



Veiled Target (Veilers, #1)

Robin Bielman

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Never take Fate along on a date. The kiss goodnight could be deadly.

Tracking down Veilers—non humans—is only a sideline for Tess Damon. Vengeance for her fiancé's murder is her reason for living. But with two botched jobs on her record, if she fails to eliminate her next mark, she's dead. She's not afraid to die, but not before she gets even. Too bad fate has a really bad sense of humor.

Hugh Langston, a wolven half shifter, lives to keep both humans and his pack safe. But when rogue humans kidnap his apprentice, his rescue mission is compromised by a hot-as-hell, kick-ass woman who makes him think only one thing: mine.

Tess tries to ignore her feelings, but temptation trips her up. Especially when Hugh figures out he's her next target and forces her into an inconvenient alliance that tests all the laws against their attraction. Now, with the line between good and evil getting blurrier by the minute, it becomes clear Tess's only hope of living to see another day—and finding a murderer—lies with the one man she's supposed to kill.

Warning: Contains one obscenely hot alpha and the woman who wants to love him before she kills him. Look out for a blind date, scorching sex, humor, lies, and untamable attraction.

Veiled Target (Veilers, #1) Details

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From Reader Review Veiled Target (Veilers, #1) for online ebook

Julie says

Veiled Target : A Veiler's Novel Book 1 by Robin Bielman is a 2014 Samhain publication.

What is a “Veiler”? Well, my understanding of it is they are shifters, “Wolfen”. Trey is a Veiler (actually, there is more to his heritage, but I don't want to say too much) and the first man in five years that has Tess feeling “the tingles”. A blind date neither of them were looking forward to answers the oft asked question- Do you believe in fate?

Well, as it happens, the next target assigned to Tess by P.I.E is a Veiler named “Hugh”. Tess is going through some problems with her job and if she messes up one more time she is out, not just fired, but out, as in DEAD. So, just her luck she finds out her blind date is her target.

Hugh has a lot on his shoulders as the leader of the Night Runners and Trey is his missing friend. Tess is a complication he doesn't need right now. Once it's clear that she is on a blind date with her intended target, Tess knows she should take advantage of the situation, after all this is her very last chance, but she just can't seem to make the kill.

Tess is a girl that has known real love and real heartbreak and tragedy. As a result she has had to really toughen up, especially if she ever wanted to avenge her fiance's death. Over time she has learned to kill without emotion or conscience. Nothing could have prepared her for the situation she found herself in with Hugh. No one had ever discovered her cover but this time she is bound to be found out. So what will happen to her then? Well, Tess will have to agree to help Hugh find his fellow Night Runners. But, it's catch 22 for Tess, she can let Hugh live and have her boss eliminate her, or she will have to take a chance on Hugh despite the fact that some lines are blurred, like some pack members are good and others not and Tess doesn't have a choice but to help both the good and the bad if she hopes to get out of this alive.

Tess is in a “can't win” situation and it all comes down to the wire. Hugh, The Veilers, The Wolfen, her lust for vengeance, the lives of those she loves and cares about against her very own. Can she trust Hugh? Can he trust her?

Veiled Target is a steamy paranormal romance with shades of urban fantasy. Ladies, you will really like Hugh and you will feel for the tough position Tess is in. I did feel like the book got off to a slow, slow start. At first, the dialogue seemed forced and the action felt kind of cheesy and over the top. But, by say, chapter seven the kinks had been worked out a little and the story flowed much more smoothly. It didn't take long before I found myself caring about the characters and pulling for them to live through the war they were fighting and make it to the other side in one piece and with a HEA. I have not read a paranormal or Urban Fantasy in a little while, so this was a nice change of pace. Overall this one is a 3.5 rounded to 4.

★Moonrise Books says

Ever since her fiancé was killed five years ago, Tess Damon has been on a mission to find his killer. She's closed herself off, emotionally, and lives for vengeance. Tess is an assassin for a clandestine agency that

tracks down Veilers -- supernatural creatures who live amongst the humans, and are known by only a few. But recently she's been distracted, and now she's botched two jobs. And her boss isn't happy. The next assignments will be defining for Tess... in more ways than one.

Hugh Langston is a wolfen shifter, and a pack leader to a nearly extinct pack in Los Angeles. In addition to his wolfen role, Hugh works in search and rescue, and has a natural drive to be in charge of operations. So, when his second in command goes missing, Hugh is determined to find him. What he doesn't expect is to be working alongside an assassin from the very agency that works to eliminate Veilers. But Tess is different. Isn't she? He knows she's deadly, but somehow he trusts her... and the physical attraction between them is undeniable. Still, Tess remains in the dark as to Hugh's true identity... and Hugh doesn't know that his name is next on her hit list.

Hugh is protective and powerful, and such a sexy badass that I couldn't wait to get to the love scenes. And it was worth the wait! There are some super steamy scenes! Tess is a strong character, and likable, for the most part. I did get annoyed with her indecisiveness, but it was justified in the story. Overall, this is a good start to an exciting, and well written urban fantasy series that I will want to keep up with!

Note: This book was provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Sarah says

I'm a huge fan of **Robin Bielman's** Secret Wishes contemporary romance series but everyone knows I'm a paranormal girl at heart so when I found out she was writing a PNR series I couldn't wait to get my hands on a copy of the first book **Veiled Target**. As you can imagine I had high hopes for this story but unfortunately I didn't love it as much as I expected to. There were a lot of things about the book that irritated me but it's really hard to explain why without giving some (fairly mild) spoilers so consider that a warning before you continue reading this review.

My biggest issue was with the main character Tess, she works as an Eliminator which basically means she's a human who is trained to hunt and kill Veilers (supernatural creatures) who cross the line and start to harm others. We are constantly told how kick-ass she is and that she is an expert at fighting but we never, ever see it in action. If you were to print a picture of someone next to the words "Too Stupid to Live" in the encyclopaedia it would have to be a portrait of Tess. She gets herself into one ridiculous situation after the other and I'm sure she only survives until the end of the book on pure luck and because of the sheer stupidity of her enemies. I can't for the life of me figure out how she has survived years as an Eliminator because she should have died numerous times in just this story and there were actually times I was wishing that would happen. Basically Tess is all talk and no action, she'll tell you constantly how much she loves danger and is an adrenaline junkie but when you look at the evidence she has no skill whatsoever.

I could go into a lot more detail about why I think Tess is a moron but I don't want to stray too far into spoiler territory so I'll let you discover that for yourselves if you decide to read the book. Another issue I had was with how easy it was to guess who the baddies were, it was pretty obvious from very early on in the story and there wasn't a single red herring to point me in a different direction. When it came to the big reveal I found myself rolling my eyes at everything that happened and it felt like a fairly formulaic ending to the story.

I don't want to say the story is all bad though because there were things I liked about it. **Robin Bielman** has added a few interesting twists in her take on shapeshifters and vampires, she has created an interesting world and the smexy scenes between Tess and Hugh were undeniably hot. As I'm such a fan of her other books I'm definitely tempted to put this down to first book in a series glitches and give the next book a try to see if I like it more. I'm hopeful that since my biggest dislike was Tess reading a new story with a different heroine might be more enjoyable.

This spoiler tag contains the notes I made while I was reading this book, these are more for my reference than anything so don't look unless you really don't mind giving yourself spoilers for the story!

(view spoiler)

Samanthe Beck says

Veiled Target Hits the Bullseye

I love contemporary romance, and I'm a big fan of Robin Bielman's Bliss books and Indulgence novellas, but I'll be honest...I haven't read a paranormal romance since the Twilight series, (when my book club picked it). While I knew I'd enjoy Bielman's voice and style, I wasn't sure the paranormal storyline was for me.

I could not have been more wrong! This book is action from page one. Bielman immediately sucks you into demon-slayer Tess Damon's world, and then pulls you into shifter and pack-leader Hugh Langston's opposing, and equally complicated life.

Pull back all the paranormal aspects, however, and you have a hot, fast-paced, enemies-to-lovers story, with the added bonus of knowing anything could happen—literally. It kept me on the edge of my seat, and I could honestly say I was equally invested in these characters as I have been in any contemporary romance I've read. The paranormal aspects added a thrill to the reading, because it raised the stakes (no pun intended), on the conflict between Tess and Hugh, but didn't detract from the universal nature of the themes of tolerance, trust, and love.

I loved the characters, the story...everything...and I know you will too.

Claire Robinson says

3 - "So I decided to act without thinking." Stars.

Veiled Target is my first book by Robin Bielman, and although I didn't fully get onboard with one of the main characters in the book, for the most part I enjoyed it. The writing style and the storyline are easy to engage in, and everything that occurs is really well plotted out and described.

In a matter of hours she'd gotten under his skin.

For me it was a matter of chapters, I really didn't like Tess, as a highly experienced Eliminator (legal Assassin if you will), you would expect her to have a pretty large sense of self preservation, as well as a huge amount of common sense, and when after only spending a matter of minutes in a unknown man's company, on a blind-date no less, after then effectively being given the brush off, you decide to follow him and his shifty friend, down a dark alleyway in a less than safe area of the city all sorts of bells start going off...

She came over as overly confident, brash and careless, her actions; again I am assuming this is a highly intelligent woman here, bordered on idiotic on several occasions. I am all for women's lib, and standing toe to shoulder on the battle lines with our penis carrying counterparts, but when you end up making a situation 100 times worse because you couldn't stay out of the way after being asked and given legitimate reasoning for it then you are just being reckless and stupid.

I liked Hugh, he was sexy, snarky and gave as good as he got when dealing with Tess and her total disinterest in doing anything other than what she wanted to do. My one bug bear with him, and to a certain extent Tess was the fact that a whole lot of thinking about doing it takes up most of the first half of the book, with regards to sexy-times and you as a reader get to the point where you want to just shout 'do it already'!

He wanted to strip her. Lick her between the legs until she came on his tongue. Touch her until she came on his fingers. Move his cock inside her until she came screaming his name.

All well and good but I would have liked to have read more of them actually doing those things.

Beyond my above issues, I did enjoy the story, Robin has certainly put a world together where there is potential for future adventures for other characters to have, and I would certainly happily read more work by her... I am not sure whether it would be this series, as if I am honest there isn't really one character that stood out enough for me to want to have any follow-up with them, but as the old adage goes *Never Say Never!*

"It's no longer about Veiler or human. It's about good versus evil."

ARC generously provided by the author in exchange for the above honest review.

Dianne says

Living a life filled with hate and revenge, Tess is a mercenary who snuffs out the lives of "veilers," the non-human beings that inhabit the earth alongside humans. Lately she is questioning if she is losing her edge,

then along comes her new assignment, Hugh, a wolfen, a warrior, a protector of his pack and Tess is once again, questioning her ability to carry out her duty. As they battle wills on all fronts, a unique bond is formed, but how can they trust in each other when they both know Hugh is Tess's current target? Can they work together like a team to save one of Hugh's packmates from evil kidnappers?

Robin Bielman has written with a sexy and edgy flare that held me captive until the very end. Both of her main characters are strong individuals, with Tess being extremely forthright and stubborn, both in her "profession" and personal life as she fights her attraction to her target. Hugh is definitely total alpha, but he leads with a caring hand for his pack and cares enough about the woman Tess keeps hidden that he uses his own brand of "magic" to show her there is more to life than revenge. Each scene in her world played clearly on my mental movie theater as it raced past me on my journey through this adventurous read. Great pacing, hot, and I mean HOT sensual steam, and fresh characters, Keep an iced drink handy to cool you down!

I received an ARC edition of **Veiled Target** for the author in exchange for my honest review.

Series: Veilers - Book 1

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Kim Reads (Read Your Writes Book Reviews) says

Reviewed for Read Your Writes Book Reviews

by Kim

Robin Bielman's first step into the paranormal romance writing world is a total success. *Veiled Target* brings you an Alpha wolfen half shifter and a kick-ass assassin, who can't seem to not stop thinking about each other.

Hugh Langston is the pack leader of the Night Runners. He doesn't do love or believe in love since his older brother died of a broken heart. Hugh's life consists of making sure his pack is safe and using his aviation business to help rescue missing humans who get trapped or lost in wilderness environments.

Tess Damon has lived a really hard life but she's a survivor. Tess is a private investigator who specializes in eliminations. For Tess, her world came to an end five years ago when a wolfen killed her fiancé. Now, the only meaning her life has is tracking down and killing the wolfen who destroyed her world.

Tess's last two assignments ended in failure. Her new assignment is to take out Hugh Langston and failure could mean the end of her life. First, she has to get a forced upon blind date out of the way. Hugh's number two is missing and all he can do is show up for the blind date Trey is supposed to have, and hope it will lead to clues as to where he is. With Hugh pretending to be Trey, he meets up with Tess and sparks fly.

The two eventually figure out who they truly are and agree to work together to find Trey and the wolfen Tess has been searching for. Once those two are found, they agree to revisit Hugh's extinction. But things aren't so simple. Loyalties and beliefs shouldn't be questioned, but they are. And Hugh and Tess shouldn't be falling in love with each other and revealing their biggest secrets and fears, but they are.

Veiled Target is a hot read about discovery, acceptance, and finding love. Mixed with suspense elements, it's a page turner that you aren't going to want to put down.

Source: Author

Caryn Caldwell says

Tess Damon is an assassin whose job it is to kill Veilers -- or non-humans -- who wish people harm. But she has just botched two jobs, and she only has one more chance to prove herself before she is eliminated, too. Her new target: Hugh Langston, leader of a local Wolfen pack. Only problem? Hugh might not be quite as evil as his dossier makes him out to be. Which means he may not deserve to die. In order to find out, Tess must investigate, which requires sticking close to the sexy shape-shifter.

Hugh will do anything to keep his pack safe, even if it means striking a bargain with the gorgeous -- and fearless -- Tess. But Tess isn't the only threat to Hugh's pack or his life. Because someone has kidnapped his second-in-command, and it's up to Hugh to rescue him -- with a little help from the capable Tess, of course.

From the start, this book was filled with action and intrigue, pausing only long enough for some serious sparks between Tess and Hugh. The mystery of who had it in for Hugh kept me guessing all the way through to the very satisfying end. I can't wait to pick up the next in the series.

Shari says

Robin Bielman has out done herself with her new genre of paranormal. I have read everything of hers and not a big fan of paranormal, but all I can say is I really loved this book. Plenty of action, and hot steamy sex between Tess and Hugh. I hard time putting this book down, always wanted to know what came next. I received this book from the author as a gift for an honest review.

Nicola says

Be it sweet romance, slightly sexier romance or sexy paranormal romance, Robin Bielman nails it every single time.

Tess Damon is an eliminator; a human hired by a government organisation to remove Veilers, various species of immortal. Her plight is personal; it was a Veiler, specifically a Wolfen shifter, responsible for the death of her fiancé and she's out for revenge. When she meets Hugh Langston, their attraction is instant, but he is half shifter half mortal. She may have a job to do, but they can't deny their feelings for one another and Tess soon finds herself torn between falling for the man or finishing him off.

This story grabbed me from the off and is filled with suspense, action, fun, emotion and passion. Hugh oozes sexy on every level; protective, strong, tender and witty, he is fighting to keep his pack and the humans safe. Tess is kick-ass; feisty, stubborn and fearless yet sweet and kind. I loved their dynamic; with a wonderful chemistry their banter is filled with humour yet their plight and growing feelings bring the touching elements. And it goes without saying it is sexy, with seductive, tantalising and satisfying build-up.

"I'm the only one who gets to kiss that sexy mouth of yours....The only one who gets to taste between your legs. And I'm the only one who gets to bury himself inside you...and make you come."

With a twist that I never saw coming, *Veiled Target* is quite simply a superb edgy introduction to the series that has left me eager for more. If you're a lover of PN romance then this won't disappoint, and if you're not, dip your toes and try it, you'll be converted.

I received a copy of this courtesy of the author for an honest & unbiased opinion. It was my absolute pleasure to review this.

Elena says

early copy for an honest review.

If you have read before any Robin's books, expect something different. This book is sexier, edgier and more adventurous. It's like an alter ego wrote it and though it is unexpected, I still loved it.

Tess is a woman who seeks revenge, she kills veilers-non humans- for living and it is all she knows. She is a killer, bossy and she wants control all the time. Until she meets her next target, Hugh. Hugh is a shifter, a wolfen, a man protective of his pack and those he cares about. He is intelligent, strong and sexy. Mostly, he makes Tess question her life and gets to show her that there are more than hate and revenge.

Their relationship is not sweet, it is a game between wills and the stronger wins. Tess is a stubborn woman and sometimes I wanted to push her in Hugh's way, because no woman could have resisted this man! Although, her bossiness sometimes irked me, I understand her character because she is hurt and she has chosen a difficult life as an assassin. Hugh on the other hand is what I expected of an alpha hero. He has a fierce heart and a body to worship! I liked that he confronts Tess head on, so he can protect her. About the erotic scenes, nothing is behind closed doors and I have to say I really liked this side of Robin's writing. The sex scenes are really hot!

This is a book full of twists, mystery and sexiness. Robin presents us perfectly this new side of shifters and their killers. Prepare yourselves for new experiences in this fantastic world!

Lori says

Love totally kick-a\$\$ characters. And Robin made both Hugh and Tess this way. They were fierce, loyal, strong, sarcastic and funny. This story was action packed, smoking hot and several very cute parts. I loved several life lessons in this book: never judge a book by its cover, the world is not always black and white, follow your heart.

I did receive this book in exchange for an honest review. It is worth buying too. I am hoping for a book for Francesca, Kensie and Trey too!

Carmel (Rabid Reads) says

Reviewed by: Rabid Reads

When starting a new book, I can usually tell pretty early on whether I'm going to like it or not, and after reading the opening scene of *VEILED TARGET*, I knew that Robin Bielman's brand of action was for me. Chapter one begins with Tess in a face-off against a vampire on an airplane, and ends with her kicking butt and sky diving to safety—I mean, talk about an intro! The main heroine is an adrenaline junkie, and the alpha male is hotter than the fires of Hades, so right off the bat you have all the makings of an excellent Paranormal series. The only thing that slowed this story down was the relationship building, but other than that this novel is a thrill seekers' dream.

The plot weaves a gripping tale of multi-layered double crosses which makes each character's motivations difficult to pinpoint. Tess and Hugh both have their own agenda, but so do the supporting sidekicks who really helped transform this book into a complicated game of 'he said, she said.' And, just when you think that you've got it all figured out, the ending comes out of nowhere and catches you completely by surprise. I love a good guessing game, and *VEILED TARGET* delivered a whopper on that front. As for the paranormal mythology, it was straight forward and easy enough to grasp. I wish the author would have expanded a bit more on the different qualities of her various supes, and the reasons behind the Night Runners vs. Wolf Seekers war, but I think I got the gist of it.

My first impression of Tess was a good one, and sparks were definitely flying during her initial meeting with Hugh, but after that her personality began to take-on a stalker-ish quality that had me second guessing my original opinion. Langston had to bail on their date early after getting a lead on his kidnapped apprentice's location, and Tess flat out refused to say goodbye. She offers to help and Hugh declines (multiple times), but instead of calling it a night she tails him. The girl's got mad skills as an Eliminator, I'm not disputing that, and the events that ensue resulted in an off the wall first date, BUT she does come off as kind of batty in the earlier chapters.

Hugh was everything that I've come to expect from an alpha male; a loyal protector of his pack, unwaveringly brave, and as smexy as they come. I liked that no matter how hard Tess tried to find the evil in him to justify her kill orders; he constantly proved her wrong without even trying thanks to his inherent goodness. I was also happy that Langston didn't try to coddle Damon and instead almost immediately accepted her as his equal; I loved their dialogue exchanges, and the bedroom scenes were extra steamy. Tess even saves his furry hide with a hot and heavy make-out session after an unfortunate encounter with a Banoth. She counteracts the beast's toxic saliva with her own—now that must have been one heck of a first

kiss!

VEILED TARGET is stunning in all of the right places; Robin Bielman's writing is new to me, but not for long because I'm adding her to my 'authors to stalk' list!

Maria Rose says

This paranormal sexy romance is the story of Hugh and Tess. When wolfen half shifter Hugh, leader of the Night Runners, finds his apprentice Trey kidnapped, his search leads him to impersonate Trey on a blind date in hopes that the woman in question might have some answers. But when he meets Tess, her innocence in Trey's disappearance is clear - and so his instant attraction to her. Keeping his hands off her is only half the battle though, as Tess turns out to be more than he bargained for and is determined to help him in his quest. But Tess has her own agenda in helping Hugh. Will the secrets they hide from each other risk their chance at a happy ending?

What a fun story this was to read! I confess that I am new to the world of paranormal romances (though I've always read fantasy books), but if all the books in this genre are like this one, I'm going to be a devoted fan. The author does an excellent job of hooking the reader with action packed sequences right from the start and combining just enough reality with world building to make the story seem plausible. Tess has been on her own since childhood and as such is a strong and independent woman, more than capable of taking care of herself. She's got beauty and brains, physical strength and a no-nonsense attitude. Hugh is equally strong and dominant, leader of his pack, used to being in charge. When he meets Tess he is struck by her and all facets of her character. There is a strong sexual attraction between them from their first meeting, and when they eventually give into this attraction (both of them fighting it all the way), the resulting love scenes are powerfully erotic and emotionally satisfying. As the plot hurtles towards it's eventual conclusion these two strong characters face a battle of wills with each other and with themselves to figure out what lies in their future.

Overall, I found this to be an action packed, steamy, and interesting story. I hope this is just the first of a series as I am definitely hooked! 5 stars.

Rachel says

I will start by saying I loved this book. Robin Bielman has jumped feet first into a new genre and she does so with a great story.

I was hooked from the first page and loved every minute of it. You will fall head over heels for Hugh and Tess. I fully admit to having developed a bit of a girl crush on her. Oh and Hugh.....swoon worthy.

I will post a fuller review closer to the release date, but rest assured dear reader. This is classic Robin Bielman writing.

Yes it's a paranormal story, but if you enjoy Robin's writing, then you will love this. I can't wait for more.

