



Blood Awakening

Wenona Hulsey

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Nicole, a small town Alabama girl, and her best friend Kat take a weekend trip to Panama City, Florida. Kat looking to have a good time and Nicole hoping to escape the pain of losing her mother for a little while. Little did Nicole know, the escape would awaken a ancient power that is hidden in her blood. A power that evil wants for its own and will do whatever it takes to have it.

This short story is a look into best friends', Nicole and Kat, life before a centuries old grudge and Nicole's emerging powers rips them apart. A power that Nicole wants no part of as it brings her to her knees and forces her to walk away from her small town life and everyone she loves.

Blood Awakening Details

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From Reader Review Blood Awakening for online ebook

Stephanie Nelson says

Although this was a short story, it didn't feel like it. There's so much going on that i was pulled into the story. Wenona Hulsey did a wonderful job and i'm very much looking forward to reading Burden of Blood, her novel that goes along with this short.

Ronda says

Blood Awakening is a prequel to Burden of Blood and it gives us an insight to Nicole and her best friend Kat... The short break that these girls take is the first steps to Nicoles hidden secret (even hidden from her!) that she does not want to know.

Usually, short stories and prequels are rarely a good find, this book, however, was really well worth the read and it has given me the incentive to look further into Wenona Hulsey's books.

Squeak says

This was a very quick read, but I am ready for more. What a great beginning!

Giovanni Gelati says

YA paranormal fans out there? This is an author you need to have on your radar regardless of what genre you read. I have been fortunate working for Trestle Press to come across some really good reads from Werner Lind, Laurie Bowler, and B.R. Stateham to name a few. Wenona Hulsey has an amazing narrative and a knockout punch of a character here in "Blood Awakening" the digital short story prequel to her upcoming full length release "The Burden of Blood". The full length work should be released next Friday for your enjoyment. Here is the synopsis of the digital short:

"Nicole, a small town Alabama girl, and her best friend Kat take a weekend trip to Panama City, Florida. Kat is looking to have a good time and Nicole hoping to escape the pain of losing her mother for a little while. Little did Nicole know, the escape would awaken an ancient power that is hidden in her blood. A power that evil wants for its own and will do whatever it takes to have it.

This short story is a look into best friends', Nicole and Kat, lives before a centuries old grudge and Nicole's emerging powers rips them apart. A power that Nicole wants no part of as it brings her to her knees and forces her to walk away from her small town life and everyone she loves."

Here is a sneak peak at what is in "The Burden of Blood":

"No one wants to know everyone's darkest secrets, especially not police officer, Nicole Keenan. All she wants is a blissfully normal life in the small, Alabama town where she was born. But as generations of power running through her veins start to wake up, an ancient grudge is ignited that threatens to push her over the

edge. She can hardly believe in what she is, let alone that a dark force will not stop until she's joins them. Or is dead.

Nicole Keenan's life enters into a dangerous dance with warriors and gothic fairies. Southern tradition collides with Irish folklore as she learns about love, heartbreak, and *The Burden of Blood*."

It is rare that I am so wowed by a first read by an author. Her narrative is just so strong and engaging that the read is just mesmerizing; the virtual pages just seem to turn themselves and I am totally pulled and sucked into this new universe she creates. Don't get me wrong I love being inside my Kindle, but I feared I may break the forward button as I just seemed to click it like a mindless zombie wanting to get to the next page. I love to read; I think you may know that by now, and this was like candy for my eyes, a treat I couldn't help but just swallow whole. "*The Burden of Blood*" is no different; I have been fortunate to get an advanced read on that, except for the fact that it instead of a piece of candy, it is an entire buffet of delights that seem to not end. When it does though, wow, I just wanted the full course. Put Wenona Hulsey on your **MUST** read list, I am not steering you wrong on this. Get that first piece of candy today in "*Blood Awakening*" and then get read next Friday for the main course with "*The Burden of Blood*".

Emme says

I'm looking forward to the further adventures of Nicole! This short was light-hearted but had some ominous elements, as well-- that's the combination I like in my paranormal romance stories. I'm wondering, though, how this short story fits into the larger one that is coming out in the novel *Burden of Blood*. Guess I'll have to wait and see!

Stephanie says

This was a short story that left me longing for more. I love Nicole and Kat. They are a few ladies that you'd love to hang out and hit the beach with. This short story has alot packed into the pages. With a road trip, a set up for a love story, and a stranger lurking in the shadows, all makes for a good tale. After reading this one, I downloaded and read the next two two in the series as well. This is a great series!

Darlene says

Nicole Keenan is best friends with Kat. The girls are getting away from Alabama for a weekend of fun in Panama City, Florida. On their first night, they meet Nick Read and his friend, Matt, at a beach bar. Nicole becomes filled with a sense of fear, and her eyes scan the room to find what is causing her to feel this way. She sees a man sitting at a table in a dimly-lit corner. That night, Nicole has a dream about a castle. She sees a woman on a balcony who warns her telepathically that, "They are coming for you!" As Nicole turns from the castle to run, she slams right into the stranger from the bar. She wakes from her nightmare just as he reaches for her.

Kat and Nicole score VIP passes to the hottest club in Panama City, La Vela. They run into Nick and Matt in an upscale section of the club, and Nick gives Nicole a tour of the club and then invites her to go for a walk on the beach. Just as Nick and Nicole pull apart from a romantic kiss, Nicole spots the stranger over Nick's shoulder. All of a sudden, Nick puts his hands over his ears and contorts his face in pain. After he passes out,

Nicole hears a loud ringing in her head and a voice telling her that he has awakened her and will come back one day to take her and all the power that she holds.

Nicole awakens in a hospital, and Kat tells her that she and Nick were found passed out on the beach and someone called 911. Police were concerned that Nick might have done something to Nicole, but she assures Kat that Nick did nothing to hurt her. As she is talking to Kat, she is distracted by whispering outside of her room yet Kat cannot hear a thing. It seems that she can hear other people's thoughts.

Nicole saves the day when a nurse tries to kidnap an infant from the hospital. She has no idea why she could hear the nurse's thoughts, but she senses that she should keep her "gift" a secret.

Wenona Hulsey is a new-to-me author, and I really enjoyed this novella which is a prequel to the Blood Burden series. Nicole and Kat make a fun pair, and I liked getting to know them. I am intrigued by the dark stranger who keeps turning up and wonder about his connection to Nicole.

Hulsey has piqued my interest, and I want to read the next book in the series, Burden of Blood.

Sandy S says

BLOOD AWAKENING (The Blood Burden series novella) by Wenona Hulsey

BLOOD AWAKENING is the 0.5 novella in Wenona Hulsey's Blood Burden series. Introducing Nicole Keenan and her new found abilities to hear 'evil' thoughts and dreams of warnings and what's to come.

Nicole and her BFF Kat were heading to Florida for a few days of fun and relaxation. Kicking back, drinking, dancing and shopping were the only things on the agenda, but finding a sexy, good looking man by the name of Nick Read was an added bonus. But a short walk on the beach found Nick and Nicole in the hospital after blacking out for some unknown reason.

Nicole remembers exactly what happened. Her terrifying nightmares were coming true. The man in her dreams had somehow dropped into her reality and warned her of things to come. His startling proclamation that he had 'awakened Nicole and one he would come back to take her and her power, when the time was right' was enough to think she as crazy. But the reality of the situation was coming to light when Nicole began to hear the 'evil' thoughts. And just to prove her theory, someone in the hospital was planning to act out a grievous plan, and Nicole was the only one who could stop it before it started.

BLOOD AWAKENING is a quick read, approximately 3 short chapters in length. As the introduction to Wenona's Blood Burden series, Blood Awakening is a must read, if only to keep you from wondering-how it all began.

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Laura says

Nicole and Kat, two girls from a small town in Alabama, decide to go to Florida for a well-deserved

vacation. However, after a couple of drinks with some guys they met on the beach, Nicole wakes up in a hospital and starts hearing strange voices in her head.

What I look for in a short story (whether it is a prequel, an in-between story, or a stand-alone) is a complete arc. This read more like a prologue. I suppose it is intended to be a teaser for the rest of the series. The pace moved well, and the dynamics between Kat and Nicole were good (and had potential for strong conflict in the full novel). Their personalities were quite distinctive. The amount of backstory introduced was also well-balanced. We don't have nothing, but there isn't so much of Nicole's history to bog down the story.

From a grammatical and stylistic standpoint, the writing could have been tighter, with more showing of emotion in certain spots. Ultimately, this teaser did not truly hook me, and so I am giving it 2.5 stars.

Rae Sontheyon says

Warning This is A Prequel or Novelette Not A Whole Book

So big heads up this is not a book it's a short novella prequel for the Blood Awakening Series. When I first downloaded this short story a couple years ago it was just listed as a book, so reading it now and getting through the story only to find it end so abruptly was a downer.

The story is about Nicole Keenan and her crazy weekend in Panama City, Florida with her BFF, Kat. Nicole just wants to get away and let loose. Drinks, rest and party is on her menu while Katy wants men on the menu too, but Nicole is more into relationships than one night stands. It's after possibly connecting with a new guy on her vacation that things go weird for Nicole. There is a strange dark mysterious man who makes her ill at ease and things don't go right the next time she see him again.

Overall I was really into the story and got involved in the "book", so I was disappointed to find I basically read a book teaser. Not gonna lie will probably checkout the next or first book in the series titled Burden of Blood, but from the synopsis idk if it sounds like it flows from this book. In the end, I'm still half and half on whether this short is worth a read, but it's not long and hey it is free, so you decide.

-----Read more of my reviews at: <http://heyitwasfree.blogspot.com/>-----

Chasity says

I really enjoyed this short story. From the very first page this story had me. It was very intriguing. I like how it is spread out in a series, so that you really have to read the next one to find out more. Some series out there today are pointless and the books don't flow together. This series flows and I think the way it is written makes it more enticing. 'Blood Awakening' is a very unique read and I really loved it. I was captivated by what was happening and yet I am still waiting to see what the reason for it is. So I will definitely have to continue reading this series.

'Blood Awakening' kept me guessing to the very end and even though it was a short story it was action packed. It told enough of a story to hold its own of course it needs a follow up novel but that was clearly the

intention. I really enjoyed the plot and the way the characters spoke to each other. I cannot wait to read more from Wenona Hulsey. I think paranormal fans will love this book. A great job by Wenona!

Anino says

This was just enough to whet my appetite, but it wasn't enough to make me want to pre-order book 1. Other than that it was decent, but it felt like the author took one of her deleted chapters, and passed it onto her readers for 99 cents... Fortunately, I was able to get it for free via Kindle...(LOL!)

Anyhoo, I'm giving this one 2.5 stars...

Faye {Daydreaming_Star} says

**** this review was also posted on my blog, here ****

This is a lovely short novella that is a great backstory for Burden of Blood. It follows the story of a weekend trip spent in Panama city between two lifelong friends. It is full of fun and silliness and really builds up the relationship between the two girls and I feel that having this there really helped to make their characters real within the first novel of the Burden Blood series. It is a nice way to get to grips with Wenona Hulsey's writing while not being full of too much seriousness or confusing moments.

I enjoyed witnessing how Kat and Nicole acted around the guys and how you could almost see Nicole rolling her eyes at her best friends behaviour without having to read it. It was easy to see that these two girls have known each other for years and just knew how to be around each other, even when things took a turn for the worst. It was a nice scenario where Kat wanted to get Nicole away from their small town and away from the misery that was surrounding her best friend there. Little did she know, of course, that this trip would be the start of so many things.

I liked how it was all set together, how it wasn't until about halfway through the novella before more "serious" topics were introduced to the story and the real reason for the novella come to light. I liked Nick and thought it was cute that, despite all that happened he still wanted to get to know Nicole more. I especially enjoyed the little twist towards the end of the novella and felt that it was the perfect opening to the first book. Which, luckily for me I was able to start straight after.

This is a little novella that I would say works well to read before the series, it's a nice addition to the book and I feel like I know exactly what Nicole is referring to in the first book because I read this. Therefore, I would recommend reading this novella before starting the trilogy, but I'm sure it would be just as interesting to read it after as well! But for getting set for the upcoming books, it certainly helps to get the interest piqued!

Melinda says

Goodreads-

Nicole, a small town Alabama girl, and her best friend Kat take a weekend trip to Panama City, Florida. Kat looking to have a good time and Nicole hoping to escape the pain of losing her mother for a little while. Little did Nicole know, the escape would awaken a ancient power that is hidden in her blood. A power that evil wants for its own and will do whatever it takes to have it.

Great short story! Flowed beautifully with no rushed feeling, which is unusual for short stories. Its a great piece of candy to get you started with before reaching into the whole candy bowl known as Burden of Blood. Great job Wenona!!!!

Joey Butcher says

Blood Awakening is a short story that works as a prelude for Wenona Hulsey's upcoming novel Burden of Blood. The silly banter between Nichole and Kat is hilarious, their friendship is one that you can admire and relate to. There is so much foreshadowing! Between the stranger in the dark, Nicole's dream and the intriguing ending, the story does a fantastic job of building as you go. Did we mention the love interest? For a small vacation crush, the relationship was done tactfully and not pushed too quickly. And who doesn't want to know who this mysterious man lingering in the shadows is? I know I do!

To read more of my reviews please visit: ink-puddle.blogspot.com
