



Cold Moon

M.J. O'Shea

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Charlie Fitzgerald is sick of being the kid who nobody takes seriously. His older brother Colin is off in New York City fighting bad vampires and other trouble causers and Charlie wants in on the action. He thinks it's impossible until he overhears something that seems to be his perfect opportunity. The Lycan council is looking for a human emissary--someone to take a message of peace to a volatile werewolf who lives in the dark forests of Romania. Charlie decides that emissary will be him.

Xan, or X'andrien as he's known to his people, is furious. His best friend, who also happens to be one of the Fitzgeralds his family has vowed to protect, has gone missing. When they find out where Charlie has gone, Xan has to chase him all the way to Europe and eventually save his stubborn butt in the middle of the night in the freezing cold Romanian forest. He never realized how much his best friend and charge meant to him until he was nearly killed.

Together, they end up stuck in the middle of a political mess that includes the lycans, the werewolves, and some very nosy vampires. If the two of them manage to make it out alive, they may realize that stuck together or not, years of friendship for one stubborn hunter and an equally bullheaded dryad protector can turn into a love neither of them is willing to live without.

Cold Moon Details

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From Reader Review Cold Moon for online ebook

Vivi says

4.3 stars!

Cold Moon is the 3rd and final book of the *Insolita Luna* series.

But each book of the trilogy can be read as a standalone (I actually read this one 1st ;D)

I Really enjoyed this paranormal, sweet, short gay romance.

The world setting was great... with vampires, werewolves, lycans, witches and other mystical creatures :)

It was Different and Original!

I absolutely loved the Romance too! ... the MC's were childhood friends and it was so lovely seeing their feelings for each other grow... there was protectiveness and a bit of possessiveness, even... and there were, also, Hot moments between them.

Overall, I enjoyed this book a Lot and it got me curious about the other books of the series - Blood Moon and Hunter's Moon - which I'll be surely checking out, soon! :)

Faith (uponthepages) says

In "Cold Moon" by M.J. O'Shea, Charlie Fitzgerald's life changes when he is thrown into a world of mystical creatures such as vampires, witches, and werewolves. While the novel had a clumsy beginning that normally would have turned me away, the plot picked up as it introduced romance and adventure. This book did not include as much diversity as I had hoped it would when I heard that it included LGBT characters. Despite many gay male characters, there was not a variety of other sexualities or even ethnicities. Overall, this book could have used included a realistic representation as well as a more intriguing beginning; however, I did enjoy the general plot and events that took place.

DarienMoya says

Cold Moon is the third book in the Moon series and I gotta say I really enjoyed it. I had to go back and revisit Hunter's Moon the second book in the series since I first read it over 3yrs ago and I needed a refresher on the characters. I still very much liked that book, and Cold Moon is next to fall in my good graces, where Blood Mood was all "Meh" for me the final two books sealed the deal on enjoyability and I love these band of merry supernatural hunters and the people they fall in love with.

Charlie Fitzgerald is from a long line of Hunters, his legacy dates back generations and so his career is already set n stone. His parents are hunters, and his older brothers are hunters so it makes sense that he would be one too cus it's been like his forever dream. Yet, his family is failing to begin his training and he is

getting tired of his mundane life. Getting up going to school and pretending like everything is easy does it when he knows there are Supernatural beings out there (pencil to the eye please). All he has his best friend for like forever and he needs to get the hell away from dodge and find a little excitement.

Excitement comes in the form of him not being Mr Know It All after-all, cus like epic bombs of info has been dropped that turn his world upside down. Charlie suddenly feels small, and the person he trusted most and thought he knew better than anyone in the world his BF Xan ends up hurting him the most. Well Charlie is gonna put his big girl panties on and persevere, and that means taking on the family business all by his lonesome. He does something most stupid, so stupid but hopefully this will show everyone he's not just the youngest anymore and can legit get all the jobs done. Too bad he ended up needing his Xan but maybe not so bad afterall.

I really liked reading this, it's pretty much all fluff and stuff but the characters are enjoyable and it felt like visiting old friends. My least fave thing is the relationship between Xan and Charlie; they just weren't in it to win it for me. I guess it could be because I was expecting all types of intense feels, they're cute but their friends to lovers' story just didn't do it for me, which sucks because that's one of my fave tropes.

Hands down M.J O'Shea is becoming a fave author of mine. I seem to like her work the more I read her books, after Catch My Breath and now Cold Moon I'll most definitely will grab this author's books anytime. I love the feel good feels, enjoyable characters, and just overall good times. While this mostly would be considered corn syrup, sometimes we need a little sweet to feel good. The Moon series is enjoyable with the right amount of sexy and atmosphere for good YA novels.

Diana says

Sorry, but I guess this book wasn't for me. I found it kind of childish and also easily predictable. Probably it has a lot to do with the fact that the blurb we are given on the backcover covers more than half the book plot. Also the characters seemed very plain to me and quite archetypical. Although it is good to see romance and love with same sex characters I couldn't believe their feelings as the characters felt very bland and predictable to me.

Maybe it would be a good book for way younger readers, but it wasn't my cup of tea, sadly.

GayListBookReviews says

Third in the Insolita Luna series it is the sequel to Hunter's Moon. This book has a subplot of a magical fairytale that doesn't compromise the theme at all, the story still contains the danger element of the werewolves, lycans, vampires and witches.

Charlie is a fed up teenager, aching for adventure. He is the youngest of three boys and wants to prove his worth and be level pegging with his older brothers. He feels frustrated and doesn't understand why his parents are holding him back. With the small amount of knowledge he knows about his ancestry, Charlie decides he has had enough and takes matters into his own hands, not only risking his own life but that of his best friend and protector Xan.

Xan is a Dryad and has vowed to protect Charlie. Xan has grown up in a magical forest, but has to venture

out to watch over Charlie, attending school, building a close friendship and gaining Charlie's trust. Charlie is stubborn and pushes Xan away when the truth of their friendship is finally revealed to him. Charlie has feelings far more than just friendship with Xan, he feels Xan's presence in his life was only out of obligation and not of the heart. Xan doesn't give up hope, he can't give up! he believes in Charlie. But can Xan convince Charlie their relationship is built on so much more than just friendship and most importantly save Charlie's life, allowing Charlie to fulfil the prophecy.

It was nice catching up with characters from the previous two books. It is well written with good characters and setting descriptions. The only downside for me is that I found some of this story lacking in depth in places, but again I put this down to this read being suited to much younger readers than myself, this has not put me off reading other works by this author.

Reviewed by Teddy

To see more of this review and others like it please visit us at Gay List Book Reviews at www.gaylistbookreviews.wordpress.com

Kathleen says

Review can be found at Romancing the Word.

Adara says

Charlie Fitzgerald is not only Colin's little brother, but he's also a fairly small guy. He's known about the "family business" since he was fairly young and frankly couldn't wait to join up, but when his 18th birthday comes and goes without his parents giving him the talk his brothers received, he knows something is off. Turns out his parents think he's not cut out to be a vampire hunter and want him to have a normal life in college. Then he finds out his best friend Xan not only knows about all the strange things in this world, but he IS one of them, a dryad. And he has been Charlie's protector for his whole life because of an ancient dryad prophecy surrounding Charlie's family. Feeling betrayed by everyone around him, Charlie decides to take a Lycan Council contract to prove his worth. He succeeds in angering everyone, but he does get the job done. His relationship with Xan changes and then destiny arrives.

All in all, I think PC's book, *Hunter's Moon*, is the strongest of the trilogy, but this one caps things off nicely. I liked Xan and how he changed right before Charlie's eyes. Charlie's indignation as motivation was convincing. I guess I felt the story petered out some in the middle, after the contract but before destiny. The whole destiny scene felt anticlimactic: build up that didn't do much except get Xan and Charlie to a happier ending.

So I give it 3.5 stars, rounded down.

melek says

Firstly let me say this you know how you think a story is going to go in your head but then it goes the opposite way well this series took me by surprise it was a good surprise didn't expect it at all. But it was fitting to how the story's were going.

Story is told through Charlie who's 18 and comes from the line of vampire hunters . He wants to prove himself to everyone around him he can get the job done. His best friend xan who has a secret will the secret destroy them or will everything work out in the end.

Arthur says

This book has a captivating beginning but falters in the middle. As if the climax (which is closer to anticlimax, actually) arrives too soon and we are treated with a long epilogue.

Charlie and Can were childhood friends. A youngest son in the Fitzgerald family, he's treated as a baby even though he's 18 yrs old. The Fitzgeralds is a famous vampire hunter, where every man and woman was vampire hunter. Charlie had wanted to be one since he was kid, but since he had brain but not muscle like his brothers, nobody took him seriously. So when there was an opening to be an emissary to infamous European Lycan Lord, he applied and hired without his family's consent.

The job took him to Europe, where he was to convince the Lycan/Werewolf Lord Silvali that he was being framed by the evil Komarov. In the process, Charlie learned that there's more to the eye about Xandrien, his best friend.

(view spoiler)

Overall, I still enjoyed reading the book. Until the unsatisfactory middle, this definitely was my favorite book in the series. Now it's draw with the second book. It's as if Ms.O'Shea was tired in the middle of the book and tried to resolve the problem with Komarov so we can focus solely on Charlie/Xan romance. I like the timeline overlaps with the previous book so we can see the same event from different perspectives. The romantic feeling from reading the development from best friends to lovers is there.

Nicole Field says

This series seems to be about underpowered human individuals becoming the main character/Chosen one in the supernatural world M.J. O'Shea has created. It's actually a really unique idea, and a point of view I actually really enjoyed exploring.

Charlie is the younger brother in a family of bounty hunters. He's still in his last year of high school when this book starts, though he later graduates to NYU (despite his best efforts). It is his dearest wish to be able to show his family that, just like his older brother Colin, he'll be able to thrive in this world of vampires, witches and werewolves despite his small stature.

Imagine his surprise when he realises that his best friend, Xan, not only already knows about this world that Charlie can't wait to get into, but it already a part of it himself. That's only the first of several things Charlie has to come to terms with.

The whole story is written from the first person point of view of Charlie, who was a lovely character to linger in the head of for a couple of days. He's already gay and out to his parents when this book starts, and this isn't one of those novels where the drama comes from the main character's orientation.

It does, however, come from the fact that his parents keep him from even learning basic self defence, and utterly over riding his autonomy when enrolling him into university, in a way that I found difficult to stomach. Though that is addressed towards the end of the book, I found that solace arriving far too little, too late.

Noah and Zach were delightful side characters who appear also in Blood Moon, and who Charlie and Xan come to live with in this novel.

Special mention goes to the dryads and the flexible stances they have on non-gendered sexuality. I absolutely loved how that was explicitly stated even though it didn't have a direct impact on the plot.

Marsha Spence says

I just really, really love this series! Fun and interesting!

Bayb says

This is the conclusion (book 3) of the Insolita Luna Series. I have read all 3 books, and while book 1 is the best, all 3 books are worth reading. Sometimes it's hard to find a good m/m paranormal romance series, so I was ecstatic when I finished these. I will reread them many times.

This last book is about Charlie and Xan, best friends since childhood. Most of Charlie's family has hunted or still hunts vampires, but his parents forbid him from hunting. So, Charlie finds his own way into the world of vampire hunting. A way that is dangerous and leads to Xan chasing after him to save him. On this journey, Charlie and Xan's friendship deepens to something more.

Pros:

- Xan. Oh, I love, love, love Xan. He was always so patient with Charlie. He was also loyal to Charlie in everything (their lifelong friendship, situations with Charlie's parents, etc.). He's the perfect boyfriend.
- I love how Charlie matured into his own person, someone who wasn't doing things just to be like everyone else. In the beginning of the story, he submitted to other people's demands. By the end, he has grown up to the point he's no longer following anyone's orders or wishes but his own.
- The surprise twist at the end (but it's still a HEA).

Cons:

- Colin. He was so mean to Charlie. He treated him like a parasite, something unwanted and irritating. He belittled him and spoke harshly to him even in a room full of people. He was also an extension of his parents and what they demanded from Charlie.

-Charlie's parents. They treated him like a baby. Even though he hated what they were demanding (and was old enough to refuse), he gave in to them at times. It left me fuming to read those parts. They really treated Charlie badly.

-Charlie's parents and Colin created a lot of negativity for several parts of the book.

Overall, definitely worth the read. It isn't necessary to read the other books of the series before this one, but since the other characters make appearances throughout all 3 books, it would likely be more enjoyable.

Wendy Ann says

I definitely enjoyed this third book of the series, but not quite as much as the first two books. It maybe had something to do with Charlie's character coming across as more self-centered. The world revolved around him and he was fairly oblivious to things outside that bubble. He was somewhat impatient and impetuous. This is perhaps not uncommon or unexpected behavior for a young guy – it just meant it wasn't insta-love for me with his character.

This story is fairly light on angst. The angst that's there gets resolved fairly quickly and without a lot of struggle. I really enjoyed revisiting the characters from the prior books – especially Noah and Zack who were my favorites. If you love the paranormal genre with magical beings, shapeshifters and vampires as well as the magic of young love, this is definitely a wonderful series to check out!

Sophia says

And I finally arrived at the third story of this fun and creative series. With each new installment, the author focuses on a different paranormal race and situation within the series arc of a threat trying to disrupt and act against them all. It was a delightful surprise to encounter another young, bumbling human hero and his bestie who is a lot more than he seems. This was more of a paranormal coming of age story that took a young guy from adolescence to manhood through his very own adventure that has great ramifications than he could imagine.

This book follows the others in order, but also completes a series arc so it really should be read in order.

Charlie is supersmart and he has a loving family, but his frustration and restlessness grows as another year has gone by and his parents still haven't trained him to be a hunter in the family tradition. Everyone in his family is a hunter and he anticipated his turn as the he, the youngest son, came of age behind his two brothers, but nope, his parents only plan to send him off to college. Even his best buddy, Xan, is getting on his nerves as Charlie is impatient to get out of his town and train to be a hunter.

A quick visit to NYC to stay with his brother Colin and some fun on the town is an eye opener. Charlie knew there were vampires, werewolves, and witches, but finding them to be his brother's best friends and fellow hunters and even his own aunt and cousin are vampires leaves him reeling. Along with these surprises is the suspicion that Xan who is not surprised to learn that supernaturals exist is keeping secret. Finding out that everyone knows things that he does not make him even more frustrated by his life. But getting the answers out of Xan take things in a surprising turn and leads him on a dangerous adventure. If he comes through it,

and this is in serious doubt when he realizes he might have been a tad impulsive, things will never be the same.

This story began rather rocky for me. I found Colin petulant and whiny, but fortunately, he figures this out and starts to grow up. When I saw this as a Coming of Age story, I started to really enjoy it. Even when I wanted to shake him for being self-absorbed, I still found Colin appealing.

The story also moves along at a steady pace, but is rather uneventful until well over half way. It lagged at times as a result. The reveal of Xan's secrets was interesting, but buried in the slow section. It started to move and then got vastly more interesting though for all that, it was still intermittent.

Time with the earlier introduced characters was a nice inclusion.

In the end, though this was a slow one to me, I still enjoyed the world, the tone, and the writing. I love the world the author created and her unique take on paranormals. I would love to see more Insolita Luna stories. Those who enjoy M/M Coming of Age stories blended with a paranormal world might want to try these.

I received this book from Net Galley in exchange for an honest review.

Riina Y.T. says

♥`•,.,./ ♥ ° ?.,.,.~ ♥ BEAUTIFUL ♥`•,.,./ ♥ ° ?.,.,.~ ♥

#engrossing, #most endearing characters, #emotionally satisfying, #adorable overload, #favorite couple and most definitely **#forever-favorites!**

I'm going to MISS the shit out of this series...
