



Turn to Darkness

Jaime Rush

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The next installment in the Offspring series.

Shea is used to taking care of herself. She has special powers, and she knows how to use them. She's pushed away the ugliness of her past, just like she pushed away Greer, the only man who had ever reached beyond her defenses.

All Greer wants is to love Shea, though that comes at a high price for him: as a shapeshifter, once he takes her as his mate, he'll never be able to let go. So maybe it's for the best that she's made it clear she is not interested in anything romantic.

But when Shea's traumatic past combines with a new danger, nothing will stop Greer from protecting the woman he loves, even if it means losing any chance he has of a future with her.

Turn to Darkness Details

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From Reader Review Turn to Darkness for online ebook

Serena says

Good novella I read this out of order and it didn't hurt the story to much I still enjoyed it. Some how I missed its release. As with most novella's I wish it had been longer :)

Pure Textuality says

This is another one. I made a slight mistake. I read this book not knowing that it was part of an existing series. However, it was a pretty decent story that stood on its own quite well.

Turn to Darkness is a really short one so I don't want to get into too much detail about the book because it would be really easy to give away plot line.

You are immediately thrown in with this group of characters. One you'll love, one will creep you out on a major league level and another....well, you wont know how to feel about her. At all. By the end of this short novella, I STILL didn't know how I felt about Shea and I am pretty sure she's supposed to be the one you identify with and bond with. I know for me, this did not happen.

Then you're introduced to this whole other lot of characters that pose a threat to lot A because of what they are. They're.....ummmm.....interesting to say the least.

Overall, I am giving Turn to Darkness a solid 3 stars. It kept my interest piqued all the way through, even if I did feel a bit like I still wasn't 100% clear on what was happening. It piqued my interest enough that I am going to take a whack at the series.

Jo says

Originally reviewed for and posted at Vampire Book Club

This is a combined review of The Darkness Within (Offspring #5.5) & Turn to Darkness (Offspring #5.6), novellas in the Offspring series.

Rating (out of 5): a combined 4 stars

You could read *The Darkness Within* and *Turn to Darkness* as stand alones, as each have an individual plot and separate romantic storyline. However, there is an overlapping story arc making them feel more like two halves of one story and I felt I got much more depth and understanding by reading them both together.

The premise for the world and mythology created is unlike any I've come across before. Part sci-fi, part shifter tale, it centers on the idea of the offspring of a race beings from an alternate dimension. Both novellas branch for the same starting point, the news of a man being mauled to death. When the leader of this race learns of the attack, he knows the truth: This isn't the work of an animal but one possessing Darkness.

Convinced it's an offspring, he dispatches those who sired them with simple orders to kill the offspring and guard the race's existence.

The Darkness Within tells the story of Del and Tucker, two of these offspring. Del also knows the truth about the mauling; it's exactly the same way her father was killed. When the man responsible returns and kidnaps her mother, she turns to the Tucker for help.

With a backstory full of baggage, the romance between these two is filled with emotional tension. Tucker is a great mixture of pissed-off bad boy and natural-born alpha. Still deeply hurt over being kicked out of the only home he's ever known by Del's mother, he doesn't make it easy for Del to ask for help.

All offspring have some form of power (psychometry, telekinesis, etc.), but ones like Tucker have Darkness as well, giving them the ability to shape shift. I loved this fresh take on the shape shifting idea, those with Darkness don't actually become the animal, it's more like they make that form out of energy.

Even though there are some dense paragraphs explaining the world building behind the offspring and their sires, it was so interesting I never felt it was slowing the pace down. The Sires worked as great bad guys, ruthless and determined, their family connection with Tucker, Del and the rest of the offspring introduced (the Desert Rats or D'rats) only served to heighten the conflict, leading to a great climax.

Turn to Darkness takes off immediately after *The Darkness Within*, but features another pairing: Shea and Greer, two offspring in Tucker's pack. It pulls focus back to the starting point, the man mauled to death. It is quickly revealed this is the same man who raped Shea six years ago. While all of the D'Rats are being hunted by Sires, it soon becomes clear that one of their own is responsible for the murder, threatening the safety and stability of all.

With the heavy lifting in the world building already laid out, it allows the plot and characters to really take center stage in this installment. There is a fantastic tension between Shea and Greer. They both clearly have strong feelings for each other, but her past still haunts her. Greer is one sexy hero, caring and protective. Plus he's a firefighter who can turn into a panther. Sign me up for two please. Shea is tough but very closed off, determined to hide her femininity. I loved watching Greer slowly gain her trust, helping her to heal some of her scars.

The plot has a huge number of twists and turns for such a short novella. The tension for both the outside and inside threats built, with plenty of shape-shifting fight scenes. *Turn to Darkness* just beat its predecessor when it came to the action, ending in a fantastic showdown.

Coming in at just over 220 pages combined, it's amazing how much has been packed into *The Darkness Within* and *Turn to Darkness*. Filled with a new take on sexy shifters, great romance and rich plots, these novellas are a great introduction to the Offspring series, without spoiling anything from the previous installments. They definitely piqued my interest enough to put the first full-length novel, *A Perfect Darkness*, firmly on my to-be-read pile.

Sexual content: Sex, references to rape

Billie says

I love this series, one of my top 5!

Amy says

Shea Baker is the daughter of a man from another dimension, Surfacia, who was among a group who had infiltrated the human population decades earlier. Some had fallen prey to their base desires and unwittingly sired children. These children carry the Darkness within them. The Darkness gives them special powers and abilities. Shea is one of those sired children.

Greer, another offspring, is a friend and self-appointed protector to Shea especially after he learns her dark secret. A tormenting secret that she keeps buried deep and fears every moment until one day when the man behind the secret is murdered. The problem now is that all of the Darkness offspring are in danger especially Shea and Greer. Worse is that the danger may be closer than either of them think.

This fast-paced paranormal romance novella is an equally fast read. With *TURN TO DARKNESS*, Jaime Rush continues her creative exploits of the Offspring and their battle with the Darkness within and the dangers that constantly surround them. In *TURN TO DARKNESS*, the real danger comes from one of their own, Darius. He wants Shea for himself and will do whatever it takes to have her for his own, including killing Greer.

TURN TO DARKNESS by Jaime Rush is action-packed, tension-filled, emotional, and steamy sexy as Greer wins Shea's trust and her heart. There are moments when your breath catches in your throat with fear that the worst has happened but then when good finally overcomes evil, you'll be wanting to cheer. Jaime Rush continues her wonderful Offspring series with this awesome novella that fills in some blanks and pulls things together.

*eARC provided by publisher in an exchange for an honest and unscripted review.

Rhonda says

This is the first book I have read of this series. I really need to go back and start at the beginning so I can get a better understanding of this world, with that said, this story is very enthralling. It drew me in from the beginning. Shea has had a rough time of it coming up. She was raped and is now being stalked. Then one of the guys who raped her is found dead, mauled and torn apart. This sets up a series of events that lead to a lot of action.

Greer wants to love so badly but is scared to get too close. Then he walks in on Shea in the bathroom naked, and the girl that was just one of the guys, is it. He can't live without her and no one else can take her place. He would die to protect her (and almost does). I can't wait to read the next book in this series to see where this pair goes and find out who's next.

Elishia says

3.5

Mel says

Jamie Rush packed *Turn to Darkness* (*Offspring* #6.5) with lots of action, emotion, and suspense. This is a great continuation/conclusion to the D'Rats storyline from the novella *The Darkness Within*. I found myself very invested in both Shae and Greer as well as their story. I give *Turn to Darkness* 4.5 stars.

Dani C. (Paulette's Papers) says

This short novella was a surprising read for me. I have never read anything by Ms. Rush before and this particular story is #4.5 in the series. So I was happy to find that I enjoyed it! In fact I plan on now going back and reading the rest of the series.

Turn to Darkness is a perfectly written novella. It has everything you need to wet your reading appetite for more.

Jen Davis says

This novella in the *Offspring* series serves as a companion piece to *The Darkness Within*. It features the same band of characters and picks up shortly after that story left off.

Shea has recently moved out of the house she shared with a makeshift family of other *Offspring*, nicknamed D'Rats. She was starting to have feelings for Greer (one of the men there) but she couldn't deal with the mutual attraction because of a sexual assault in her past. Now, Darius, another one of the D'Rats, is seeking her out in her new home. He wants a relationship with her, and is oblivious to the fact that she is not interested.

It turns out one of the men who raped Shea has been killed and her connection to him makes her a person of interest in the case. It also alerts her father and the others of his kind to her existence. The otherworldly beings are trying to kill off their *Offspring* and now she is in danger.

In the meantime, Greer wants to protect Shea, both from Darius's unwanted advances and from the threat to her life. He also wants to help her heal from her rape. The story follows their tentative relationship as both Darius and Shea's father cause trouble.

I liked the story. Greer is sexy and patient and quite wonderful with Shea. Darius makes a suitable creepy villain. And I liked that Shea's dad wasn't all bad. The love story was tender and the sex was pretty good. I thought Shea's acceptance of physical love was a little abrupt, but otherwise I enjoyed the romance.

I also like how simplified the concepts of *Darkness* and *Offspring* are presented here. Sometimes, the world-

building is a little confusing in this series. But in this story, I thought it worked well.

I hope we see the D'Rats again in the future.

Rating: B

**ARC Provided by Avon*

Lisarenee says

Twenty three years ago beings from another dimension, Surfacia, walked among us. They infiltrated the city of Las Vegas and were fruitful and multiplied. Now, years later, after a murder that held signs of being committed by one of their own, they're back in an attempt to clean up the mess that was left behind. They want to ensure that what happened in Vegas stays in Vegas and never gets out. This is one secret they want to make sure is dead and buried before they leave again. They're looking for their offspring and they'll leave no survivors.

Six years ago Shea Baker had a life altering experience of the bad variety which left her only a sliver of the person she'd once been. She'd been raped and no one seemed to care or believe her, not even her mom. She'd left home and was living on the streets when Tucker found her and took her in. That's when she first found out she wasn't fully human. She was something more. Her father had come from another dimension and she and others like her were the offspring of those beings who had crossed dimensions. That is how she'd inherited her ability to move objects with her mind. Shea wasn't the only one of their kind that Tuck had found, there were several others who had all ended up living together.

Now, at age twenty two, she's turned her life around and owns a successful landscaping company. She's moved out and is attempting to stand on her own two feet and to get away from two of the men who were both vying for her attention. One she holds a mutual attraction for, while the other she feels nothing but friendship toward. Additionally a third, unknown man, is stalking her. When her stalker turns up dead, the police find a disturbing letter addressed to her which leads them to her door. The past is about to come back to haunt her in more ways than one. Luckily for her, history won't be repeating itself. But her stalker's murder will set off a series of events that will once again change her life leaving Shea and those like her fighting for their lives.

This was a great example of how a novella should be written. Usually I'm disappointed when I read novellas because the end seems rushed. Well, leave it to an author whose last name is Rush to not rush the ending. How ironic. *giggle* This one grabbed my attention from the first page and held it. There's plenty of action, drama and romance. It's definitely a novella worth buying.

Shea Baker is wary of men. She dresses modestly in baggy shirts, baggy pants, and baseball caps in an attempt to stay under the male radar. Unfortunately, an accidental encounter with one of her former house mates made her go from a blip on his radar to the front and center of it. In Turn to Darkness, she'll be forced to come to grips with her past and the feelings she's experiencing for Greer. Additionally, she and her friends will end up on the radar of those from the other dimension. They don't want the population to know they

exists, so they've sent a team to seek and destroy any and all of their offspring, hence the series name of Offspring.

Greer was a fun character. He's also one of the offspring of the men who came from Surfacia. He holds Darkness and decided long ago not let himself get emotionally attached to a woman because of it. He's sees Shea as someone whom he wouldn't have to hide his origins from and could build a lasting relationship with. I enjoyed watching him try to convince her to take a chance on him. I really loved the way he handled her when he found out what had happened to her in the past.

Why is the book entitled Turn to Darkness? Well, Darkness is a power, somewhat similar to, yet different from dark magic that some of those from Surfacia and their descendants can tap into. It allows individuals who possess it to be able to morph into black beasts of their choosing. They also can move around in a dark mist form not unlike a genie. If one is not careful, it can control the individual using it. Hence, I believe that is where the books name comes from. One of those who possess Darkness, will 'turn' to it.

Overall I gave this one **5 out of 5 roses**. I've been wanting to try one of Jaime's books for a while and this was a great introduction to her Offspring series. I definitely will be reading more of her books. Ms. Rush created a fun and unique world for her characters. I'm interesting in finding out more about the workings of Darkness and the people of Surfacia. I look forward to finding out how Tucker came to know about his other dimension DNA, and how a group of individuals who possess that DNA but knew nothing of their fathers banded together. On the Lisarenee Romance Rating Scale, this one gets a **STEAM**--too hot for a fan, but you still have a handle on things. You should use extreme caution when reading a book with this rating in public. People may inquire as to why you looked flustered and flushed.

AnnaBanana says

WOW! I loved this book! It's that simple and if I could just leave it at that, I would! It's packed full of action, mystery and some smokin' HOT lovin'! I'm more than impressed with this novella and I hope beyond hope that Jaime will give us at least one more...because well, there is at least one more character who is so lonely. ;) *Hint Hint*

I've followed the Offspring series since the very first book and I've invested a lot of time into reading them all so I'm always super excited when I get a new story. This one is kind of an extension of the last Novella in the series, The Darkness Within, and I've been dying to read this one ever since I finished the other one. That last one featured Del and Tucker and this one features Tucker's brother Greer and Shea, who are both part of the D'Rats group. I liked The Darkness Within, but I liked this one SO much better. Why, because Greer is an amazing hero, sweet, charming, totally sexy and more than a little alpha and Shea is quite the woman, she can really kick some ass! Together, they make the perfect couple!

I loved the dynamics between the two main characters. Greer with his darkness made things a little tricky because of what comes with that darkness but he still manages to get past it and go after the woman he wants, whether she wants him to or not. And Shea, goodness the poor girl went through hell and back so it's no wonder that Greer has to fight so hard to get her to come around. But when she does, it's the sweetest and sexiest coming together I've read in quite some time.

It was really great to get a little update on Tucker and Del too and the other D'Rats. I was a little upset with the twist thrown in, you'll have to read it to find out, but I got over it. It was very sad though to find out what

happens but a necessary twist for the book to work so it all evens out in the end.

Overall this book is a great read and I would definitely recommend it to all Offspring fans, as well as lovers of Paranormal Romance too, but you should know when starting this one, you should at least read the novella that came before it so you don't get lost and so you don't miss that fantastic story. I give this book 5 Moons and I'm impatiently waiting to see if we will get another story from this series. I truly hope so because it really is a great series! Now go pre-order and fall in love with the Offspring!

Darcy says

This one was interesting as it shows the new group fracturing. Darius freaked me out, his attitude was just wrong in so many ways. I wonder if his physical situation caused part of the problem. By becoming he can be fully functionally and that has to be a huge lure, but becoming too much is dangerous.

I hated learning about Shea's past and hated even more that it seemed like the past was coming after her again. Greer's reaction to learning about her past was great, he let Shea know it didn't matter, what mattered what was happening now.

The action at the end had me holding my breath. I really hoped that things wouldn't go the way they did, I hoped that the friendship would win out. I do wish that we would have more reactions of the rest of the group. It will be interesting to see what happens with them all now.

Jena Gregoire says

This is another one. I made a slight mistake. I read this book not knowing that it was part of an existing series. However, it was a pretty decent story that stood on its own quite well.

Turn to Darkness is a really short one so I don't want to get into too much detail about the book because it would be really easy to give away plot line.

You are immediately thrown in with this group of characters. One you'll love, one will creep you out on a major league level and another....well, you won't know how to feel about her. At all. By the end of this short novella, I STILL didn't know how I felt about Shea and I am pretty sure she's supposed to be the one you identify with and bond with. I know for me, this did not happen.

Then you're introduced to this whole other lot of characters that pose a threat to lot A because of what they are. They're.....ummmm.....interesting to say the least.

Overall, I am giving Turn to Darkness a solid 3 stars. It kept my interest piqued all the way through, even if I did feel a bit like I still wasn't 100% clear on what was happening. It piqued my interest enough that I am going to take a whack at the series.

Debra Taylor says

Turn to Darkness is an action-packed thrill ride! The story features strong characters that demand the readers attention. Greer was the ultimate hero. I think I fell just a little in love. Shea was a bad-ass heroine. Despite her tragic past....that girl knew how to take care of herself. Together they were an awesome couple. I was actually biting my nails as they fought those nasty bad guys. The suspense really had me hooked. It ought a come with a warning label that reads : This short novella packs a huge punch! I loved it!

I received this ARC courtesy of Edelweiss & Avon Publishing.
