, in a piratey way. He soon turned into an unlikely favourite of mine, one I was always happy to see.

Trent Ferran, Drew's brother, who was in the Lionguard, hunting Drew. He wanted his brother dead more than anyone... Of course, as I loved Drew, I instantly hated Trent for hunting Drew down. But as I saw his reasoning, and what he was like, I grudgingly admitted he wasn't too bad. He was quite honourable and very determined. I think he will come into himself in Book Four, and I'm looking forward to that.

All the other characters were equally well padded and thought out. One of the ones I hated most was Count Kessler, a Goatlord and slaver. He was a selfish, greedy coward, who I loathed from the moment I met him. On the other hand, I loved Duke Manfred, the Werestag of Stormdale: he was really level headed, proper and kind, always seeing the good instead of the bad. The character who creeped me out the most was, without a doubt, Slotha, the Walrus of Tuskun. She was (to quote from the book): a "notoriously ill tempered, violent woman". And her city? Eek, it came me the creeps, and so did she. She really was horribly vicious, and the fact she was a Werewalrus made her even scarier. (If you want to find out more about Slotha, check out Curtis' guest post on when it comes up tomorrow.)

May I just say, I am in love with this world. The various Werelords, all the different 'species'. The change, the characters: everything was so vivid. I love the twist Jobling has put on the lycanthropy mythology: silver, shifting... It was all just so cool! I loved learning all about the Therianthropes, and meeting the various other characters. I was over the moon to see Sirens as well – again, I adore the twist! But: it got better: Weremammoths. So cool, right?! I loved this book, the action, the fantasy, the characters. And by the end, I

was left going crazy for more.

The action had a huge part in that: it started from the word go, sucking me straight in. And even though I hadn't read any of the previous books, I felt... invested. And I understood everything, all the backstories. And, blimey, the action was non-stop! There were the most amazing battle scenes, that really got the old adrenaline flowing. I loved the action – and I'm not normally one who likes violence. All reluctant readers could really get into Shadow of the Hawk in my opinion – it's like a film: I could see everything in my head as I read.

And that was thanks to the writing: it was just amazing. It had me totally hooked. It was lyrical, powerful, descriptive. I could see everything – every character, every setting, every battle. And I loved that we got to see into all of the characters' heads, got to see all the action. There was never a dull moment. Throughout the whole book, I wasn't bored from a millisecond. This series, this book, this world is so utterly addictive it's untrue. I loved every moment, and I can't wait to get my hands on the other books!

I loved this book, the action, the fantasy, the characters. By the end, I wanted more, more, more! In other words:

I. NEED. THE. NEXT. BOOK. NOW!

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### **Sham27 says**

I would give this book 4.5 stars.

It was fast paced as the other two books were and filled with action. I couldn't keep this book down, in fact I started and finished it in a day.

Amazing book, though the cliffhanger wasn't as huge as the second book, I still can't wait to read the next book.

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