



## Ella and the Beast

*S.E. Smith*

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**Ella and the Beast** S.E. Smith

Series: *More Than Human*, Book 1

Ella is the last of a dying breed of humans that live hidden deep in the forests of Washington State. All of her life, she has heard horror stories about the Others, the beasts that live beyond the safety of the mountains. In ancient times, humans and the Others lived together in peace, but a great battle divided them and the shape-shifting species won the war.

Ty Bearclaw, a grizzly-shifter, is the curator at the Washington State Animal Sanctuary, Research, and Observation Center (WSASROC). A call from a rancher about an unusual animal causing havoc along the borders of the National Forest brings him to the Olympic Mountain National Park. Ty is furious when he discovers that the rancher has placed a trap to capture the creature on government-protected property. His shock soon turns to horror and confusion when he locates the wounded ‘animal.’

Ty finds more than he expects when a human, thought to be extinct, turns up in the trap. What is even more confusing is his bear’s reaction to the female. When word escapes about his discovery, Ty must fight to protect the unusual woman who is more than an oddity – she is his mate!

Can Ty keep Ella alive and safe from a shifter obsessed with adding her to his private collection? Not only that, can he protect her when his own government threatens to take her away from him?

## Ella and the Beast Details

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## **From Reader Review Ella and the Beast for online ebook**

### **Ira says**

This lady have a fantastic imagination!  
I love many of her books.

Unfortunately not this one, not her fault thought.  
I think because the story happened here, on earth instead of faraway planet some outer space out there.  
Where I just nod and read them all without question, hey is not my planet how did I know anything about their live?

But this one happened in here, on earth and I failed to turn off tons of question in my head!  
Since when the war started? How come the human have different ethnicity? They supposed to be extinct more than 300 years ago, well European and Indian still in war at the time, and where these shifter original come from? What, where, who?  
Gosh, I need a break from this.

I hope there is prequel for this series who will clear up all my questions.  
Also for someone who never be in contact with modern world and very primitive, our heroine feels like a very very modern female.

Don't like that at all.

And the human's name are very current, come on Ms. Smith, you don't need weird names with funny spelling and hard to read but please, Jace, Jayden? Seriously???

Having said this, I still want to read the next book in the series, because just like emmental cheese, plenty holes but still yummy enough to enjoy it!:)

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### **The Book Junkie Reads . . . says**

Shifter and Human relations will never be the same again. . . in this alternate reality of humans being the extinct or almost extinct species on the planet. To find a rare human and to mate with her was not heard of in this time. But Ty was not going to give up on his little human, Ella. She was everything to him. He would find her and protect her. He just had to keep her a secret for a little while.

David Brenin gives a wonderful performance and takes the characters to new heights. He makes you believe that you are right where things are taking place. You have no issues distinguishing between characters, the clarity, and smooth control.

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### **Shari Kay says**

2.5 ☆

*meh* It was okay.

This is my second book by this author...sort of. I DNF the first one but thought the "reverse" premise of humans being thought extinct to a world full of shifters sounded interesting. And it totally was. I wish it would have been played up in more detail in the actual story and that I was made to believe it a bit more, but lots of future book potential.

So Ella is the human here. They were thought to have been wiped out centuries ago by the shifters/beast race in brutal fashion. Current shifters study and search for human artifacts and such like we would for Dinosaur remains. There are very few humans left and they've kept themselves hidden in the deep mountains and live off the land. Most haven't survived the harsh environment and they know they are a dying race. The younger ones refuse to bring any more children into the world as they know it'd just be to their inevitable doom. They believe they have no real future. While out hunting one day Ella falls into an animal trap and breaks her ankle. Her friend has to leave her behind to go get help and this is where she meets Ty.

Ty is a grizzle shifter and when he finds Ella at the bottom of a pit, his bear knows instantly that she is his mate. It's quite the coincidence that Ty and his family are involved in artifact safeguarding/retrieval and has tons of knowledge about the previously nonexistent humans but...eh...roll with it. Long story short, Ella gets away and Ty goes searching for her.

Like I said above. I love this premise. So much the author can do with it. The bad guy motives are completely believable and so what some (unscrupulous) humans would do under the same circumstances that I was totally buying it. But what I wasn't buying was a whole lot of other stuff. The way Ella existence was suppose to be such a big secret, but it was let out of the bag time and time again quite casually. Ella kept feeling sorry about ratting her people out and then would rat them out again. Yes, she is not stupid, she realizes she's letting out a can of worms that can never be put back by exposing humans to shifters. Yes, in the long run it will probable be a good thing but people *will* suffer and die because of it all over the world. You'd think she'd use a little more discretion here. At least until she knows how things will work out in her new world.

I found Ty to be a bit too beta for my liking. For a badass grizzly, he wasn't very badass. Ella was strong and I bought that part of the story for the most part (though it did go OTT a time or two) but not the virgin to sex goddess one. *roll eyes* I also found her transition from her world to his too easily done in regards to her assimilation to all things modern.

The sex scenes were not very sexy IMO and the dialogue...simple/adolescent? This author's style of writing doesn't really resonate with me all that much but I didn't skim and I *have* become interested in the side characters so I wouldn't rule out reading the next one.

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## **ValerieC says**

This was a good beginning to a new series and also a very different take on the usual shape-shifter story.

This is a world where the shifters rule, after massacres of all known humans hundreds of years earlier. Except for their inner beasts, the shifters now mainly live in cities and are mostly like contemporary humans. Unknown to them is a very small colony of humans living in the deep wilderness, hiding their existence all

this time.

I enjoyed this book a lot. Can't wait for the next one.

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## **Hollie says**

~4.5 stars~

A really creative twist. The world is basically run by shifters. They are all under the impression that humans are extinct. Until they stumble across a human girl. I really liked the storyline on this one. Definitely different for this genre and I liked it. I will definatley continue this series. It was priced a bit on the high side at \$3.99 but I think it was worth it.

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## **Chantal ♥? says**

### **4.5 ALMOST EXTINCT STARS**

This was way WAY better than I expected!  
LIKE THIS BOOK ROCKED!

This story was set in an alternate reality; Where The Shifters have almost eradicated the entire world population of humans. They violently overtook the world as we know it. Now, they have ruins with human remains and museum filled with human garbage.

**To the shifters, humans are extinct!**

At least that's what they all think, until Ty a bear shifter comes across an injured human woman called Ella. One look at Ella and knows he has found his mate. And he will stop at nothing to get her, protect her and love her. But this will be an uphill battle as his kind have violently killed all of her species. There is years of conditioned distrust and fear of Shifters, that he will have to overcome. However, he is determined to save her and even her kind.

To Ella it's not that simple. Letting Ty into her life could mean the end of not only her but the whole human race! His kind have killed almost all her kind and it would be an enormous leap of faith for her to even go back to civilization with him. She is reluctant to this but fate intervned and she must go with him or die in the cold of winter. As she has been exiled from her kind because she has "exposed them to danger" with the introduction of Ty and his shifter kind.

The odds are against them but LOVE will not be denied!  
What will happen when the Community of Shifters find out about Ella and her village?  
This could signify the end of the Whole Human race!?

And now I have a NEW SERIES OF BOOKS TO READ TO FIND OUT!

I LOVED IT!

The reason it lost .5 star is because we got way too many POV and it was a little confusing at time figure Out what was going on.

Safety; no drama, no cheating, no condoms, no triggers or elements of dubious consent.

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### **CC says**

3.5 stars

Cute and different take on a shifter story

The hero was a bit beta but Ty was still awesome. And I think his laid back personality was required to help Ella get over her fears. Ella was brave and it was fun to see the world through her eyes.

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### **Suzanne (Under the Covers Book blog) says**

Ella is one of the last humans left in the world, her species is close to extinction after being annihilated by the savage and merciless shifters centuries before. Now, her and her kind live in remote areas on Earth and keep themselves hidden. Which, is why she is in so much trouble now, caught in a trap about to be discovered by one of the beasts. Only, the beast isn't quite what she expected, he's handsome and kind...and doesn't rip her into shreds as she has been taught he will. Humans have been rediscovered by the shifters and Ella can only pray that history doesn't repeat itself.

I loved the concept of this book! It's such a reverse of the typical paranormal romance formula, instead of the shifters/supernatural creature hiding from humans, it is the other way round. Humans live in tribes and live off the land in remote forests and mountains, without shifters knowing they are there. Until Ella gets discovered by her "beast". It's a unique idea that I haven't come across before in paranormal romance and what prompted me to buy the book.

Now, to the more important question, did the book live up to my expectations? Yes and no. Yes, because I really enjoyed it, the romance was adorable and as I said, I really liked the concept behind the series. And no, because although I did like the book, it didn't really stand out as anything special, the small suspense part of the plot was wishy washy and essentially the feel of it wasn't that different from any number of paranormal

romances I have read in the past.

But, this was a solid read, I liked both the main characters, Ella and Ty Bearclaw and their romance was really sweet, immediately you could tell that they cared for one another. It also had a nice amount of humour in it, some of it stemming from Ella's reaction to the modern world and some of it banter between Ty, his sister and friends. The other characters, who I guess will be having a book in the series, were also nice background dressing and definitely added a sense of familial warmth to the book.

This was a nice read and I will definitely be looking out for the next book in the series, if you fancy a paranormal romance with a little twist in it, pick this up.

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### **Linda Bonanno says**

**I don't know how she does it but this is another fantastic book!**

This book is another long list of books that shows why S.E. Smith is on my list of must read authors. She writes books that are so fun and interesting to read that you can't put them down! This is the 1st in a new series that tells the story of humans that are almost extinct and the shifters that rule the world. It has everything you could want in a book, suspense, comedy, action, and of course lots of romance! Don't miss this one, or any of her books actually!

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### **Victoria says**

I really love this twist between shifters & humans. Great storytelling from beginning to end. Can't wait for the next in series.

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### **Beth says**

5 stars

This is a little different from S E Smiths other series and we have no aliens in this book. This book is about shifters and humans and instead of the shifters being in hiding or humans and shifters living together the final few humans left in the world (after being hunted by the shifters) are in hiding and presumed extinct. Then we have a bear shifter accidentally stumble across a human and she is his mate and this creates the beginning of a new series. I really enjoyed this book as its quite different to most shifter books out there, the characters are great and this book created the basis of a really interesting series. If you haven't read a book by this author before this is a great one to start with.

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### **Nina says**

Loved it!!! I couldn't put this one down, I was hooked from the beginning to the end. A totally different take

on shifters.

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### **Jessie Potts says**

I liked it, it was alright, a decent start, but it did hook me and I want to know whose book is next!

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### **Hazel Gower says**

#### **Perfect**

This is one S.E. Smith best books. Once I started this adventure I didn't put it down to very last page. A wonderful twist on shifter and humans. I highly recommend.

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### **Under the Covers Book Blog says**

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Reviewed by Suzanne

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