



Dark Moon

Maggie Tideswell

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A spell-binding novel of love, murder and the supernatural.

Chance meetings can have far-reaching effects. Loved ones may not be who they seem. The line between comprehension and confusion is thin – particularly when one's thoughts are being manipulated by another. Set in beautiful Cape Town, South Africa, *Dark Moon* is the story of love and betrayal and misplaced loyalty. Storm has a choice to make, but is her information and perceptions reliable? Isn't she being unduly influenced? Trevor is an attractive man, but he is an expert at bending people to his will. Then there is Jarred... In Storm's words, "One knew what to do with her, but he didn't love her. The other loved her, but had no idea how to treat her." One wanted to control her, and only one wanted her as his wife. Storm finds herself, her friends and every one she holds dear in mortal danger. What can she do to neutralize the evil that is following her?

In *Dark Moon*, the eternal triangle takes an innovative twist into the occult. Riveting plot lines will have you guessing from chapter to chapter - you won't be able to put it down until the dramatic ending. Read it on a stormy night, and you'll find yourself jumping at things that go bump in the night.

Dark Moon Details

Date : Published September 28th 2011 by All Things That Matter Press (first published 2011)

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Author : Maggie Tideswell

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From Reader Review Dark Moon for online ebook

Kirsty Bicknell says

I was given a free copy of this book by the author in exchange for an honest review.

As the name of the book suggests the plot is about light and dark - in this case, of human nature. Maggie Tideswell begins 'Dark Moon' by introducing her protagonists and although the reader meets 7 characters in the first 10 pages there is never a feeling of being overwhelmed. Maggie Tideswell gives her reader fragments of information about the characters- which is enough to know that they have secrets and to be excited about the story that will unfold.

I found that once I started 'Dark Moon' I was compelled to continue reading and following genuinely fearful moments, sadness and romance, I had unknowingly finished the book several hours later!

Maggie Tideswell deals with the subject matters of rape, the occult and witchcraft, amongst other things, yet she is sensitive in her approach. The pace of her writing means the reader never has time to dwell but we still have time to experience the emotions of the characters.

All those in 'Dark Moon' are intense and remarkable. Trevor and Elle represent the dark and the light - they are both self-serving and in my view untrustworthy, but Trevor's evil is from where the story originates. Storm and Jarred are also damaged but seek comfort in each other and often the banter between them provides a light-hearted release from the rest of the story. I found it impossible not to become attached to these two and I loved the way in which Maggie Tideswell wrote their story, yet wound it so cleverly with everyone else's.

This plot is dramatic and the subject matter is heavy but 'Dark Moon' is an excellent book with a story that draws its reader in and holds them there.

I would definitely recommend 'Dark Moon' and look forward to reading more of the author's work.

Melanie Adkins says

The hand-fasting was complete. Now the man and woman had only to find each other to complete their destiny. Storm and her friend Donna have been friends since junior high. They share everything. With all the murders happening in the area, they are both on guard. It seems though they should have been more careful of their friends. Elle, Sybil and Trevor are all related, but Elle and Trevor don't know that right away. It's not until Elle is raped and her birth mother, Sybil, comes looking for her that she learns the truth. Unfortunately, Trevor is dating Storm. Storm believes everything is ok until she starts to look closer at Trevor. Then, she has an encounter on the beach with a man she can't forget. Jarred can't forget Storm either. He's been searching for her since their meeting on the beach. He knows she's the one for him. To add to the fun, Elle and Sybil are witches. Trevor believes himself to be the Lord of the Underworld. Does it get sorted out? Read to find out!

Mystical, loving and a bit strange, this book weaves through story lines like a snake. I did find the story thrilling and a true attention getter, however, it does start out a bit confusing. The story is one of good vs evil. Love vs hate. The writing style is definitely unique. You'll enjoy this one if you are a fan of fantasy. I thought it was difficult to dig into at first. There seems to be a rush to get all of the characters in the story and let you know their place. The basic story is a true love story.

I did find issues, those listed above and the fact it didn't make much sense at first. It didn't explain that there were murders happening. It didn't explain why Trevor was so difficult. It was hard to keep all that straight.

I gave this one 3 out of 5 books because it took so long for the real story to be told.

Books says

Yet again I was pleasantly surprised, and suitably impressed, with the writing of another South African author. Maggie Tideswell has done what only a handful of others have been able to do before her - and that is to prove that South African authors can compete on an international level with the best out there.

“Dark Moon” is a splendidly written novel which takes the reader on an unforgettable journey full of twists and turns and keeps you guessing until the end. The author introduces all the characters at the start of the book and develops their stories throughout to tie together in an explosive ending that will surprise even the most hardcore of readers. In this novel she expertly blends romance, mystery, fantasy and the occult; and explanations are given out of every angle and for every situation the characters are faced with, so that the reader isn't left hanging at the conclusion of the story. It is clear that Ms Tideswell has thoroughly researched every element that is used to make this a great novel.

The book is written in a unique South African voice and the dialogue reflects this accordingly. I have to applaud this author for being one of few who successfully uses the more-showing-less-telling technique. Not many have mastered this.

Set against the breathtaking backdrop of the Southern African landscape, any reader who hasn't visited the country before will feel like they are taken on an explorative journey to the spectacular sights, sounds and colors of this strikingly beautiful tip of the African continent. The author doesn't hold back on the descriptions of the characters' surroundings and thus lets readers immerse themselves into the real-life world the story is based on.

Even though I had reservations when I started reading this novel, I am now a dedicated reader of this author's work and am looking forward to what Maggie Tideswell will surprise us with next.

Jacqueline says

I was lucky enough to receive this book for free through Goodreads First Reads.

I thought overall Dark Moon was a pretty well written novel.

One of the downsides I felt, was the beginning of the book. So many characters were introduced very quickly, I was a bit confused about what was going on. As it went along I got into it and definitely started enjoying this captivating story.

I liked the whole good vs evil concept this book was portraying. I love all things occult so this book

definitely delivered in that area! Full of nail-biting moments, lots of mystery and a nice dollop of romance, this book was enjoyable. :)

J. Ann says

I wanted to first say I recieved this book from via the author. It in no way changes my review. My review is my sole opinion and we all have different ones.

I gave Dark Moon 4 stars because it started off very confusing to me. Though it did capture me with the very first chapter, there were so many different point of views that it was hard to follow for awhile. I prefer books with no more than 3 different views because I don't always have the time to sit down and read a lot. I only have time to read it in short breaks, and returning to a book where different people are speaking, it's hard to remember who's who and what just happened to each individual person.

The storyline itself was very intriguing. We find out who the killer is almost right away but you still want to read to find out what is going to happen. I thought the way Storm treats Jarred wasn't very fair and wanted to smack her because of that. Other than that, I hated putting my computer down because I wanted to know what happened next, especially between the 2 of them.

I give this book an Adult rating. Not for sex; there aren't any explicit scenes but there is one where Storm and Jarred are kissing and she's in a towel and the towel falls. It explains somethings in detail there but it doesn't continue much further. This book also contains mature themes and violence. So I recommend you keep it from the kids.

I only put this next part in because I try to write my reviews in such a way that readers can get a feel if they want to read the book, personally I didn't care too much. There are a few editorial issues. I pointed them out to the author. Almost all books have a small grammer or spelling issue here or there but these ones were pretty obvious. If you don't like to see editorial issues wait a little for the author to fix them (this was written 10/12) and then get this book!

Paula Ratcliffe says

This book takes place in Cape Town, we meet Storm who wants a commitment from Trevor her boyfriend. Who is a mysterious character in the beginning. He has plans for Storm that she knows nothing about. When she ends up having a liaison with Jarred while sunning on beach naked. Jarred trying to find the mysterious woman he fell in love with that one day on the beach. In this story we learn alot about witchcraft and Satanism and Cape Town where the book takes place. This book was full of adventure and mystery. As someone is killing women for over a year with only one survivor Elle who is connected to a family or witches and Trevor. Trevor turns out to be the true form of evil and it was such a great read seeing what happened to him. Definitely an author I would read again and again! I loved Dark Moon and it's characters!

My Book Addiction and More MBA says

DARK MOON by Maggie Tideswell is an interesting and usual paranormal/supernatural romance set in Cape Town, Africa. It has everything a supernatural or paranormal romance could possibly want. It has witchcraft, love, the occult, South Africa, dark magic, rape, romance, murder, voodoo, manipulation, good vs evil, darkness vs lightness, and suspense with lots of twists and turns along the way. Follow Storm Fenton, Trevor Heardt and Jarred Walters on an unforgettable journey of dark magic, secrets and love. Fast paced and the most usual but interesting story I have read in a long time. Written with vivid descriptions, engaging characters, and a unique and interesting plot. Received for an honest review from the author.

RATING: 4

HEAT RATING: MILD

REVIEWED BY: AprilR, My Book Addiction and More/My Book Addiction Reviews

Martha Cheves says

Dark Moon – Review by Martha A. Cheves, Author of Stir, Laugh, Repeat; Think With Your Taste Buds; and A Book and A Dish

“Well, my girl, I hope that boyfriend of yours is ready to make an honest woman of you. Congratulations. Everything looks fine so far.” Though he smiled, there was hesitation in his voice. Biting her lip to save her cheek, Storm lost the battle with the tears that had been threatening all day and doubly so after Trevor’s rebuff. Andrew pulled her head down to his shoulder, rocking her from side to side, as he had done many times before. He let her cry, and then, after what seemed like forever, he said, “There, there, it’s not the end of the world. You’re going to make yourself ill. Come on, chin up. Trevor seems a good sort. You’ve been dating him for long enough. Why aren’t you on the pill?” “It makes me ill, and as there was no reason to suffer, I didn’t bother.” Calm washed over Storm. “Uncle Andrew, it isn’t Trevor’s,” she mumbled hoarsely.

Storm Fenton has just had confirmed what she and her best friend Donna had suspected – she’s pregnant. Problem is, she has been dating Trevor for almost a year and he isn’t the father. Actually she didn’t even know the name of the baby’s father. Her pregnancy is the results of a ‘rape’ that wasn’t exactly a ‘rape.’ Maybe it’s best called ‘consented rape.’ But to Storm’s surprise, she will soon meet her mystery man and when he discovers her situation, she can’t seem to shake him. When she finally tells Trevor that she’s pregnant with another man’s child his attitude splits. He assures her that she will never have the baby while assuring her that she belongs to him and he will have her through marriage. His motive as well as his actions come from deep within and he seems sincere when it comes to wanting Storm for himself and does all in his power to keep her away from Jarred, the baby’s father?

Storm is a psychologist who tries to help Elle, an attorney, find a murdering/rapist who has killed 7 women already in a ritual fashion. Elle also turns out to be his 8th victim and the only one that was spared her life. But Elle’s life is not only disrupted by the rape but by the appearance of her birth mother who inform her not only that she is a witch but that the murder is her own son, making him Elle’s brother. The two must band together to destroy him before he kills again and before he performs his final ritual that will give him the powers he desires.

So, who is the killer - is it Trevor or is it Jarred? Or is it someone else entirely? Who is really looking out for

Storm's best – Trevor or Jarred? And which will end up with her in the end – Trevor or Jarred? Dark Moon is one of the most unusual books I've read. It has everything – murder, rape, witchcraft, fear and even love. And it left me with a feeling that there just might be a book 2, I hope.

Ann Fields says

I cracked open my e-reader with great anticipation for this book. The setting in South Africa and the merger between romance and the paranormal held much appeal to me.

I started reading and was hooked by the opening handfasting scene (no, I won't share details; you'll just have to read it). With great joy I kept reading and soon got confused. I had trouble figuring out who the main female character was going to be and which female character would be the featured woman in the handfasting ceremony. It took several chapters for me to finally figure out who was who. But by this time any emotional connection I may have developed with or for the heroine was not going to happen. Unfortunately by the end of the book I still had not developed care or concern for the heroine.

Same thing with the antagonist. I was unable to connect with him. He was flat and underdeveloped and even though I was supposed to hate him (which I did despise his actions and treatment of people), I just could not work up intense feelings one way or another for him. Like the heroine, I found his motivations and actions contrived, inconsistent and confusing.

It's interesting that the characters I most enjoyed were the hero, the best friend, and the hero's mother (although her use of servants riled me, but at least she got a rise out of me). The hero was classic romantic interest with the good looks, a heart-breaking background, and an interesting life. Of all the characters, he was the most developed. The best friend was also well developed. She had strong motivations, conflict and at times I loved her and at other times, hated her. So true of real people, right? And the hero's mother--well, let's just say she was the classic grand dame.

The main storyline had holes in the plotting and timeline and I felt two of the subplots, the paranormal practices and the homicide investigation, were dropped and picked up willy-nilly. But I do feel the overall story was rich in action and detail. It just needed to be orchestrated, woven together better because in the end, it felt like the author had bitten off more material than she could handle in one story.

Some additional aspects I enjoyed were the author's flair for description, her creativity, and bringing the story full circle. Overall, I thought the story okay.

Val Pearson says

Before I begin this review, I must say that being from South Africa myself, I enjoyed the small nuances throughout the book pertaining to South African culture. A word here or phrase there made this a must read book for me. I found this to be a refreshing change from any other author I have read.

Now let's get on to the review shall we? Although I found the story a little bit confusing at first, there does come an "ah ha" moment. The moment when everything comes together to make up a thrilling read of suspense, murder, angst and love. With characters I loved to hate and one I even hated to love, I found Dark Moon to be a full-bodied novel of intrigue and passion.

Never before have I read anything by Maggie Tideswell and now that I have, I have another author to add to my "favorites" list. Even if you are not a fan of paranormal, you will find yourself sitting down with a page turner that is a pulse-pounding read. I strongly recommend Dark Moon.

Annette M Guerriero Nishimoto says

Today's review is on Dark Moon by Maggie Tideswell

I have decided that I'm a big fan of short chapters. It makes it easier to put the book down for a few minutes and pick it up again without feeling guilty. However, I have a three issues.

First of all, the beginning was a bit confusing and I had trouble keeping everyone straight. I would have liked it more if it didn't leave me feeling rushed. Secondly, there were a lot of mistakes throughout the book that should have been corrected during the editing phase. And finally, the ending was just a bit more abrupt for my taste. There was no cliffhanger or happily ever after. But no matter how much these issues annoyed me, I have to say that I really enjoyed it.

Once you get passed the first few chapters the story begins to unfold and you begin to get entranced by the battle between good and evil, and you can't help but to fall in love with the handsome hero.

Storm Fenton seems to have it all. She's beautiful, successful, and has a very hot boyfriend. But things aren't always as they seem, especially when it comes to Trevor Heardt. Unknown to Storm, Trevor is a powerful Witch.

Though Storm and Trevor have been together for a year, there's no passion in the relationship. In fact, Storm is actually a bit confused as to what his feeling for her really are. After all, being together for that long and not getting past first base? Something needs to be done about that so Storm devises a plan to get him to propose to her.

Then, while sunbathing on a secluded beach one day Storm meets Jarred Walters, a breathtakingly handsome Navy Captain. the attraction is instant and Storm experiences a passion she has never felt, not to mention the best mind blowing sex. Though she thinks that she will never see him again, Jarred can't get her out of his head or out of his heart. And when he finds out that she is carrying his child he loves her all the more.

But now Storm is ruined. Trevor needed her pure for the ritual. The ritual that will give him more power, and he'll do anything to get it. Even if it means hurting and killing others.

I'm a sucker for a good love story so I was captivated by the amount of love Jarred had for Storm. How he pursued her relentlessly. And when he cried, I was a gonner.

I hope that there is a second book or a revision to the ending of this one. I need to know if Storm and Jarred

get the baby they want. I need to actually read that they will live the dream.

3.5 of 5 stars

Available at Amazon

Lynda Scott says

Dark Moon

Maggie Tideswell

All Things That Matter Press

2011

Dark Moon, by Maggie Tideswell, takes the reader on a chilling ride from start to finish.

Elle has gone on a solo camping trip and during the middle of a midnight storm, she is raped and nearly killed. Her escape is emotionally charged and terror filled. When she gets home, she's intent on capturing her rapist who she believes is a serial killer who has stalked the area for a while. Unbelievably, she is contacted by a woman, her birth mother Sybil, who tells her she is a witch and her rapist is her brother. Sybil entreats Elle to join with her in her mystical pursuit of the killer.

Storm Fenton is a psychologist who has been dating Trevor Heardt for a year and hopes to 'seduce' him into proposing marriage. But before she does, she goes to a deserted beach to sunbath in the nude. While there, a mystery man appears and makes love to her. She doesn't know his name or what he does and subconsciously refers to him as the love of her life but she still wants that proposal from Trevor. Until she discovers she's pregnant with mystery man's child.

To see the review, go here <http://star-crossedromance.blogspot.c...>

If you like plots that center on the action/adventure, that have a seat-of-your-pants edge of danger and a very good mystery, then I recommend Dark Moon. You'll enjoy it as much as I did.

Nora says

Dark Moon

by

Maggie Tideswell

Wow what a love story! This book had me from the very first word! I have once again fallen in love with a character! You know the commercial 'shop for a diamond or a piece of beautiful jewelry at Jared's'? Well, the 'Jared' in this book is spelled Jarred but he's just as beautiful! If only these men actually existed in real life.

daydreaming But I digress...

Maggie has done a brilliant work keeping the reader on the edge of their seats with the love triangle between Jarred, Trevor and Storm. There is a lot of mystery, magic, passion, frustration, suspense, sadness, loss and of course unconditional, undying love in Dark Moon. Maggie's book almost brought me to tears a few times, and I found myself saying, (out loud of course), " No way! Don't let that happen!" "Don't open the door!" "Oh, just face it you're in love with him. Give him a break! "Don't look him in the eyes!" Oh, and that doesn't compare to the things that were in my mind! I never wanted this book to end!

This is the first work I have read by Maggie, but not the last because after this review, she is sending me her next book to read and review!!! Oh, if Dark Moon is just a sample of her work, I just can't wait. Of course I haven't gotten over having to let Jarred go yet...wow what a hunk of a man!! Enough to give a woman some really good dreams. *wink*

I highly recommend this book and I give it without a hesitation five stars *****

Reviewed by

Nora Chipley Barteau

<http://norachipleybarteau.blogspot.com/>

Rachel V. says

This was a good book. It was a little hard to follow in the beginning because of so many different people to learn and follow. I give the book 4 stars.

The characters in this story were well written. I enjoyed getting to know them. The plot was very interesting and it kept me reading trying to see how it will turn out. The only problem I had was at the very beginning there are a lot of characters to get to know and the story jumps around hitting all of them and their stories. All these little stories tie in together throughout the book including in the end. This is a romance story with mystery and paranormal elements mixed in. Some of the characters are witches most are good but one is evil. The murderer/rapist is not a mystery because we know who it is through most of the story. The mystery is how or will he be brought to justice and will the girl get with the right guy or will she die?

Storm is about to live the hardest few months of her life. I can't describe it any other way. I really felt for her because she did not have any defense against the dark power messing with her head. At the beginning she is completely in love with Trevor and everything seems great. Then she meets Jared while sunbathing naked one day and everything starts to change. Things go from bad to worse once she finds out she is pregnant and tells Trevor. Storm is constantly pulled in several different directions between her friend, Donna and the two men. Storm is a bit headstrong at times and seems to even deny herself what she really wants. At times I did want to shake Storm and tell her to snap out of it already.

Jared was a great character also. He pursues Storm continuously throughout the book. He is also having his own issues as a lady friend keeps trying to win him over. He was hurt by his former wife and didn't think he would ever love again but he really falls for Storm. He goes above and beyond to get her to marry him and any time she needs him he drops everything to come running.

Trevor when we meet him we think he is not very interesting but over time in the story you slowly start to

see how twisted he is and how he has a darkness to him that can't be overlooked. Using his dark powers against Storm makes it hard for her to resist Trevor. He turns out to be a really good or (bad) villain. LOL.

I liked how the author wrapped up the story. Everything was put in its place but completely believable.

All in all I do recommend this book. I would read other books by this author.

Kaitlin says

To start off, I have to rave about the cover a bit. I LOVE the satin black fabric background. It seems to give the book a boost that just says "Read Me". It was definitely what caught my eye to begin with when I came across this book by Maggie Tideswell.

Many characters played into this spell-binding novel. The major premise was based around Storm and her decisions that she had to face involving her friendships, family members and her love life. She had the burden of having to decide between opportunities that would ultimately change the fate of her future – especially when it came to the men in her life. Both Trever and Jarred are set on Storm spending her life with them, but with the men being so completely different from each other her choice between them was very torn around whether to be loyal or follow her heart and feelings - and is love what they really both have in mind for Storm's future?

Possibly my favorite character in the story was Donna – Storm's roommate and best friend. She didn't play as big of a role as some of the other main characters, but I loved how Donna had backbone and was not afraid to stand against evil and hold her ground. She was able to help her friend through some tough decisions that had been clouded by Storm's personal feelings. Having someone to stand for what they believe is always a great character to relate to.

With Dark Moon, the story takes wild turns from beginning to end and had me on my toes more often than not. I struggled a bit in the beginning to wrap my head around each character with the quick jumps between whose point of view we were following, but once I started to get a better idea of who was who with the characters it helped the story to run a little more smoothly.
