


After Dark

Emi Gayle

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What eighteen year old Mac Thorne doesn't know will probably kill her. In exactly eight months, five days, three hours and thirteen minutes, Mac has to choose what she'll be for the rest of her life. She has no choice but to pick. As a Changeling, it's her birthright. To Mac, it's a birthchore. Like going to school with humans, interacting with humans, and pretending to be human during the pesky daylight hours. Once darkness descends, Mac can change into any supernatural form that exists-which makes her as happy as she can be. That is, until Winn Thomas, the biggest geek in her senior class, figures out there's more to what hides in the dark than most are willing to acknowledge. In this first of the 19th Year Trilogy, Winn might know more about Mac than even she does, and that knowledge could end their lives, unless Mac ensures the powers-that-be have no choice but to keep him around.

After Dark Details

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Author : Emi Gayle

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From Reader Review After Dark for online ebook

L.S. Murphy says

Gotta sneak peek & YES, everyone should be jealous. :) Add this to your must read list.

Penumbra says

[

After Dark is told in first person through the eyes of Mac, or as Suze the Demon likes to tease her with her full name, 'Maya Mackenzie Thorne.' Mac is a Changeling able to shift into any creature at will. She is also prickly, tough, a loner and doesn't back down from a fight. She also hates being told what to do. As a Changeling, M

Alana ~ The Book Pimp says

I received an ARC eBook from J. Taylor Publishing. My thoughts are my own, and I received no compensation for my review.

I really, really, really enjoyed this. Yes, it's YA, and it's 'tame' rather than 'spicy' on the romance. If you can handle the younger characters, more innocent (no sex) romance, enjoy paranormal shenangins (shifters, vamps, and fae, oh, my!), and a whole new take on the supernatural 'world' then run out and get your own copy once it's out on the shelves.

So unique!

More to come!

Suzanne says

As one of my most anticipated reads this year, I'm happy to say that *After Dark* didn't disappoint. Emi Gayle did an excellent job in building Mac's world, where she lives as a human during the day but can change to any super natural creature at night, as easily as taking a breath. But when she reaches 19, she must choose which creature she wants to be for the rest of her life.

By the time most changelings have reached the age of 18, as Mac is now, they've already made their decision. But Mac has no clue as to what she will choose and is starting to feel pressured to make a decision.

One night, she sees Winn, a geek guy from school leaving the library with a book she knows is about her

former home. She knows she needs to see this book as she asked very few questions about herself while she was growing up and now feels it's information she needs to know. She doesn't even know where she came from. She has been raised by a faery mother and vampire who aren't her real parents and aren't even a couple, just her guardians. She feels the need to know more about herself before she'll be armed with the right information to make her decision.

Mac is a great main character, obviously tough and mostly unafraid, no need to be when she can become anything she wants so easily. But I did find it a bit ridiculous that she didn't know something as basic as where she came from, and had never questioned any of this information. She loathes humans and the fact that she has to spend her days in the human world. So when she appears to be in danger, she's not happy to hear that the best way for her to stay safe is to spend even more time with humans.

Winn is a hot geek and extremely likeable character. I really enjoyed the relationship he had with Mac and their interactions together. They have a slow build romance which I love. There is a fantastic host of secondary characters in this book which contribute to making this a thoroughly enjoyable read.

There is mystery and suspense as we learn about changelings along with Mac while also trying to figure out who's behind the attacks on her.

An interesting plot with a sweet romance, no love triangle and no cliffhanger. What more could I ask for. I'm really looking forward to book 2, Day After.

? Kimberly says

After reading the synopsis for After Dark I was excited to get my hands on this new paranormal series and Emi Gayle started with a bang. It's the story of a changeling who must determine by the end of her nineteenth year what type of supernatural creature she will be and take her rightful place on the council. Action-packed and filled with supernatural creatures I was immediately swept into the world and its characters.

The tale begins when we meet eighteen year old Mac Thorne as she rapidly approaches her nineteenth birthday. She is a changeling and has lived with her guardians a vampire and a witch as she hones her skills and chooses her destiny. Like any typical teen at this age she isn't sure what she wants to be when she grows up. By day she attends school with "humans" and at night she takes the form of all kinds of supernatural creatures. Things are about to heat up for her, as something is attacking her, she interacts with "humans" and the council begins to pressure her to choose her destiny. She meets Winn Thomas, a geeky, smexy senior who is carrying around an ancient book about her and she sets out to get it from him. The tale that unfolds was delightful.

Mac is strong, stubborn and determined. She is also smart, snarky, and a total badass. We see tremendous growth in her as a character over the course of the first book and it was fun to watch. She is a changeling faced with selecting one creature but the author hints that Mac is more and I cannot wait to discover what. Winn is such a loveable guy, he is sweet, cute and believable. He is a good guy and I found him to be charming, witty and bright. His little sister was interesting from the start and added to the tale. Her guardians were present, supportive and I loved the demon that interacted with them. The council was a hoot and they each had their own unique voice.

Gayle weaves an original tale that blended paranormal and urban fantasy. I quickly connected and slipped into that sweet spot I love when I am engaged in a good book. The world-building was well done, with suspenseful threads and foreshadowing throughout. I found the council and supernatural creatures to be fascinating and am anxious to learn more about them. We see some intense action scenes that will leave you breathless, mixed in with funny, romantic and insightful moments. The author gave each character a distinct voice and steered away from the usual tropes in young adult. There is no insta-love, triangle or absentee parental unit. It was so refreshing. The romance that develops was sweet to watch unfold and built slowly out of trust. The tale ends without a cliffhanger and gives us a clear sense or expectation of where the next book will take us. This review was originally posted at Caffeinated Reviewer

Keertana says

In all honesty, I don't have much to say about *After Dark*. When I first heard about this new debut, I was more than a little excited and thrilled to pick it up: a paranormal novel with a protagonist who could shift shape, but only at night? In YA Fiction, shape-shifting hadn't been explored as widely as everything else, so naturally, I couldn't wait to sink my teeth into this one. Unfortunately, I have to admit that *After Dark* is another classic example of a debut novel chock-full of potential that simply went wrong. Not only were its characters obscure and difficult for me to connect to, but the plot dragged on far too much as well and ultimately, I have to throw this book onto my shelf of "2012 Disappointments." It isn't the first debut up there and I doubt it'll be the last this year as well – I've simply become too difficult to please.

Mac Thorne is a Changeling. Nope, she's not a fey child whose life has been swapped with that of a human's – don't make the same mistake in assuming that as I did. Instead, she's a being who can change her shape at will, but only at night. In the dark, she can shift into any paranormal creature she wants; but there's a catch. When she's nineteen, she must choose one form and stick to it, representing that race in a council and thereby making them the most powerful race – until the next Changeling comes along and chooses a different race, of course. Yet, ironically enough, Mac barely knows anything about who she is, her race of Changelings, or what her future holds. When she sees Winn, a classmate of hers, with a book about paranormal creatures, she makes it her mission to befriend him. What she doesn't count on is falling in love. What she doesn't count on is danger. What she doesn't count on is a lot more than what she did count on and that just may not be so good...

After Dark starts out by immersing you into the world Emi Gayle has created, straight from Chapter 1, and while that isn't a *bad* thing, you *are* floating around rather clueless for...awhile. Nevertheless, the world-building *does* kick in, and while I wasn't a fan of the way it was introduced, *it's there*. Thus, while I was rather disconcerted about the world Gayle had imagined, it didn't bother me too much. What *did* bother me, however, was Mac. Mac was a character I couldn't really connect with, no matter how hard I tried. You see, Mac is a human for the entire duration of the day, but she *hates* humans. Why? I don't know. I honestly just don't know. Mac is antisocial because she doesn't want to talk to humans, she sticks to herself, and she generally doesn't want friends. *But*, this entire book is about how Mac makes human friends and falls in love with a human and while I recognized that this was meant to be a moment for character growth, I didn't understand why Mac hated humans or why she suddenly *didn't* hate them.

Furthermore, Mac's back story seemed *too* unbelievable. Much like Pia in *Origin*, who was brought up as a scientist but never felt curious about the world outside her "fence", Mac never begins to wonder about her unique race or what she is and can do until she sees Winn with a book about paranormal creatures. Thus, from that moment on, Mac's curiosity is completely insatiable. In fact, she even follows Winn into his house

just to see this book because she is *so desperate for answers* when she didn't even *care* for the past eighteen years. While reading this book, all I could feel was that it was so outlined and *convenient*; the only reason nothing happened before this book was because it needed to happen *in* this book and overall, that left me feeling more than a little detached from this novel.

Mac aside, I found the plot of *After Dark* to be disappointing. It isn't boring or slow, but nothing much really happens in it. If anything, it can easily be condensed into a few short chapters and I'm sure this entire trilogy could be contained as a stand-alone novel if the author really tried. Also, plot-wise, as the romance goes, it was cute, but nothing earth-shattering. Winn was a decent love-interest, one I even liked, but I couldn't understand why Winn grew to like Mac, especially since all they did was sit in his basement and read a book. Furthermore, there is *no way* that these two *love* each other; at least, it definitely didn't feel that way to me. It wasn't that the romance in this novel was bad, but it was such a clichéd and typical school-project-romance and unlike Kelly Creagh in *Nevermore*, Emi Gayle didn't manage to make it meaningful, deep, or, for that matter, even work.

Overall, *After Dark* is a good book, but it didn't live up to my expectations or "wow" me in the least. Its MC was confusing and hard to connect with, many of the other characters were present for "comic relief" and weren't very amusing, and overall I think I expected this book to be something different from what it was. I contemplated giving it up more than once, but I did manage to finish the whole novel, even if I skimmed the last 30%. Thus, I'd recommend *After Dark* to the majority of people whose opinions don't correlate with mine since I tend to be *that* picky reviewer, but if you tend to feel the need to understand your character well, crave a more well-developed romance, or even want to read this book because the character can change into *multiple* paranormal creatures (not the standard 2-3 she flits between – seriously, haven't vampires and faeries been overdone already?), then, I'm sorry to say, look elsewhere.

I was provided with a copy of this book from the publisher, J. Taylor Publishing, on behalf of the DAC ARC Tours in exchange for a honest review. Thank You!

You can read this review and more on my blog, Ivy Book Bindings.

Amaleen Ison says

If you find it hard to choose between vampires and fairies, but also like dragons, witches, sirens, ghosts, goblins, and every other imagined supernatural being then *After Dark* is the novel for you.

I must mention that I beta read this novel, and, lucky me, I've already read the other two in the series. So I can say without a doubt that *After Dark* sets up the story world and trilogy stakes with efficiency.

Eighteen-year-old Mac Thorne is a changeling who, after dark, can turn into any supernatural creature with just an intake of breath. Sounds like fun, huh? Well there's a catch. She has until her nineteenth birthday to choose which form she'll be for the rest of her life.

Mac is a super-sassy teen with bags of attitude. She won't take crap from anyone, especially the council of supernaturals who each have a vested interest in her final choice. Enter Winn Thomas, the geeky human, who might just possess the knowledge Mac needs to make her difficult decision.

Apart from the array of weird and wacky characters, my favourite part of this novel is the partnership

between Mac and Winn.

I adore geeks. I grew up in a family of them, hung out with a group of them throughout school (yes, I'm a geek myself), so Winn Thomas is my kind of leading man. It helps that he's cute and kind-hearted, and strong in all the ways Mac isn't. Their relationship sizzles, and there's a very sexy encounter that's sure to generate discussion. :-)

Twists and turns galore, kung-fu fighting, a flamboyant-dressing demon, and loads of laugh out loud moments. Nuff said. :-)

After Dark by Emi Gayle is due to be released by J. Taylor Publishing on 31st October 2012.

Brooke (The Cover Contessa) says

I want to thank J. Taylor publishing for allowing me to read an ARC of this awesome book to read for an honest review. When I was offered this book I was super excited. It's been on my list for a while and I couldn't wait for it to come out.

Blurb from Goodreads:

What eighteen year old Mac Thorne doesn't know will probably kill her.

In exactly eight months, five days, three hours and thirteen minutes, Mac has to choose what she'll be for the rest of her life.

She has no choice but to pick. As a Changeling, it's her birthright. To Mac, it's a birthchore. Like going to school with humans, interacting with humans, and pretending to be human during the pesky daylight hours. Once darkness descends, Mac can change into any supernatural form that exists—which makes her as happy as she can be. That is, until Winn Thomas, the biggest geek in her senior class figures out there's more to what hides in the dark than most are willing to acknowledge.

In this first of the 19th Year Trilogy, Winn might know more about Mac than even she does, and that knowledge could end their lives, unless Mac ensures the powers-that-be have no choice but to keep him around.

First I want to start with the cover of this book. It's extremely eye catching and was one of the reasons I looked into reading the book in the first place. The cover is dark and mysterious. It draws you right in. And I love how it has the very special quote on the front, "Dawn conceals what the night reveals." This is used several times throughout the book and is key to understanding the characters. Then there is the element of the cemetery that is pictured on the front, also key to the story. Of course, the beautiful girl on the cover is always a plus. All in all I love the cover. I think it perfectly depicts the main character of the story and gives you some inside information on her, at least information you understand once you read the book.

I love how the characters are developed in this book. So many of them are mysterious, which makes learning about them all the more fun. And they make the story addictive because they are so likeable, even the villainous ones!

Mac (Maya Mackenzie Thorne) is a spunky loner with a ton of attitude who only hangs with humans because she is being forced to do so until her 19th birthday. She's confident and secure and quite stubborn. She thinks she knows it all until she finds out that everything she thought she knew was not what she needed to know at all. I will be honest and say that I didn't connect with her immediately. I felt like she was too withdrawn, but as the story unfolded, I understood why she was this way and then saw her develop into something totally

unexpected.

Winn (Wineford Thomas) is the geeky guy you never really cared for in High School. And yet, he's got this attractiveness about him that pulls Mac in, despite her not wanting to be there. Once you get to know him, you see he's not only smart, but extremely sexy, and corny at some points as well. He has a quick wit and can certainly hold his own when he's with Mac. And he's not afraid to be exposed to things that might seem different as he's always been interested in the supernatural. When he was first described, I was sure he was just going to be this awkward, nerdy guy. But he is so much more than I would have ever expected! So much so that I could not wait for the scenes with him in them!

The supporting characters are really great. We get a glimpse at so many different facets of paranormal: vampire (Mac's "Dad" Lucas), Fae (Mac's "Mom" Alina), angels, demons, witches, sirens and even dragons, yes dragons! I think my most favorite supporting character is definitely Suze. He's a demon and he is not at all what I would have expected. He's funny and completely cares for Mac in a way I never thought could be possible from such a creature. He's her protector in so many ways, and he's also her friend. Their interactions are often funny.

Gayle does a great job at world building in this book. This world is like no other supernatural world I have read about or known. In all other paranormal books of this type, you see the different creatures at war or odds with each other. And, while this is certainly part of the theme in this book, you also see a cohesiveness to them as they struggle to "survive" in our human world. For the first three chapters of the book, I really wasn't sure what was going on. But once the characters were all introduced, and the reason for Mac's existence was explained, I could not put the book down. It was completely addictive. Gayle created a world that is totally unique, which is what I think will draw people to this book and keep them there. The originality storyline will keep people coming back for more. There are enough twists to make you wonder and enough turns to keep you on your toes.

Gayle's writing is excellent. She doesn't use extraneous words to try and make her material seem more interesting. She easily explains each character and allows you to see who they are through her words. And her writing was face paced keeping the story moving but not confusing the reader in the process.

All in all this a must read for any paranormal YA lover. The storyline is completely different, the characters are fun and interesting, and the world is nothing like you've ever seen. This is a 5 star book for sure. I am really looking forward to reading the rest of this series! Emi Gayle has a sure winner on her hands with this fun and entertaining read.

Review will also be posted to the following sites:

The Cover Contessa: <http://thecovercontessa.blogspot.com/>

Barnes and Noble

Amazon

Library Thing

Terri Rochenski says

Goodreads really needs the .5 star system. Pooh.

4.5 stars from me.

Have you ever thought it'd be cool to be a changeling? Change into a fairy or siren? A dragon? Troll? Mac, the MC, has unbelievable changeling abilities - she can choose to be anything. Anything you've read about before.

This story is the beginning of her journey in finding which form she'll choose for the rest of her life. Before she turns 19, Mac must decide her fate - demon or angel, vampire or witch - and take her place on the Council.

Yummies:

1 - Winn, the nerd. The glasses-wearing, braino with muscles. He seems to be a contradiction at first. Mac finds him so hot (so how can the reader NOT?) yet he's a nerd. Works in the library. Didn't jive for me at first, but within a few chapters after his introduction, he became my new favorite book boyfriend. Cradle robber. Yup. That'd be me.

He's responsible. Grounded. Has a good head on his shoulders. He's the opposite of Mac. The perfect balance for her, an excellent supporting character.

2 - I love the fact that Mac is a changeling without limits. I've read all the changeling stories before, but a single character that can become anything from the paranormal world?? Sweet.

Yuckies:

This book started a bit slow for me. Wasn't sure exactly why, though. The writing is excellent. Now that I'm finished, I think it's because I wasn't onboard with Mac. She's got a distinctive voice & is a fun character, but a bit too mouthy, bad attitude-ish for my liking.

Cocky kids get under my skin in real life, and I think that's why her mouthy inner monologues drove me batty.

Recommend:

Definite YES. I love snarky and while this was a smidge much for me, most will love Mac - adore her attitude. You'll definitely enjoy her unique story & get caught up in the questions she needs to ask - and the answers she'll be forced to face.

The major problem I think you'll agree upon is the fact it'll be at least a year 'til the next installment.

Let's go, Emi. Get writing!!!

equilibri says

Another disappointment. Boring plot, with nothing much happening, obnoxious dumb MC, clichéd supporting characters, dull school-project-pairing-equals-instant-romance scenario. Gave it a fair chance but couldn't make myself finish.

J.A. Belfield says

Mac's tough, and attitudinal, and kick-a\$\$, and thinks she knows it all before learning she really has no idea. Winn is nerdy yet cute, smart yet tough, and nothing at all like the kinda guy Mac should be ogling after. Yet, when the two are pushed together through class assignment, they somehow end up far closer than Mac would have considered possible. He is a human after all. Blech! In Mac's eyes, she has no need for humans—they're no more than weak beings she has nothing in common with.

She couldn't be more wrong.

And pretty soon, Mac ends up needing Winn way more than she's comfortable with. Luckily for her, he's a helpful kind of guy.

And a cute one.

And buff.

Traits which only lead to make his nerdiness hawt.

I don't really want to say too much because I don't want to give the story away. Just know this is a tale full of action, twists & turns, surprises (for the character as much as the reader), supernaturals galore, humour, wit, whacky characters, and some real LOL moments.

Learn about Mac as she learns about herself—and (BONUS!) get to spend some time with Winn in the process.

Oh, and as this is the first instalment in a trilogy? I can't wait to see where this one's going next. :o)

Mel says

This book was so good. I thought the story of a changeling, someone who has the ability to change into any mythological creature was a really fresh idea. I loved the main girl, Mac who happens to be the changeling. She was a character that had to grow on me because in the beginning I felt she was arrogant and a bit rude but as the story goes on, she starts to change realizing that it's okay to have human friends and feel human emotions. When Mac realized that she didn't have to be this impenetrable one-woman army, I thought she was at her best. I loved when she was able to show vulnerability and open up to other people, especially Winn. Winn was so great, he's apart of that new class of main guys who tend to be a lot brainier and sweeter as compared to the brooding bad boy types. Winn was just the cutest guy. He was always honest and patient with Mac and no matter how crazy things got for her, he was right there by her side with his unwavering support.

I loved the relationship between the two, it was a process and they took their time getting to know each other. It was a refreshing change that they didn't even really like each other very much right off, only harboring a secret mutual interest but once they started to spend more time together and their comfort around each other grew, they were able to act on the feelings they both shared. They had some seriously cute moments and I couldn't help fangirling over the vast majority of them. Mac and Winn were a great team. They balanced each other out really well and trusted each other fully, even when things got rocky.

The story also had plenty of other great characters as well, like Mac's surrogate parents Alina and Lucas and Mac's fabulous demon friend Suze, who always looked out for Mac and Winn, he also added some more humor to the story.

The fact that Mac was being pushed by the council to choose what form she had to take permanently was interesting because she was perfectly content using all of them, not really forming a connection to any particular one unlike most changelings. She was more interested in living her life, not taking on a bunch of political responsibilities she didn't want. Even though the council kept getting on her case, Mac never let them push her into doing something she didn't want to, she always stood her ground and stayed true to her beliefs, which I really admired about her.

Overall, I loved this book and would totally re-read it.

Hazel *Craves the Angst Reviews* says

After Dark is book one in *The 19th Year* and a YA Fantasy/Paranormal written by *Emi Gayle*. I read this as a R2R with *Paranormal Romance & Urban Fantasy Fanatics!* As always, a special thank you to the mods and author for allowing me to participate.

The Review:

This book was different than most fantasy/paranormal books in that the main character is a changeling. I liked the mix up to the paranormal lore the author uses and the rules and world building she creates for the reader and her characters. The idea of a human by day, changeling by night who has to choose her permanent form by the adult age of nineteen in the paranormal world was original and fun. The heroine, Mac, is spunky and full of life and she doesn't just sit by idly and let others fight her battles. She's tough and pragmatic if not a bit sarcastic which only adds to her charm. All her life, she's shied away from the fragile humans around her even though she lives among them. But forced to hide behind them in order to protect herself from certain elements of the supernatural community, she pairs up with Winn, a human boy who has something she wants. I really liked Winn. He taught Mac more than elements of her supernatural side as he seemed to genuinely want to help her discover who she really was, and he cared for her in a way she needed in order to connect with her human disguise.

I loved all the different characters we meet in this book. Their individual personalities ranged from quirky to serious and each one had a purpose.

Dislikes...

To me, this book started out slow. It took me several chapters to get into it but once the action picked up, I was hooked. I also felt like some of the dialogue and action sequences were confusing. I had to go back and re-read certain parts several times to understand what was happening. A few times the writing was choppy and didn't flow well.

The Wrap Up:

I really enjoyed this book. It was unique and fun. It left off with a bit of a cliffy so I'm looking forward to reading book two, *Day After*, with a projected release date of April 2013, and seeing where the journey of Mac and Winn heads next.

Parajunkee says

PJV Quickie: Another surprise read of the year, 'After Dark' had me instantly enthralled and unable to put down. With a kick-butt heroine and a very creative story-line, I was in insta-love with Emi Gayle and her perfectly constructed main character Mac.

Review:

Mac, the darling of this story is a Changeling. This means she can transform herself into different supernatural creatures at will. She fluctuates depending on her mood and need. By her 19th year though, Mac will have to choose what creature she must become and then take the reigns as the leader of that particular sect. The whole idea is just tantalizing in it's originality. Not to mention Gayle feeds you bits and pieces slowly, which unlike some paranormal plot-lines that leave you confused, just adds to the mystery of the plot.

The main character was a gem of a creation. She was head-strong, tough and stubborn, all winning traits for me personally in a paranormal themed novel. On top of her spirit, she also made a great transition in the novel, leading her from respectable to lovable. At first glance she seems like a very high-brow type of supernatural creature, who looks down upon the humans she must associate with, but as she is slowly drawn more into the human world she realizes how much she does want to live within it a bit more, even while she is getting pressure from others to stay out, make decisions and other pressures. I thought it was a wonderfully constructed book and the cast of characters were just over-the-top fun to read about.

Yet, overall the originality of 'After Dark' was the lure for me. While stuffed full of vampires, faeries and other supernatural creatures, it paints them in a new and creative light, bringing forth the paranormal themes we all know and love, but stuffing them within a world that was different then anything I've read before in a YA novel. I call this the surprise read of the year, mainly because the cover and description of this book really look and read like EVERY other YA paranormal novel out there, yet the book is anything but.

A MUST read for young adult paranormal and young adult urban fantasy fans.

Recommendations:

Fans of young adult paranormal romance and urban fantasy reads should really like. If you enjoy the grittier in the genre, such as Cynthia Hand's creations, or Richelle Mead, you should really enjoy. The novel was safe for teen reads and I recommend this for 13+. Adults will also enjoy, the character is mature and while there are some touchy subjects, nothing is graphic.

Lola says

I got a copy for review in exchange for an honest review.

5 stars without a doubt. I loved this book, it was so addictive and one of the most original stories I have come across in some time. I loved the idea behind the plot, but also the way this book is written. And the characters were likeable too. The only two complains I have is that I would've preferred more world building and I want more of this book.

The main idea of this story is pretty original. Lead character Mac is a changeling and can shift to every supernatural creature she wants, but she has to choose one form before she turns 19. The story starts off mysterious and a bit confusing and only bit by bit we find out more about the world and the characters.

Normally I like to have explanations pretty soon, but the author did a good job of making the mysteriousness not too bad. Ofcourse I wanted to have more explanations, but the story was so good, that I didn't mind waiting for them.

This book was so addictive and even though it still took me quite some time to finish it, once I picked the book up I didn't want to stop. I really liked the story and even though some parts where a bit predictable, there were also many parts that surprised me. Also the writing style of the author feels original and fresh and she even managed to make the romance scenes original, while these are often a bit cliché.

The characters are very likeable too. Form the first page on I already liked Mac, she is stubborn and strong and insists every time on her right to make her own choices. There are quite some side characters and while I think some could have gotten a bit more attention, the ones that got enough attention where likeable and had their own personalities. There were a few side character that I often confused and from who I didn't know from their name who was who. So the lead character was really likeable, but some side character could've used a bit more attention.

Now world building, I love world building and want to know as much as possible about the world in which the book takes place. This book actually didn't provide much world building, especially not at the beginning. And while most times I would hate that I didn't here, I actually enjoyed the mystery and finding out alongside Mac more about the world. Mac the lead character actually knows very less about the world she inhabits and finds most things out along the way. What I did mind was the fact that even though Mac can shift into any form, we still don't get an idea what the powers and limitations of each form are. Probably because there are so many supernatural creatures, that it would e boring to explain it all, but I would still like to know more about each of them. Mainly I was just so intrigued and fascinated by the story and the original world that I wanted to know more and I felt like there just wasn't enough world building to satisfy me.

To conclude: I loved this book, it was addictable and original. I loved the story and the main character. Some side characters would've profited from more attention. Also I would've liked more world building, mainly because I was fascinated by this original world this author has created. I really can't wait to read the next book!
