



Bones by the Wood

Catherine Johnson

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Steve 'Dizzy' Disraeli has been the Sergeant at Arms of the Priests MC, Louisiana for fifteen years; he's been a member for more than twenty. Now his president has a big task for him, Samuel Carter has asked him to travel to move back to his native Texas to head up a new charter of the Priests MC. He's got a lot of work to do, and he needs to find a way to make a home now that he is no longer surrounded by the family he has known for more than half his life.

Althea 'Thea' Colby is just trying to get along as best she can. It's not easy being a single mama, but she's giving it her all. Her son, Josh, is her world and the only man worth having in her life. She spent some time on the sidelines of the biker club in the town she calls home, but never had any plans to get drawn in any further.

But the Rabid Dogs MC has disappeared without trace or explanation, and now there's a new MC in town and they seem to have brought a truckload of trouble with them. Thea and Josh are at risk from the MC's enemies, and her heart is certainly at risk from the president of the club himself.

Thea has to fight to keep her tiny slice of family whole. Dizzy has to fight to build a family from nothing. As they endeavour to survive and endure the trials in their way, they may find that the roads they're looking for are one and the same.

Bones by the Wood Details

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From Reader Review Bones by the Wood for online ebook

Judy says

We met Dizzy in book 1, Blood in the Water. He's the SAA for the Louisiana Priests MC and as a secondary character in book 1 he is presented as extremely loyal to the club and protective of the members who he calls his family. If you have not read book 1 in this series, I highly recommend it. The author has been able to draw me into the lives and the feelings of all of the characters in both books. Dizzy is a mature 40 something alpha male who has never had a real relationship with a woman other than sex. Thea is a single mother of a 9 year old son who works as a convenience store clerk. She's been on her own since leaving home as a teenager and life is a struggle to support herself and her son. Her son is her number one priority in life. This book could be read as a standalone but it would be so much better to read the first book since Thea is tied to one of the rival MC club members who were killed in the first story. You also need to understand the circumstances that brought Dizzy to Texas to assume the role of president for the new chapter there. Dizzy arrives in Texas to set up the charter for the Louisiana mother chapter. He makes a habit of going by the convenience store where Thea works regularly to pick up necessary items. He notices Thea and the attraction between the two slowly develops. It doesn't start out with instant lust, wham bam, I love you. The relationship takes time to develop into real love. Thea's ex-boyfriend, Elvis, was killed by the Priests but Thea does not know that until after she and Dizzy develop a deeper relationship. We get to see all of the characters from book 1 again, especially Samuel and Moira. Thea is a strong heroine who doesn't take any crap from anybody and she is super protective of her child. Of course, Thea and her son are abducted during the book as an act of revenge by the evil Mexican cartel. Dizzy and Thea are tortured physically but the son comes out of it with severe psychological problems resulting in nightmares, bed-wetting and withdrawal. Thea runs from Dizzy and the club and you really can't blame her. Usually in these stories it's heartbreaking to read about the man and the woman suffering and their love being shaken. In this story, it breaks your heart when Thea is drug from the room where her son is tied to a chair and she can't save him. You can feel the over whelming fear, grief and anger as Thea is taken to another room to see Dizzy tortured beyond belief and where she is also abused. But the Priests come in and save the day. The child is not physically hurt. Thus starts the road to recovery with Dizzy realizing just how much he loves not only Thea but her son. Thea cuts the club off from herself and her son but they both only get worse on an emotional level and Thea is finally evicted from her apartment. In comes Dizzy and the club. Dizzy gives her no choice but to come with him so that she and her son have shelter and food. The MC members have formed a real attachment to the son and you can see the son blossom and recover from his psychological damage from the love and attention of these big, bad bikers. Dizzy shows ultimate patience with Thea and demonstrates his love in so many ways. Ultimately there is a HEA for Dizzy, Thea and the son. But it is a road that has been paved with heart ache and struggles. I absolutely loved this book and look forward to the next one in the series. The author has an excellent ability to write characters that draw you in and make you a part of the story. I did not want this book to end.

MelissaB says

I really enjoyed this biker romance, it was a nice story with characters I liked. The story felt fairly realistic but wasn't depressing or overly violent the way some of these biker books can be. There was no cheating and it has an HEA.

Susan says

Catherine Johnson is a friend and a fellow writer in the Freak Circle Press.

The Kairos series has all the things a good MC romance series needs: gritty violence, badass alpha men and the women who can handle them, scorching-hot, read-over-and-over sex. But it is about so much more than all that wonderfulness. It's about the strong bonds of family, and all that violence and sex isn't just an excuse for action. It's all crucial to the development of and the tensions on those family bonds.

Bones by the Wood is told in Dizzy and Thea's POVs, and they and their developing bond is the centerpiece of the story. But also fascinating and integral are the developing relationships of the new Texas charter of the Priests MC—among the patches themselves; with the women who work at the Dusky Kitten, the strip club the MC owns; and with the town of Ravensbridge itself. And with a little boy named Josh.

Dizzy is a thoughtful man, confident but not audacious, commanding but not a bully. He's new to the President's patch and building a charter from scratch in a town that has a bad history with a former MC. He understands that his job is to build those bonds and that in those bonds is where the people and the life he values will be protected.

Thea is a struggling single mom, who is fighting tooth and nail to give her son a decent life, despite the mountain of trouble that keeps piling up at her door. She's not beaten down by trouble, though. She's strong and full of fight, and her son comes first, always.

It's a beautiful thing to watch these two strong people with responsibilities beyond themselves connect and wend their way to a relationship. It's not easy, and there's heartbreak and struggle in store. But they are strong, even when their world conspires to make them weak.

Johnson's writing is richly descriptive and poetic. She has a keen eye and a lovely way of describing the effect of the moonlight in a scene or the distracting power of a red bra strap. She paints a vivid world in which I'm happy to be lost, a world I miss when I have to leave. It's just beautiful.

C.D. says

Catherine Johnson is a friend and fellow Freak Circle Press author.

"Blood in the Water" was a dark, rich, layered novel about the Priests MC. "Bones by the Wood" is just what you'd expect from this author; adding more layers, pulling you deeper into the world she's making for us.

Dizzy is SAA in the first novel for the Louisiana chapter, and here is sent to Texas to head up a new second chapter for the Priests MC, in a spot once occupied by the Mad Dogs; former allies turned crushed enemies. It's Texas, he wears a cowboy hat. I love it.

Enter a convenience store clerk and single mother, Thea Colby. One of the most dangerous jobs in the US lives up to its rep for Thea, but luckily there's a new President in town to come to her aid. And so starts another hot love story with its fair share of doubt, worry, and the uncomfortable realities of the MC world.

This is a hot couple, with plenty of steamy scenes to interrupt the tense moments of violence and danger. A great mix to keep you intrigued and ... well, stimulated.

Despina says

Wow, this was a really good book whether you like MC stories or not. I hardly ever give 5 stars but this book had it all for me. It was well written, great characters, and a really good love story. There is a bit of violence but it wouldn't be a MC book without some, and as long as none of my favorite characters die, I accept the violence. (and none of my favorite characters die, so were all good. I highly recommend this book, and I'm looking forward to what else the author comes up with.

Melindannk says

Here I sit, a little upset, after finishing *Bones by the Wood* last night. I'm not upset by the book; I'm upset the book ended. That gives you an idea on how connected I was with this book.

One characteristic of Catherine Johnson's writing is her ability to write character driven stories. Her characters tell their own stories opposed to her telling you their story. As a reader, this is my favorite type of writing because, although story lines may be similar, the true magic of a book, for me, is found in the main and supporting characters.

The second aspect of Johnson's writing style that I really appreciate is how, no matter the amount of shit that rains down on the main character's heads, as a reader, you never feel them drift apart to a level that is irreparable. That is key to me enjoying a book.

I am excited to move onto *Breath on the Wind*, but I hope, floating around in the back of her mind, Catherine Johnson considers writing a few books based around the members of the TX chapter of the Priests MC.

Jennifer Guffey says

Bones by the Wood (Kairos #2)

By: Catherine Johnson

5/5 stars

After the Rabid Dogs were wiped out at the Louisiana motel after their plans to kill Samuel & Terry and wipe out the Priests MC were revealed and then had kidnapped Ashleigh, it left a void in the protection runs that the Priests MC does for Eduardo Dias and his Columbian family. But Samuel, Eduardo and the rest of the brothers have little trust in other clubs & outsiders after they were betrayed by the Rabid Dogs, their long-time trusted associates.

To fill this void, Samuel has decided that the best plan of action is to establish another charter. To which, he

asks Dizzy, his long-time, trusted Sargent at Arms, to move to Texas, be the President of the new chapter and build a club. He'll be leaving the family that he's been in for the last 20 years and being the SAA for the last 15 years. While it's a great new opportunity, he'll be leaving everything and everyone behind.

Thea Colby is a single mother to a 10 year old boy and her life has been spent earning money to take care of and make a life for her and her son, Josh. But she is in a small town, working a dead end job at a convenient store, living in an old, cheap apartment and driving a rust bucket that is practically a death trap. She was also involved with Elvis, one of the Rabid Dogs and now that he has just disappeared along with his entire club, she knows that something dangerous & fishy happened. Now, there is a new MC in town and she is attracted to the president, but she also knows that another man in an MC is likely the last thing that she needs in her life.

But Dizzy and Thea have an immense attraction towards each other in the small amounts of time that they have spent together. When the Priests enemies start sending threats, it throws Thea & Josh into the clubhouse and very close proximity with Dizzy. There is just a sense of immediate rightness that they find with each other and which they build upon.

We do get to see the men from the Louisiana charter when they come to Texas. The men are surprised that Dizzy has a woman and one who is quite exceptional and seemingly adept at being an Old Lady & running the clubhouse. A trip to Louisiana for Ashleigh and Shark's wedding enables us to revisit all the Louisiana members and their Old Ladies.

Dizzy and Thea have plenty to work out between each other as well as alone. Thea & Josh take some adjusting and so do the Texas men. But one thing is for sure, they have built a family and a solid club with loyal & trustworthy brothers.

I look forward to seeing where the author goes from here, whether she stays in Texas or goes back to Louisiana for the main characters in the next story. There were a couple characters that had openings left for them from either charter and I see several more books coming from both the Texas and Louisiana side.

~IreneOust~ says

LOVED! Review to come.

suzy says

Omg I absolutely loved this story, think I enjoyed it more than book one. Just absolutely loved Dizzy and Thea, even Josh, what they went through and came out at the other end. It's all about club, it's all about brotherhood, it's all about family. Some violence and bad guys to spice it up, what more could you want from an MC. Romance. If you love Susan Fanetti and Lauren Gilley this series is a must. Off to read book three.

Kari Kaz says

4.5 stars

I liked it a bit more than the first book; even though I enjoyed both, this book flowed better for some reason. I loved Dizzy and Thea, and the strong sense of brotherhood portrayed. It was also a joy to read about the characters in the previous book.

Lin (Nerdy Bookworm) says**A Great Story**

This is a first for me reading a novel by this author and it was a great read. The storyline was outlined with a descriptive detail of each characters daily activities of life and intensely written to draw the reader into the story. I thought Shaggy and Scooby provided a great male figure for Thea's son (Josh) which is needed in a single mother household. I felt Dizzy was a prime example of a pure alpha male and you just have to love him. The story was full of suspense and drama along with much needed humor at times. I will be looking forward in reading more we series from this writer.

Michelle [Helen Geek] says

May 2018 - 4 Stars

Nicole says

I've never read a book by this author so I was pleasantly surprised at how much I enjoyed this book. Dizzy was an older man that had a lot of love to give to his surprising family. He's an alpha but not incredibly overbearing. The heroine's second thoughts and cold feet annoyed me at times but they rang true as a mother. All and all, a great biker book. I was able to pick this book up without reading the previous one so it could read as a standalone.

I will be checking out Catherine Johnson's other works too.

TeriLyn says

5 "You ain't seen sweet yet." Stars

Irene and I went back to Louisiana to catch up with the Priests MC only this time the Priests took us to Texas

where we followed Dizzy's story. If you haven't yet read *Blood in the Water* you must before reading *Bones by the Wood* as it picks up where book one leaves off and has major spoilers for book one including why Dizzy is in Texas starting another chapter of the Priests MC.

Catherine Johnson writes an MC book with such finesse it's easy to quickly devour her words. You fall in love with the characters from the very beginning with the curious glances, knowing smirks, and sexy banter. This woman writes well constructed sexual chemistry as her characters sexily dance around the possibility of one another. It's a slow build that ultimately leads to some scorching passion. Dizzy, our hero, is an older alpha male who's been out of the dating game for a while until Thea catches his eye. Dizzy is funny, sweet, and quite protective. Thea is a woman scorned by love who's main concern is caring for her son. Dizzy catches her eye to though and she's not afraid to flirt with him to get what she wants. And all the while they're flirting goes on, the honest reactions to each other and the honest ways in which they communicate are really quite romantic.

During the dance of Dizzy and Thea the Priests MC, along with their mother charter in Louisiana (yes, characters from book one make an apperaance!), have usual MC business to handle. Thea and her son become targets because of what's happening in the club and thus thrust into Dizzy's life farther and faster than expected. The two of them, Dizzy and Thea, compliment each other so well; their differences heighten their connection along with the protection and care Dizzy wants to provide Thea and Josh. Dizzy isn't the only person taken with the two of them as the whole new charter of the Priests that Dizzy is building becomes smitten with the mother/son pair.

The fight of the Priests though isn't simple. Retaliation hits full force to the Priests MC and it isn't pretty. Catherine Johnson didn't hold much back when it comes to the violence involved with an outlaw motorcycle club. The parts of this story portraying this were as interesting as they were gruesome. There were times I was clutching my Kindle so hard, on the edge of my seat, truly worried about the fate of the Priests MC and it's loved ones.

Bones by the Wood provided another great MC story from an author of the Freak Circle Press. Catherine Johnson's writing flows so easily I was gleefully and scarily lost in her Texas world. Dizzy and Thea's real, honest, and heart breaking/pounding love story moved the plot of this MC forward while providing me with another gripping tale of love, passion, sacrifice, triumph, and family within the Priest MC family. I can't wait to read Book three!

Sivutha says

5 Dizzy Falling Hard for Thea Stars

I love Dizzy and oh, Thea's sass are the shit!! They are so awesome together.

Wrapped warmly between the bodies of the boy she'd kill to protect, and the man who had killed to protect them, she slept.

She slid into the seat. "Fair point. I still think it's Alpha Macho Bullshit, but I'll let you off, since you've been so sweet an' all."

"I love you. Ain't no use pretendin' otherwise. Sweetheart, if you turn away, you'll rip the heart from my

chest.” His voice was little more than a series of gasps. “I love you, too. I’m not goin’ anywhere.”

What he was doing there was entirely up to him, as long as he told her how to access the bail fund. Dizzy had laughed at that, and then told her how to access the bail fund, which Thea hadn’t found as amusing. She’d been joking, kind of.

“You still want my ink?” He asked her. The exhaustion was gone, replaced by sharp anger as she pushed up to lean on her elbows. “Really? You really just asked that? You...” He cut her off with a kiss. “Sorry, sweetheart. I’m sorry.” He mumbled against her lips. “So you fuckin’ should be, doubtin’ me like that.” She kissed him, a light press of lips. “It’s an angel, right? Where’d you want to put it?” “Yeah, that’s right.”

He had his brothers, a solid club at his back, the woman he loved by his side, the boy he considered to be his son sleeping in the next room, and his old lady was going to make him a daddy again. He was on top of the world.
