



## Hunger Awakened

*Dee Carney*

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## **Hunger Awakened** Dee Carney

*There's something inside of him, some dormant part that's been awakened. And now it wants to be set free...*

Something's wrong with Sebastian Kent. Already considered an outsider in the vampire community as a half-vampire, half-something else, he'll do everything in his power to hide his weakness. But when sickness strikes, he has no choice but to turn to a human for help—a woman whose touch provides his only relief.

Alice Bowman is hiding her own illness, one that has left her homeless. When she comes to Bast's aid, she doesn't expect to be thrust into the world of vampires. But he offers her refuge and a job researching his family history in the hope of finding a clue to his mysterious affliction. She can't resist his offer of protection - and the chance to spend more time with the man who arouses her every desire.

But as Bast and Alice's hunger for each other grows, so does the power of Bast's unexplained half. And soon his unknown past and her uncertain future threaten to keep them apart forever....

## **Hunger Awakened Details**

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Author : Dee Carney

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## **From Reader Review Hunger Awakened for online ebook**

### **Daisy Sloan says**

The second book in the series is Hunger Awakened. This one is just as hot and intense as the first one. Sebastian is already a vampire. He has been for the past 400 years. Well....not a full vampire. He's half vampire and half something else. Only Sebastian doesn't know what that something else is.

Vampires don't get sick, but Sebastian is. When Alice, a full human, shows him some compassion and helps him, he decides to keep her. He needs her and she needs him. She's down on her luck and her life expectancy is running low.

Sebastian finally finds out what else he is and he's terrified. Doesn't know how to handle it. Alice finally finds out how little life she has left. Will they get it worked out? Will they get to be together or is it too late for them?

Several answers are forthcoming in this next installment of the series. But even with those answers we still have questions. There's still trouble brewing. War is coming. But war between whom? And through it all...who will protect the humans?

You probably don't HAVE to read these two in order, but I definitely recommend it. Some things are explained in the first one that are not explained in the second one. That's not a problem if you've read the first one already. Also, if you read the second one first, you'll know the answers to some questions raised in the first one, thus getting a spoiler.

I'm eagerly waiting on the third one in this series. I can't wait to read it!

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I received a copy of this book from the publisher via NetGalley.

### **Stephanie Collins says**

I have to start with a real quick note that the author must know I have a weakness for the supernatural creature she uses as the other half of her yummy hybrid vampire. Not that she knows me or anything like that but I do have a weakness for the other half that makes up Sebastian.

Alice is down on her luck when she runs in to a strange man that appears to not only be sick but might be bleeding. She's drawn to him due to her strong sense of decency and humanity but she ends up with something better than she could have ever imagined. She's got a ton of things that weigh her down but even with nothing in her name worth anything this massive sense of decency and caring makes her a very strong likable character. She's rightly afraid of Sebastian in some respects but doesn't run from him and instead stands up to him and ultimately for him when things come to a head. I adored her willingness to run with things and yet show the presence of mind to wonder "Why me?" and "Am I crazy?"

Sebastian has always been odd. As a hybrid he hasn't been treated with the true amount of respect he deserves. He has done everything in his power to help the vampires and the newly minted Council but also has been trying to find out who/what his father is. He meets Alice and is instantly drawn to her from both a food perspective and a personal one. He tries to send her away many times as he realizes he doesn't want to hurt her but he also realizes rather quickly that she means something that he can't quite put his finger on. He brings her in to this dangerous world and with her help finds out what he is and honestly finds out who he is. He's utterly devoted to this slip of a human and watching him be vulnerable with her was swoon worthy,

I'm not going to give away what he is but I'm sure you'll figure it out very, very quickly. I adored it and am looking forward to more stories from this world.

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Thanks to NetGalley.com and Carina Press for giving me the chance to read this fun title in exchange for my honest review.

### **Nessa says**

THE CHEMISTRY FOR THIS WAS GREAT! I THINK I ENJOYED THIS BETTER THAN HUNGER AROUSED mainly because the CHARACTERS here were much more interesting due to their extreme scenarios. One is a hybrid of God knows what, and the other is sick and only has days to live. WOWZA!

OUR HERO is a descendent from one of the lore's most oldest creature and you can guess it for yourself because I won't spill the beans here. Anyways it made him cooler than average and apparently it's a puberty stage for his other half and that's why he is experiencing the burning hot flashes, the cramps, the vomiting and etc. I honestly don't know why the heroine works like a balm to his pain...it wasn't ever mentioned actually...but that's the one reason they keep having wild monkey sex as their emotions develop for each other. He is a jerk in the beginning, but not so much that you won't dislike him...I read from a reviewer that she almost hated Sebastian for it...but honestly I think it's quite NORMAL BEHAVIOUR coming from an alpha, centuries year old vamp. Wouldn't you be jaded of life too? So, one night with the little street urchin turns into like forever when she helps him recover and eventually he offers her a job to help uncover his true identity, although let's just agree it was an excuse so she can't ever leave him. Bas was not hard to like because he was caring, sweet and attentive and so damned sexy to his partner you only wished you had one of him.

OUR HEROINE is a brave soul, who can be too nosy for my taste but whatever works to keep her within Sebastian's sight right? She has a tumor in her brain, and she will literally die any day soon...that is why she lives with such a devil may care attitude, although not to the point of stupidity. Or was it to help a man she didn't know, drive his Ferrari, take him home and end up staying in his mansion...oh and falling into the shower with him to help him cool off and then letting him kiss her to oblivion and then feed from her. She didn't exactly freak when she discovers his real identity....even signing up to be near him. Their passion was never in question, in fact they burn brighter as the story progresses. But she's keeping her illness a secret from him, until it was almost too late. Though, you can imagine how it all ends...if you read enough PR then you know how to predict the HEA.

OVERALL this was had more depth compared to the first book, and I think I'm the oddball for preferring this to Hunger Aroused. The chemistry and passion was sizzling...it was enjoyable.

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## Tracy says

### Surprisingly Entertaining

Born vampire Sebastian Kent guards the ruling council of the same vampire community that ostracizes him for his unknown heritage. A heritage Bast has spent hundreds of years researching in an exhaustive search to find out who his father is. Who *he* is. But Bast may have run out of time. He's in a human club on the hunt for the blood he needs to survive when he's overcome by a wave of scorching heat he doesn't understand and laid low by a debilitating sickness he can't control.

Alice Bowman has hit rock bottom. Fighting an illness that is slowly killing her, broke and homeless, she ekes out a pitiful existence in the dismal days between meager disability checks. She's just found her dinner in a dumpster next to a club when she hears someone being violently ill in the alley.

Helping a sick stranger get home isn't the safest thing she's ever done, but something about the man compels her to help him. Maybe it's just his obvious wealth combined with her desperate need. And Bast has his own motives for wanting to keep Alice close, not the least of which is that her touch soothes the searing agony that's threatening to destroy him. Letting her into his world is against the very rules he's sworn to uphold, but letting her go screams against every instinct he has.

Working together may provide their only hope of survival, if being together doesn't first get them killed.

~\*~

Every once in awhile I read a book that I like way more than I should. This second installment of Carney's Vampire Hunger series is one of them. I had quite a few issues with the story. The plot, which didn't extend much beyond Alice and Bast dealing with what's going on with him and his mysterious illness, was straightforward but a little one-note. There were some fairly tenuous connections, too, like the genealogy work Alice was so adept at, and the real stretch to provide her ancestry as a reason their connection was so intense. That bordered on eye-rolling to me.

Bast came off as a callous douchebag in the first chapter, then seemed to get a personality transplant without much story development to support it. He and Alice had some depth of character, though. More than the secondary and ancillary characters, anyway, as they were very two dimensional - when they were featured at all. And the big secret, Bast's paternal side, was blatantly, painfully obvious long before either character caught on to what he was becoming.

All of those issues really should have made this book more of a struggle for me, but to be honest...they didn't. I really enjoyed this book. I liked Alice very much from the moment she's introduced in the story, and once Bast's personality had that about-face, he was a great male lead as well. I liked how they related to each other and took care of each other when each was at their worst. They had great chemistry both in and out of the bedroom, and while definitely not very complex, the plot was more than enough to keep me invested in finding out their fate.

I haven't read the first book in the series but didn't need to. The world is fleshed out well enough in this book to provide a loose framework for the series. There are a couple of characters I assume were featured as the main romantic pair in the first book, but they're not involved until late in this one. They didn't have huge

roles, but Carney introduced them in a way that provided sufficient exposition for their participation without bogging down the narrative with a big info dump.

There is one word of caution I'd like to give about one element of the read. There's a lot of sex, and it's nice and hot, but I know some readers are put off by the "c" word when referring to a woman's naughty bits, and that happens a lot. I'm sort of ambivalent about it myself, as it's certainly not the most romantic terminology, but it didn't so much bother me as it just sort of disrupted the flow of the sex scenes a little. That may be a larger issue for some.

Though this certainly isn't what I would consider a perfect book, I was still thoroughly entertained. I'm not sure, after just this one read, where the series is heading, exactly, but I think I'll stick around for the ride. I'd be thrilled by a more layered plot and a bit more meat to the story, but honestly, Carney did quite all right in this second installment without it, so I won't really complain, either.

***Disclosure:*** *An ARC of this book was provided to me by Carina Press via NetGalley. This rating, review, and all included thoughts and comments are my own.*

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Reviewed for One Good Book Deserves Another.

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### **Liz F says**

Review copy courtesy of the publisher via NetGalley

Reviewed for Sara at Harlequin Junkie.com: <http://harlequinjunkie.com/review-hun...>

Wow. Maybe it's been a while since I read a really good paranormal romance... But holy cow, I loved Hunger Awakened by Dee Carney.

I'll admit – when we first meet our hero, Sebastian, I didn't really like him. He's a vampire and he's in need of blood and sex. So he goes to this club to find a willing donor for both. Umm, yeah... I don't know why but Sebastian just turned me right off. I guess since he's been around for hundreds of years, humans really are not much more than food for him and so he doesn't think too much about them. Doesn't like them, doesn't hate them. Maybe he's a little resentful because he NEEDS them but overall, doesn't care one way or another. I think that's why I didn't like him at first. Also, he's not like a lot of vampires; conflicted about killing innocents or stealing their blood or whatever. It needs to be done so he does it and he does it with the least amount of discomfort he can manage. It was so much like a business transaction... blech. But, that all changes when he starts feeling sick. But vampires don't get sick, right? Sure, he's a half vampire, half unknown but even still, he knows what he's feeling is wrong. There's this strange heat and incredible burning sensation starting inside him, trying to burn its way out. Then, he thinks he's about to throw up and that's REALLY something that vampires don't do!! To make matters worse, when he stumbles into the alley behind the club, someone is there to witness his humiliation. Little does Sebastian know that matters weren't worse. His life actually just got a whole lot better, even if it is about to be turned upside down.

That's when our heroine, Alice, steps in. She's homeless due to a strange medical condition so she's behind the club, searching Dumpsters for something to eat. When she spies a bag with a donut in it (only one bite

taken out of it! Score!), she also hears someone retching next to another Dumpster. She's not so far into the homeless life that she has stopped wanting to help people, so she goes and checks it out. Whoever it is certainly sounds worse off than Alice! And really, all she needs to do is see if they're ok and if not, use their phone to call an ambulance. Then her conscience will be clear and she can move on to figuring out where she can stay for the night. Of course, it's never that simple! I really liked Alice. Because of her rough life and medical issues, she has kind of a "Carpe Diem" kind of attitude and she lives for the moment as much as she can. I think most of us want to be more like that but life gets in the way and we end up worrying over things that are way off in the future or things that we can't change. When you're in Alice's situation, you don't really have the luxury of worrying about tomorrow because today is enough of a struggle. And even though Alice is homeless and has a junkie for a brother, she hasn't resorted to crime and she doesn't have a nasty attitude about people. Maybe it's unrealistic to think that someone who has to eat from Dumpsters wouldn't be angry at life but I found that she wasn't and I liked her even more.

When Alice and Sebastian get together, it doesn't make sense for either of them, strangers, human and vampire. But they are inexplicably drawn to each other. Alice gives Sebastian her trust and respect, which happens to be two things that Sebastian values and finds his own life to be lacking in. Sebastian gives Alice, safety and security, which we know she really needs. Aside from all that, Sebastian is really sexy and Alice finds herself truly living for the moment when she's in his arms. All worried about her illness or food or shelter just fade away and there is only Sebastian. Man, doesn't that sound awesome?! And for Sebastian, when Alice touches him, the heat subsides and he feels better. Of course, we, as the reader, know that they are destined for each other, but they don't know it. It's so great watching them learn more about each other and learn more about the other's illness. If the author could get the right kind of publicity, I think Alice and Sebastian could go down as one of those famous literary couples. THAT'S how great they were together!

I don't really have a lot of complaints about this book. I thought that Alice hid her illness from Sebastian a teensy bit too long, maybe? And I was thinking that her illness was going to have some grand significance due to how the blurb described her touch as being Sebastian's only relief but it really didn't. I mean, I thought she was going to be a new kind of vampire or something. But she's human. Whether or not she STAYS human is something you'll have to read the book to find out! By the way, I think the "illness" that Sebastian is suffering from is awesome and cool but I won't reveal what it is. I thought the story had great pacing and the characters were really well written. Sure, I didn't like Sebastian at first but that's something that I really love to have in a romance novel: a character that you don't like or identify with at first, finally coming around to being the hero/heroine you WANT them to be.

Overall, I would definitely recommend this book. I loved it and I'm sure I'm going to read it again in the near future. I stayed up until 4am, finishing this one and I found myself laughing and crying at the end. If you like paranormal romance, this book is for you. If you aren't sure paranormal romance is your thing, give this one a try. I'm sure you'll enjoy it!

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### **(Tori-Smexybooks) smexys\_sidekick says**

Originally posted at <http://smexybooks.com/2013/03/review-...>

Favorite Quote: "This keeps getting better and better. Not only do I have wings, I have snotty wings."

Sebastian (Bast) Kent has always been considered an outcast in the vampire community. Unsure who sired him, Sebastian has struggled his whole life with his identity. When he becomes violently ill outside of a bar,

he is rescued by a young homeless woman named Alice.

Alice Bowman lives on the street as a victim of circumstances. When she sees Bast getting violently ill she can sympathize due to her own illness and risks her life to take him to safety. Bast is attracted to Alice and hires her against his better judgment, to help him trace his genealogy to discern the reasons for his mysterious illness. An illness that only dissipates beneath the cool touch of Alice's touch and kisses.

As Alice and Bast explore their growing passion, Bast's mysterious illness morphs into something incredible and dangerous. So dangerous in fact that certain individuals will stop at nothing to ensure Bast never recovers...even if that means death.

Hunger Awakened is a hot and steamy erotic paranormal romance. Dark and sensual, it is balanced by touches of humor and whimsy that allows for a fast paced read. Easy to follow, the world building and character development allows us to slip easily into this secretive and highly guarded world of vampires and the harsh politics that rule their domain. Though Hunger Awakened is connected to two other books (Hunger Revealed and Hunger Aroused) it readily stands on its own and reading the other two first isn't necessary.

I enjoyed meeting Bast and Alice and watching their romance develop. Though the sexual escapades happen fairly quickly, I enjoyed the fact that the "I love you" wasn't as tossed at us as quickly. They both have issues that need addressing and Carney takes her time developing them so that there is a reasonable resolution for both parties. There is also the small problem of Bast not being human. Alice's reactions are quite believable in that aspect. She often wonders if she's crazy and is unsure at times if she is considered friend or food.

Both our protagonists are intelligent, caring, and their sexy and humorous dialogue keeps the storyline entertaining. Bast is not what I would quite call a true alpha male. He is strong and protective but he respects and listens to Alice. I don't get that bossiness vibe from him as I did with some of the others. Alice in turn is equally as strong and protective and I love how she has no qualms about letting Bast or anyone else know they are not behaving towards her in a respectable fashion. Bast's illness is quite ingenious and I admit to laughing when the reasons behind it are finally revealed.

Secondary characters (some from previous books) make appearances and add to the overall development of the plot lines. Each one has the ability to star in their own book and it says a lot about an author who can develop a character to that point in such a short time.

The storyline and ending is predictable, but I liked the roads Carney uses to bring it to fruition. Hunger Awakened is a welcome addition for PNR readers who love strong heroes and heroines and a sexy storyline that is a bit darker and grittier than the norm.

Overall Rating: B-

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### **Patricia says**

There's something inside of him, some dormant part that's been awakened. And now it wants to be set free... Something's wrong with Sebastian Kent. Already considered an outsider in the vampire community as a half-vampire, half-something else, he'll do everything in his power to hide his weakness. But when sickness strikes, he has no choice but to turn to a human for help—a woman whose touch provides his only relief.

Alice Bowman is hiding her own illness, one that has left her homeless. When she comes to Bast's aid, she doesn't expect to be thrust into the world of vampires. But he offers her refuge and a job researching his family history in the hope of finding a clue to his mysterious affliction. She can't resist his offer of protection - and the chance to spend more time with the man who arouses her every desire.

But as Bast and Alice's hunger for each other grows, so does the power of Bast's unexplained half. And soon his unknown past and her uncertain future threaten to keep them apart forever....

I don't know what I was thinking when I started to read this book but I came out in the end with a much different and better opinion of it.

This book ... where should I start ...

I could just say that I loved it and that was it but there's so much in it to evaluate and to point out that "the end" is just "the?beginning".

"Hunger Awakened" is the second book in the Vampire Hunger series but it can be read as a stand alone, nothing lost there.

It stands out to me for two reasons, first it touches the high's and low's that life brings in our lives, the fact that being an outcast?among?your peers hurts more deeply than the eye can see and secondly the world building, the creatures that live in it and the original idea of a vampire that is crossed with a dragon can only bring good things into the book.

This time I'm going to mix our two main character's as one because while Alice is homeless, with a junky brother, and has to resort to stealing and trash hunting for food, Bast is rich and a leader in his?community?but as an outcast, not fully a vampire, the other half he doesn't know, he has to prove that he can get the job done, he is a worthy male among the other vampires, and above all trying to find respect. When this two come together they are the perfect match, a coin broken in half that becomes hole, they are the perfect mates.

Alice didn't loose herself on the streets, her kindness, her heart, the passion and the courage to?pursue Bast's goal in finding more about his origins, the will of protecting the monster living in him?takes her to a higher level, making her the loyal and perfect partner, a woman in the true?sense?of the word.

Bast is the perfect supernatural male, alpha, hot,?insatiable, with a never ending energy to find out who he is and where he came from, courageous when danger lurks in the shadows and a never ending love for someone that's been out of love for so long.

Together they kick ass, give us the best action and make us believe that we're in a new and exciting world.

The plot is truly masterful. We reader's can't get enough of it, specially those like me that love a Paranormal world where we can walk through for a few hours and get to enjoy all it gives us, excitement, danger and finally love.

I was drawn to this story like a moth to a flame and I'd wish in the end that there was more out there that could touch my mind as this make believe tale.

People this book is great, the author made a great job out of this story and you will not regret it when spending your time reading it.

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ARC acquired through NetGalley

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## **Jenn Scranton says**

Well, first I must admit that I am new to the dark side. I never read paranormal or sci-fy. Well, until now.

Now, ok, we have our human, (Alice) and she finds our Vampire, (Bast). No the irony of his shortened name was not lost on me. Bast - short for Sebastian, but close to Bastard...

He is always so sick in the beginning. That's cool, I can roll with that. But what kind of freaked me out is that every time he was busy hurling, she was sitting there drooling and thinking, "Damn, he's sexy" ... Really? Is that really a good time for thoughts like that.

At first I was nervous that it was going to take a turn to a particular vomit fetish, but instead I learned that it was just poor placement by the author. Over and over again.

To explain further, every time they had sex it was immediately after he was sick. Because apparently, that is a HUGE turn on. No thanks.

Whatever, back to Alice and Bast. I actually really liked their relationship. How they were opening up to each other and seeing that the grass isn't always greener by seeing the hardships that each faced. However, the author had to go and ruin it by turning it into sappy soul mates. They knew each other for at most 4 days by the end of the book. It would be perfectly okay to be in a very strong relationship of like, or even I think I love you, but not I love you my soul mate! We're meant to be!

There was a really nice element of trust and vulnerability between the characters. The most obvious would be Bast with her while he's changing, but also Alice. She is homeless and in fact dying. But just for giggles... Why couldn't she get a new job? That really bugged me...

The dragon bit... I found that kind of confusing. Did he still retain man-like physique? All I can think about is that goofy childhood dragon movie...

But she thinks it is S-E-X-Y. I'm not sure how, but she does.

Which brings me to my next topic... The sex. Eh. That's it. There was a lot of sex but if she has to endure it like that for the next few hundred years, she is going to be one bored woman.

It was the same everytime! It was always 2 rounds. What is the fun of the second round if you always know that it is coming? Also it was always the same. Geeze! Change positions already!!!! On her back every time. Its bad when I get bored reading a sex scene....

Also, I couldn't help but notice that there was NEVER a condom in use. Now is that how vampires breed?

Human-style sex? Or is it all weird because he's a half breed and she's human? The world may never know....

All in all, I thought it was a pretty good book. The whole vomit issue aside I rather enjoyed it. I could have seriously lived without the correlation of "dragons being attracted to royalty" bit but it was a good book to break my Paranormal virginity. Maybe I will even read another. ;)

\*\* ARC provided by NetGalley in exchange for an honest review \*\*

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### **L.E.Olteano says**

Review originally posted at Butterfly-o-Meter Books on MAR 6, 2013:

I don't know about you guys, but I just get the urge to read some vampire romance now and then. I think it's the pleasure/pain nature of the romance, I mean you just know there'll be biting involved which is, you know, hot :D So I jumped at the chance to read this 'little' darling here. It's 'little' because it's a good length novel, like 90k words or something. And I loved every one of them.

I must mention I didn't read the other titles in this series. And I didn't find a name for it, so I called it Hunger just because all the titles so far contain the 'Hunger' word, so, you know. The main thing is if you like on of them there's more where that came from. See them here on Dee Carney's page.

To begin with, I loved the world of the read. We're dealing with vampires of the regular blood-drinking, smex-needing kind (yum!), some werewolf appearances, and, brace yourselves: dragons make a guest appearance as well. I love diversity and seeing more paranormal mixed in is always fun. The whole Council concept was fun, especially the way Sebastian and Alice dealt with it. No, not giving details to spoil your read.

Sebastian (yes, I like full names and especially this one, so no Bast going on for me, lol) was a cool vampire. Old enough, tough enough, hungry enough for something. Luckily he found his something. He was charismatic, funny, strong where it was needed and yet vulnerable. I really liked that, the fact that he was balanced and felt. He was very real, in a if-vampires-existed kind of way.

Alice was awesome too, she had a tough background and a tough present when she met Sebastian. She was very considerate, thoughtful and loyal, I really liked that about her. She was also vulnerable but she actually came off as stronger then Sebastian in places, they completed each other.

Their chemistry was very hot from the beginning, the whole hunger thing going on from the get go. But the relationship wasn't instalove, it developed as the story progressed and it was sweet, in fact. Their one on one was hot but not graphic.

I liked them as a pair and individually, but I wasn't super crazy about them. Probably because they weren't as tortured as I might have liked, lol. Keep in mind though that I'm the evil reader type, I love them as tortured and twisted as can be.

Outside of the romance arc there was paranormal intrigue, mystery revolving around Sebastian, tensions in the Council, inner conflict - a lot of yummy, to make a long story short. It wasn't agitated action but I loved the pace of events and how things got resolved. This is my kind of read, where the action outside of the romance isn't too over the top. I like my focus on the romance as much as possible and this novel gave me that.

The narrative was a third person from his and her POV, pretty regular for romance. It was cool to see things from both perspectives and it gave me insight into things that the other character in the couple didn't know so it increased the tension.

The cover and blurb are a good pair, they made it clear to me what I should expect and the novel delivered. Always love it when that happens. This is certain compulsive buy material.

All in all, I say this is a good read and I say give Hunger Awakened and the other ones in the series a try. I wanna read Hunger Aroused now because I got a glimpse of the Corin / Jasmine couple so I'm all curious now xD

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## **Stephanie says**

Hunger Awakened is Gritty Paranormal Romance  
original post:[#](http://fangswandsandfairydust.blogspot.com)

Hunger Awakened  
Dee Carney  
Carina Press  
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Previously Reviewed Hunger Aroused by Dee Carney (1st in Series) January 4, 2011:  
<http://fangswandsandfairydust.blogspot.com>

An interesting exploration of vampire politics, or what might be vampire politics. There's a very uneasy relationship between vampires and, well, everyone else. Also within vampires themselves the current government seems to be full of uptight jerks and it's a fairly new organization so it is due for a little realignment. That is going to cause upheaval.

Carney's vampires seem to feed on blood and sex, but I wasn't really sure.

Impossibly rich, Four-hundred year old vampire Sebastian is caught in the middle of changes he doesn't understand having to do with the unknown father. That's how he meets Alice. They are drawn to each other - she seems to be an antidote for whatever ails him. She's down on her luck, but seems really smart. I found her character to have a very logical mind, and a warm and caring personality. He's a bit more expected; and in the first few pages he's a real asshat.

These two are really "star-crossed." And Carney makes the journey pretty exciting. Well, I found the beginning a bit slow, but the rest was sexy and engaging, and the last fifty pages made my exercise time fly by. I can't say it's terribly unpredictable. But it's still a fun ride.

It's fun, and sometimes thrilling. The depth of loyalty the two rapidly feel for each other is moving. I think if

you really like PNR on the gritty side, this will be a good choice for you.

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### **Lisa says**

Sebastian Kent has a problem. He is a vampire. Ok well that's not the problem the problem he is only half vampire. He doesn't know what the other half of him is. He's been trying to figure it out forever. He's also the head of guard who protects the Vampire Council and if they find out he's toast. Alice Bowman is sick like really sick. Down on her luck, no money and no place to live. Literally eating out of trash cans when she happens upon Sebastian. Sebastian or "Bast" and he calls himself in the book starts getting violently sick. He's not really sure what's going on. Alice takes care of him and gets him home and next thing you know there is a connection being made and Bast must keep Alice close to keep his symptoms at bay. Somehow her being around and touching him and kissing him helps get rid of the symptoms he's having. Bast finds he can't get enough of Alice and wants to keep her forever but he doesn't know that something is really wrong health wise with Alice. I can't give a lot of details without giving too much away. Bast will eventually figure out what his other half is and you can guess before he figures it out. The relationship between him and Alice is interesting because she is so fragile yet really comes across as a strong woman. As big and brawny and alpha as he is he needs Alice. The writing in this book draws you in and pulls you through. I enjoyed the main characters as well as the secondary characters. Good solid read for me.

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### **Jessica says**

The first part of the book was enjoyably ridiculous and over-the-top, despite some questionable writing.

***Wanting to weep for her meager clothes, Alice pressed herself against him, into the wall of muscle and heft and simultaneously into his own blood-stained clothing.*** It took me three re-reads before I figured out what the first clause meant.

***His type... [left] behind fragrant trails of Guerlain or Shalimar in their wakes.*** Dude, Shalimar is made by Guerlain. Name-dropping makes me eye-roll at the best of times, but when you get it wrong...

***The sound of a doorbell, intrusive yet soothing.*** An addiction to unnecessary conjunctions, disruptive yet annoying. One of many examples.

Despite some qualms with the writing, I still enjoyed the story ... until the last ~100 pages. I think the attempt to wrap up the different elements into a satisfying HEA pushed what was enjoyably ridiculous into the realm of Makes No Sense. Especially that scene with the Council where the h/h were all "you were so awesome in how you stood up to the bullies and made awesome arguments about how they were wrong and we were right"... ugh. I'm sorry, but yelling to get your point across and winning through the power of deus ex machina is not the same as making a good argument \*side-eye at Congress\*.

Then there was the baby-happy epilogue, which was very much in keeping with the ridiculous OTTness I enjoyed at the beginning of the story, but I think I was tired of the whole schtick by then.

So, I enjoyed some parts quite a lot, some parts not so much, and overall it was just fine.

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## Nina says

If you're looking for a seductive vampire romance to get lost into, look no further. Hunger Awakened is the book to get!

I read this book without the knowledge of it being part of a series. However, rest assured that Hunger Awakened can be a standalone read. I read this without reading Hunger Aroused first and it still made sense without anything being confusing. Although, I do plan to read the first installment now as I am curious to know more about Corin and Jasmine's story.

I haven't read anything from Dee Carney yet. This being my first. I was intrigued by the blurb and especially the characters with Bast being a half-vampire, half-something else and with Alice being homeless & struggling with an illness. Right from the first opening scene, I knew that this was going to be good and I was not wrong. The blurb already provided a great summary of the story so I won't regurgitate it.

This is a story that will draw you in immediately once you start reading. At least that was the case for me. I couldn't turn the kindle pages fast enough to find out what was the mystery behind Bast's illness. It was the excitement and curiosity that had me staying up until the early morning to discover what Bast's other half was besides being a half-vampire.

While the mystery of Bast's illness was what drew me in, it was many things as well. The storytelling along with the wonderful characters and the twists and turns that had me on the edge of my seat was what also hooked me with Hunger Awakened. I LOVED Bast and Alice together. What a genuine and great couple! You can feel the love radiating off the pages with them. Their love was sweet, hot and passionate. I especially loved Alice with her strength, eternal support, courage, acceptance and most of all her unconditional love for Bast. The ending was great; I can't even imagine a more perfect ending for these two. Although, I wouldn't mind reading more about them in future books or in a follow-up story to see how they're doing \*hint hint\*

Overall, Hunger Awakened by Dee Carney was an awesome read. For fans of vampire romance, be sure to pick this one up. Bast is no sparkly vampire, but I guarantee you that he will make you swoon no doubt!

Quotes:

*"If you'll have me, and please God have me, agree to be with me for the rest of our lives...I am begging you for your most precious gift. For the gift of yourself. I swear to you that I'll cherish it always."*

*"I will love you with everything I have and with everything I am. I will be yours until you tire of me."*

\*Book Disclaimer: I received a review copy from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

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## Sandra says

When I requested this book on Netgalley, I didn't realize it was part of a series. And in the end, it didn't really matter because it stands entirely on its own, without needing to have read the first one.

This review contains spoilers, so please proceed at your own risk.

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Alice is homeless and hungry when she happens upon a man who appears to be sick. The author infuses the character with a huge amount of decency from the start, and it immediately made Alice very likable, despite some questionable decisions she makes down the road.

Sebastian - Bast - is a hybrid vampire who's always been looked down upon because his father is unknown and because he's exhibited non-vampire traits. He's been looking for his Sire nearly his whole life, without much luck. Part of the group of vampires hired to protect the vampire council, he's a seasoned fighter, but still struggling with not being fully accepted due to his parentage. When a sudden, inexplicable illness befalls him, he's surprised yet grateful when a young human woman comes to his aid.

He's drawn to her, not only because she represents a food source, but also because she seems to be able to soothe the pains his sudden illness brought forth. He realizes that he's a danger to her and tries to get her to leave, but also wants her to stay. His vulnerability and devotion to Alice was very enjoyable.

Alice has a few TSTL moments in the book, and also a few moments that made me question her sanity. Then again, she's also ballsy and while she is afraid of Sebastian, she has enough backbone to stand up to him.

Their relationship is sexually charged from the start, what with Sebastian drinking her blood causing her to have a big O, and him having inappropriate thoughts about the spot between her legs, and having sex with her making him feel so much better. The insta-lust was a bit off-putting, but since this is supernatural/fantasy, I was willing to overlook it. The author did a good job of letting them open up to each other slowly, but then also included the soulmate factor, again dipping into that trope to explain (I guess) the immediate draw.

The sex scenes were plentiful (especially considering they've only known each other for just a little while) but also seemed somewhat repetitive in their execution. Missionary appears to be all Sebastian knows, and the descriptions of the scenes sounded very much alike.

The overall plot was quite good, and I very much enjoyed the fact that Alice had street smarts and good logic when it counted. Her standing up to the council had me smiling and atta-girling her.

The characters were well fleshed out and not superficial or one-dimensional. Both had deep secrets that were slowly revealed, even though not all questions were answered. There's also a bit of brand name dropping, which was unnecessarily distracting as it served no purpose. I'm not the kind of reader who's impressed with that sort of thing, and when writing from a male perspective, the elaboration on what brand after

shave/perfume or watch or clothes someone is wearing makes me question the purpose.

What really threw me for a loop was that Sebastian was eventually revealed to be half dragon. Early on, while he's with Alice at his apartment, he grows wings. Cool. Then the wings disappear. His nostrils breathe smoke. Very cool. And still, nobody makes the connection until he transforms into a scaly, winged sort of vampire dragon in front of other, full-blooded vampires and the council he's sworn to protect.

And when we get the explanation for the insta-love/lust/attraction, I thought I was being punk'd.

Overall, I did enjoy this book. The author did a great job with the characters and the plot. I felt drawn to them both, and that's part of what makes a good book - making a connection with the protagonists. Unfortunately, some of the issues I had prevented it from receiving four stars.

This is the type of book, with a swoon-worthy hero and a likable heroine, that should be read on a nice summer's day swinging in a hammock with a cool glass of iced tea.

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### **Celestine says**

I enjoyed this vampire romance. Steamy. Good character development. A little mystery. Opposites attract. Caring romance. Love isn't tossed out there too quickly. Includes a peak at the couple from the previous book but can be read as a standalone. Both characters are dealing with illness, so support is shown in all the right places. What I think I liked best is that Alice has a spine of quiet steel. She isn't an obvious heroine, and I enjoyed the flashes of her compassion matched by her cunning. Her "big scene" at the end was clever. And for those of you who live for an alpha character - here is the undead version.

Marked down for a few unbelievable scenes and not fully closing the hybrid storyline. I still have questions.

Book source: Purchased.

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