



Bitterroot: Part 1

S.M. Reine , Heather Hildenbrand

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Seventeen year-old Regan Vuk has lived her whole life under the shadow of her future: the pack alpha. She is fast, smart, and determined. According to her own pack members, she is a shoo-in. But Regan's dad has a secret.

Seventeen year-old Charlie spent her adolescence drifting from place to place with a mother desperate to hide her illegitimate daughter from the unforgiving reality of werewolf pack dynamics. All Charlie has ever wanted is to know her father--and the family that's been kept from her all these years. But most of all, she wants a place to belong in the world. Where she doesn't have to pretend she can't sprout fur and paws at will.

Being kidnapped on her way home from prom was not what she had in mind.

When Charlie finds out the only way to fit in with her new family is to defeat her long-lost sister for the role of alpha, she refuses. That is until she learns that the strange and alluring vampire she's befriended, Owen, is the same vampire prince that's been promised the winner.

Regan has no doubt that, although she loathes the vampires, it will be her who "wins" Owen.

Only problem: Charlie's already fallen for him.

Bitterroot is a 3-part novella series with a dose of sibling rivalry... Who will you root for?

Bitterroot: Part 1 Details

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From Reader Review **Bitterroot: Part 1** for online ebook

Dianne says

Long lost sisters finally come together, a tearful moment with joy, right? Not. On. Your. Life. Charlie has spent most of her life alone, with her mother, always moving, always having to hide her inner wolf in the world of the humans. Regan has always lived within the cocoon of her pack, knowing she is destined to grow up to become pack alpha in their matriarchal society and is prepared to become the bride of the vampire prince for political gain. Too bad Daddy Dearest had a secret and that secret was Charlie, his illegitimate daughter, creating a need to have a battle to determine who the alpha will be. For Charlie, it's a not so nice way to meet your father and your sister, not to mention having your hopes dashed that just maybe you found a place where you belong. When Charlie refuses to fight the sister she has just found, all should be right with the world, but will it be? The vampire she had secretly befriended and has fallen for is not who he seems to be and Charlie is left watching her world implode, once again.

Bitterroot: Part 1 co-authored by Heather Hildenbrand and S. M. Reine has packed so many "hooks" and twists into each page that one cannot help but be completely caught up in this far too short tale! Yes, it is part one of a three part novella series, but it was with great pain that I read that last word. Definitely magnetic reading with tension from all angles making the need for the next two parts absolutely imperative! Don't feel cheated by its brevity, savor the fact there is more to come!

I received this copy from Heather Hildenbrand & S.M. Reine in exchange for my honest review.

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For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Heidi says

Four stars: A terrific beginning. This book features wolf shifters, vampires, romance, duels and more.

Charlie is used to moving from place to place and never quite fitting in. It has always been just Charlie and her mom, two wolf shifters, staying hidden and moving frequently. One night, Charlie's world is shattered when she returns home to find visitors. Charlie's mom greets her with tears streaming down her face and apologies, but before she has a chance to explain, Charlie is struck on the head and plunged into darkness. When she wakes, everything is different. Charlie learns she has a half sister, she is part of a pack, she is in line to be Alpha, and she must compete against her sister in a duel to determine who is to be Alpha. To make matters worse, the winner must marry a vampire prince, the wolves sworn enemy. Will Charlie survive?

What I Liked:

*This first installment sets the table for what is sure to be an exciting novel. It has all that you love in a good, paranormal YA book. It has wolves, vampires, romance, action, danger and secrets. I was immediately

hooked and couldn't wait for more.

*The book is told from two view points: Charlie and Regan. The two are half sisters, who have never met until Charlie is kidnapped and brought to the pack. Regan has grown up with the strict rules, and she has prepared her whole life to lead. Reagan has always longed to meet Charlie, to have a sister to share secrets with and confide in. However, things come crashing down when Regan learns she must compete against her sister for the role of Alpha. Charlie is the opposite of her sister. She has grown up with the humans, and she has no knowledge of the pack and its laws, no understanding of vampires, and no desire to rule. I liked getting into each girl's head, while I am sympathetic to Charlie, I am enjoying Regan's voice as well.

*This first book sets the table for a forbidden romance, one between races that have long been sworn enemies. I liked the first meeting, it was fighting, flirting and friendly chat. I can't wait for more.

*There seems to be plenty of secrets. Danger is coming and it appears that someone doesn't have the pack's best interest at heart. Are the vampires the ones who murdered the former Alpha or was it an inside job? I have my guesses, and I can't wait for more.

And The Not So Much:

*I was wanting a big more background and detail on Regan's mother, the former Alpha, who was murdered. I wanted to know what kind of person she was and how she led her pack. I am hoping to learn more about her in the next book.

*There is definitely bad blood between the vampires and the wolves. I needed more depth and detail on their conflict. I am hopeful to uncover more of this in the next installment.

With any serial, you can expect a cliffhanger at the end of each book. While this first book's cliffhanger wasn't a frustrating, tear your hair out, throw your book across the room type ending, it still concluded in a spot where I was left wanting more. I need the next book now.

Bitterroot Part 1 is a terrific introduction. It will suck you in with its great characters, interesting story line as well as its secrets, the promise of a duel and an arranged marriage with the sworn enemy. The romance is in its beginning stages, and I am eager for so much more. I need the next installment immediately!

I received a copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own, and I was not compensated for this review.

Posted@Rainy Day Ramblings.

Maghon Thomas says

What happens when two of your favorite authors play together... They create a masterpiece of goodness. Seriously, I have been a stalker of these two ladies for a long time. Since I started really looking at more than just looking on a shelf at a book store- that never really worked for me. When I started searching the internet for good books, I found both of these ladies, and holy sweet goodness this is freaking awesome!! I knew it would be, but I didn't know it would be seriously good. Oh and it's the start of a series, oh yeah, there's gonna be more, which I could throw a whole party for, and it's not just vampires- guess what else is in there? Anybody know anything about these two ladies? Anybody know anything about my obsession.... WEREWOLVES!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Oh my goodness, I'm about to pee my pants I'm so excited about this. Ok, enough gross things, LOL let me tell you about it.

Regan and Charlie are half sisters, and they don't know it, yet. You see, it started with Regan's mom, who was the alpha of the pack, dying, and her dad had to stand in until Regan could take over. Well... Until she finds out who her half sister is. And the problem here, Charlie really doesn't understand anything about pack life. Like no clue. It's not a good thing. Because now, a council decided Charlie and Regan must fight each other for the throne. And in all this crazy, Charlie meets Owen, who is not a wolf, he's an enemy, and a vampirer. He's an enemy because the vampires are "allegedly" responsible for Regan's mom's death. But Regan is determined to win, marry the prince, because this was supposed to be what her whole life was for. Except now she has to fight her friend and her betrothed is a vampire. HA!

I won't lie, be prepared to be shocked and awed at the end, and also maybe scream a little. There's a cliff hanger and some serious questions that are going to lead into book two. But don't let that stop you. This first story is about Regan and Charlie getting to know each other. Learning to trust each other. And getting past grudges and bitterness of the past, Charlie's mom and her choices, their dad and his choices, and them together. And learning what is really right, and worth fighting for, and fighting against. And we meet the possible love interests. I say it with an "s" because I'm not really sure how this will play out exactly. :)

The writing is fantastic. This is new for wolves, they ladies being in charge. And it's done really well. Having two writers of different styles and story lines, working together was beautifully done. I seriously can't wait to read book two. Well, I must read it, I can't just not read it. I need it. LOL with that said, please gimme gimme!!! I will be talking about it for days on end until the next one. 5 WOLFY PAWS!!!!

Diane Lynch says

Bitterroot Part 1 by Heather Hildenbrand & SM Reine Seventeen-year-old Regan Vuk has been raised to be the succeeding alpha of her pack. After the death of her mother, she discovers that her half-sister, Charlie, whom was raised outside the pack with humans, is to compete against her to be the next alpha. To top it off, the winner has been promised to become mates with Owen, the Vampire Prince.

Heather Hildenbrand & SM Reine make a fabulous writing duo. Bitterroot is a great new serial that I could not put down.

When I read the blurb, I thought for sure I was going to end up liking one of the girls more than the other. I actually liked both girls. They are very different, but in some ways are alike. For example, both are oblivious when it comes to boys. They seriously have no clue. It is very amusing. They both wish they would have met under different circumstances, so they could be friends. I was annoyed with their father for putting them in this situation.

Bitterroot Part 1 has an exciting plot with many unexpected twists. Heather Hildenbrand & SM Reine created a fascinating new world. I cannot wait to read the next installment.

Complimentary copy provided by the authors in exchange for an honest review.

Courtney (Book Crazy Lady) says

I received an ARC in exchange for an honest review

Heather Hildenbrand and SM Reine combine forces to come out with the first book in a new series! This was a great choice because I fell in love with this new series! This book is a bit different from others with having Alpha female wolves, which is a great change from the normal shifter books.

It is quite shocking to learn that two sisters will have to fight for the Alpha position and to marry the prince from a Vampire clan.... yes you read that correctly! I was shocked with this twist but also intrigued to see what was going to happen next!

The main characters captivate you immediately. There is Charlie who has grown up with the pack, but then there is Regan (Charlie's sister) who grew up not knowing her family and with just her mom. While reading, I really feel bad for the two girls because they are made to fight one another for Alpha and they just met. They don't really get any bonding time. Then there is also the fact that Regan was just thrown into this new life with a family she doesn't want to know.

This is a quick and easy read. While it is a great intro to the series, I am left waiting for part 2 to come out. I just can't wait to find out what happens next! There are so many questions I have.

If you haven't bought this book yet, then I highly recommend that you do so now! You will be captivated quickly and wanting more!

For more, check out my blog bookcrazylady.blogspot.com

Angela Dossett says

Half Sisters brought together for Old Traditions of the Pack

If you are into Vampires/Werewolves and short reads; this is one for you. Though I do have to caution readers, it's short and leaves you hanging.

I've read several books by each of these authors and I can say without a doubt I've been thoroughly satisfied. This story was interesting with the collaboration of both writers; each writing POV's for the sisters. It was an added bonus to hear from each sister during the course of the story.

The pacing was fast. I like the storyline of two sisters who are both werewolves; while each one was brought up not knowing about the other: one in the pack and the other lived with humans. Sisters were brought together to compete for ALPHA (which is always female). Then on top of that, they learn that their own father has made an arranged marriage with their enemies- VAMPIRES.

What I wasn't too keen on: 1- character development. I felt as a reader that I got more information on the secondary characters than the Main characters. 2- Not a lot of world building; just enough to keep you slightly interested. 3- Though there are twists and turns, no real answers were given. I would have preferred more information on the death of the ALPHA, why the arranged marriage and etc. I just had lots of unanswered questions, so I'm really hoping in the next books of this mini series that they will be answered.

Judge the book for yourself and you as a reader can decide. It's currently FREE on Amazon, so what are you waiting for? Pick it up and read it.

Happy Reading!!!

Wendy says

I won't bother you with any unnecessary fangirling throughout my review, I'll give it to you straight and simple - there's a reason why I've always been a fan of Heather Hildenbrand and SM Reine.

I reviewed titles by Heather Hildenbrand and SM Reine in my early blogging days, prior to my long hiatus, and I always recommended their titles to all of my readers (eg. Six Moon Summer and Dirty Blood - absolute musts). With their latest release, Bitterroot part 1, I can honestly say that readers who enjoy the paranormal young adult genre will absolutely fall in love with SM Reine and Heather Hildenbrand's characters.

"High school dances were overrated. Sweaty perfume, crepe paper, and a whole lot of trying too hard all in the same room. What was the point?" - Bitterroot

Bitterroot starts off with the introduction of Charlie, an ordinary supernatural teen girl who's lived most of her life moving from one city to another with her mother. The reason: her mother doesn't want her daughter to face the harsh reality of being part of a werewolf pack. Regardless of her mother's wishes, Charlie is kidnapped on her way home from prom and is introduced to a father and sister she's never met. Furthermore, she's told that she must compete against her sister for the title of Alpha and that the winner will be promised in marriage to a vampire prince.

I absolutely adored Regan and Charlie. They were two half sisters who completed each other wonderfully in alternating perspectives. Although Bitterroot part 1 doesn't give the reader much depth about their personalities or histories as of yet, I'm optimistic that Regan and Charlie will grow more on me as the series progresses. Furthermore, the vampire prince in question, the hot and smoldering Prince Owen, is for the most part an enigma in Bitterroot part 1. He was instantly enticing but there's so much more I want to learn about him. To word it simply - I need more Bitterroot and I'm anxious to get my hands on part two.

I love that the philosophy of Alpha's being female is convention in Bitterroot. As a big reader of paranormal and supernatural titles, always coming across only male Alphas and Betas becomes nauseatingly repetitive. I love that SM Reine and Heather Hildenbrand made it a point to include this, although the two authors are already well known for writing powerful and inspiring heroines.

Teens and adults will surely fall in love with Bitterroot's characters, plot, and expression. Perfect for a reader new to the genre and/or new to these two incredible authors.

So, when can I get my hands on part two?

-Review to appear on blog on September 24th, 2015

Angela says

I have read books by Heather Hildenbrand so when I saw she was co-writing this, I jumped at the chance to read it. I love her stories and the way that she writes young adults and their worlds. She has a really vivid imagination and I enjoy reading her work. I have never read anything by S.M. Reine so this was a chance to be introduced to a new author as well.

I liked the first part of this 3 part novella and I definitely was not happy when it ended. However, they aren't making me wait too long until the next installment, and it's already available for pre-order. I liked the characters of Regan and Charlie and even though they are sisters and are very close in age, they couldn't be more different. They don't know each other and learn right after meeting each other that they must fight against one another to be the alpha of the pack. And, just when they were starting to make peace with that decision, their father throws another Molotov cocktail at them: an arranged marriage, to a vampire no less. I love the caveat that the authors have thrown into the mix as well; the girls can't disobey their father as he is the alpha. This is tough because it is almost impossible for the pack mentality to do anything like that. It adds a different dynamic to the story I think.

I'm not going to say that this story is similar to others because it isn't really. Yes it's a book about werewolves, vampires, and teenagers, but that's where all of the similarity ends. These characters are not made to be glamorous or desirable. They seem like plain, ordinary teenagers that just happen to be a little more abnormal than the rest of us. I highly recommend picking this series up and giving it a read.

SassyCat's Book Review says

This is an 3.7 Cat Tails

Review

Bitterroot has a mixture of werewolves and vampires, they're sworn enemy to one another until tragedy happen and now the fate of the werewolves lies within a young girl unaware about her royalty werewolf line and the fact that she must fight for rightful supremacy.

The only problem is that she doesn't know if she want the title . . . or the family she's supposedly belong.

Meanwhile the half sister have been groomed her whole life, ready to take on the role as alpha once her father has steps down but now she must fight against the half sister she's never known.

What happens if one sister despise the enemy but the other one doesn't?

I give this an 3.7 Cat's Tails Up, the fate of the pack lies within the sisters.

MEOW . . . MEOW . . . MEOW

Overall this was a quick read for me, I don't want to say its a cliche that its an werewolf/vampire story however the ideas were good and unexpected. Which is why I gave it an 3.7 rather than a 3.5 because it was close to being a four Cat Tails rating but not quite.

The half sisters storyline was interesting, there's a little bit of royalty rights going on after Charlie the one

who get returned to her pack and her half sister Regan who was born with the pack, they both must figure out how to avoid doing an epic battle that determines who become alpha.

One was trained to fight . . .

One was left in darkness . .

The Vampire concept fell a little short, I think other than Charlie meeting the vampire stranger and then seeing him toward the end of part one before his real identity was reveal. It just fell short, Charlie doesn't know why the pairing is happening or why it has to happen and quite frankly neither did I as a reader other than it had to do with Charlie's mom but also the after math of Regan's mom death.

Sandra "Jezanz" says

Loved it, Fantastic start to potentially brilliant Series. This one has reminded me how much I love reading about shifters!

Finished quite some time ago doing review soon in time for blog post on 22nd September!

Highly Recommend!

INITIAL THOUGHTS

Well I love a great shifter book, and I've loved the books I've read by Heather Hildenbrand and as I've heard good things about S.M. Reine I thought giving this one a go was an easy choice!

MY REVIEW

I am lucky enough to be part of Heather's Street Team "Heather's Hotshots" so was given an e-arc of this one in exchange for my honest review. Thank you to both Heather Hildenbrand & S.M. Reine & Elephantine Publishers too. I did begin reading this one before even seeing the cover but for the purpose of this review and keeping it in the same format as other reviews, I will talk about the cover now. The cover is a rich evening blue colour, and features a moonlit background. In front of the moon are two females, both wearing white dresses, whose joined hands are holding a beautiful bouquet of deep red roses. The female on the left (as you look at the book) is blonde, and her dress has straps on it. The female on the right is dark haired and her white dress is strapless. The title of the book is in a cursive font, that catches by eye.

After reading the book I'd say that the two females on the front cover are very good likenesses of the females described in the book, in fact the cover image could be an actual scene from the book, and fits really well within the plot of the book.

So would this cover make me pick it up from a book store shelf? Hmm that's difficult as the cover doesn't scream "this is a shifter book" but being a "nosey reader" I'd want to know who the two females were, and whether their characters are as "chalk & cheese" as their looks appear to be. So I think I can say yes, the cover would interest me enough to pick it up and read the blurb.

The book begins as seventeen year old Charlie, one of the main female characters of this book, and featured on the cover leaving a school dance. A dance she hadn't really wanted to go to but had been coerced into attending when Joey Lusk asks her to it. Joey is a nice guy and really is the only person who still smiles and still proffers friendship to Charlie, everyone else has accepted she's a loner and given up. The main reason Charlie keeps herself to herself is because she has a secret to keep. Charlie is a shifter, and has moved around a lot with her mother. Charlie loves the earthy smells of Kallyso, Oregon, the latest place they are living. Charlie has noticed her mum is suddenly acting strangely, getting her to practice her shifting more often than usual. Charlie has practiced changing back and forth so much she can now change and leave her clothes

intact, so she decides to take the more scenic and shifter friendly route back home to her mum. Charlie's mum has always told Charlie to steer clear of other shifters, in fact her mum told her to run and get away as fast as possible, so when Charlie smells shifter's and hears voices she is in somewhat of a quandary as to whether to run or not. As Charlie's mum is inside she decides to investigate before taking action and hides in a rhododendron bush, trying to listen to what is being said and to check if her mum was okay. Charlie sneaks closer and closer, and her mum shouts her name, as Charlie enters the room, her mother tearfully apologizes and then Charlie is hit and knocked out!

We then learn about the other teenager on the cover, Regan, she is also a shifter but lives with her pack. When Charlie wakes up she discovers she has been taken by her father. Charlie has a half sister to meet and the rest of the pack. Naturally Charlie initially feels out of place and still needs her time alone to get used to the idea of suddenly having a family and pack to belong to. It's during one of her solitary runs that she meets a rather gorgeous, mysterious guy. After being nervous and perhaps a little fearful of him, Charlie ends up talking to him and really ending up quite smitten by him.

After giving Charlie a small amount of time to settle in and become acquainted with her sister and some members of the pack Charlie does begin to think she could settle here. In fact it will be rather nice to have a family and a permanent place to stay in and call home. Then her father William, informs her she is now expected to take her rightful place in his pack. This sounds like it may be fairly easy and Charlie thinks it will be great to have a sister, someone to share things with, from clothes to her innermost feelings. However the pack and her father expect Charlie to fight her own half sister Regan for the right to be the next female Alpha. It's hard for Charlie to get her head around, and her sister Regan isn't that impressed about having to fight for something she believes should be hers by right, she has grown up with the pack. It is her mum that was the last Alpha so naturally she should be Alpha. All this sounds fairly simple Charlie isn't bothered about being Alpha, she has had no training in fighting, so Regan will easily win. Then Charlie is informed she will have fighting training to get her ready for the duel. The problem is the one who becomes Alpha has been promised in marriage to the head and Alpha Owen Rossi. Neither girl is particularly wanting to be married let alone married to an opposing pack's Alpha Owen Rossi, who they have no feelings for. Regan still believes it was someone from Owen's pack that killed her mother. William (Regan & Charlie's father) desperately wants to unite his pack with Owen Rossi's pack to achieve a larger pack and to attempt to keep peace. Neither girl particularly wants to get married, in fact Charlie has never met Owen Rossi, or so she thinks. Whilst wandering around alone she has met a gorgeous, mysterious guy who she's like to see and get to know better. Charlie doesn't know the gorgeous guy's name but learns who he is at the party her father is throwing. This is where the cover fits into the book as I would say it is an image of both girls in their unique wedding dresses holding their bouquets of red roses.

I could really go on and on about this novella but I have tried to be sparing with details so you can read the novella and allow the plot to unfold and discover its content as I did by reading her. The easy pace of this book is perfect, making it an enjoyable read. I felt like I flew through the novella, as I certainly say I did not want to put this one down! I think it is ideal for the YA Audience it is being aimed at. At the end of the novella, I was "You cannot seriously be ending it right here!" then frantically searching for when part 2 would be available!

So Did I enjoy the book? Yes! though I certainly don't fall into the teen bracket myself I thoroughly enjoyed it myself! Would I recommend the book? Definitely yes! Would I want to read another novella/book in this series? Yes please I've signed up to read the next e-arc-novella. Would I want to read another title by this Author? I have actually begun reading Heather's Clone Chronicles Series and I have purchased the first book in her Dirty Blood to begin reading that series too!

Kat says

*** Gifted in exchange for an Honest Review ***

This book is the start to a series that involves Werewolf Shifters who are led by Alpha Females - which is a bit different from the norm.

I enjoyed that the women have a prominent place in Pack hierarchy, and Regan's Mother was the last alpha and after her death her father is in temporary charge until she comes of age - OR so she thought! Regan knew that she has a half sister out in the world, but Charlie has no clue, and has lived outside the pack after her mum was banished, growing up hiding her true lineage, she is suddenly taken from her home and thrust into pack life and a world she has no clue about.

When Charlie finds out that the council has decided that Charlie must fight her long-lost sister for the right to lead the pack, she refuses. Charlie is watched by the pack, they know shes not happy but one day she manages to go for a run and meets Owen, Now he's not quite 'Human' and she finds out he's a Vampire, the enemy of the pack. They are supposedly responsible for Regan's mums death.

Regan is determined to Win and marry the Prince, she thinks its what she's been brought up to do, But now Charlie has a reason to fight, Her 'Friend' Owen turns out to be the Prince.

The book does end with a cliff hanger, What will happen in Book 2 - will Charlie who has no experience fighting have a chance to fight for the guy that her heart skips a beat for?

the story sets the pace for the series, and I enjoyed watching the two sisters get to know each other, Charlie is slow to trust Regan, and she doesn't have much time for her father -- nor her mother, who isn't allowed on pack land and since she had a hand in Charlie's relocation to her fathers home, I didn't blame her not wanting to talk to her mum!

I felt for Charlie, she has a steep learning curve, and even though Regan is happy to have a Sister, finding out that instead of gaining the Alpha Position by right of birth, she has to fight the person she wants to get to know better is proving difficult to deal with.

There are love interests set up, Regan's Best friend Carter is hopelessly in love with her, but shes as blind as a bat to it (typical scenario there I guess)

And of course Owen - well he doesn't sparkle but i think there is more to the Vampire Prince, after all why does he disappear into the woods to be alone.

I have a lot of questions left unanswered by the end of the book, I guess I will find out in Book 2 (which is up for pre-order now)

diana says

Rating: 3.8 of 5 stars

NO!! Where's the rest?! I cannot believe it ended that way! I need the next book NOW. Like seriously do

authors get some sort of evil enjoyment from seeing us suffer waiting for the release of the next book?! I just... I can't... what am I supposed to do now?

I have not read a book quite like Bitterroot. I mean sure the whole werewolf-vampire deal is overrated on my part but the authors gave the book a whole other spin that is sure to make it stand out. Throw in a complicated sibling rivalry, a well-built world and complex characters and you've got the making of a great series. And that is exactly what Bitterroot is.

I love Charlie and Regan. They're both so different and yet they carry themselves with the same fire and determination that I admire. I have sisters of my own so I could just imagine how terrifying and hard it must be to be in their shoes.

I have read almost everything by Heather Hildenbrand but I have yet to read anything by SM Reine so I didn't know exactly what to expect from this collaboration. But I should have known it's gonna turn out great.

I LOVE, LOVE Bitterroot. It was too short for my taste yes but just knowing that there's gonna be more books after this more than makes up for it. I am highly intrigued by Owen. And Carter kind of stole a bit of my heart already.

I cannot wait to see where the authors would take us. Hopefully there will be more action, twists, Regan-and-Charlie moments and romance. Give me Part II now!

I received an e-arc to read and review.

Andrea Heltsley says

I loved this book! Heather Hildenbrand and SM Reine are excellent authors individually, and they rock together! Bitterroot is the start of a three part serial. My biggest complaint, was that it was too darn short. I wanted more Regan and Charlie. The romance was just developing in this book, and the excitement was just building.

Even though there were a few twists that I saw coming, it was still a pleasant read.

Overall, this was a great novella and I look forward to reading part two! Five glittery stars!

Alexandra says

Forced sibling rivalry

Charlie is kidnapped and taken to her dad's pack, a father she knew nothing about. She knew she was a werewolf but she has no idea about the laws governing the pack. She also finds out she has a sister, Regan, and that she has to fight her to determine who is the pack alpha. And then whoever wins Alpha gets to marry Owen, a vampire. The book is written in both Regan and Charlie's point of view. At times I wanted to dislike Regan for not helping Charlie more but then the more I read about her the more I realize she is struggling just as much as Charlie in this situation their father has thrust her into. The premise of the story is what piqued my interest. I thought it was written very well and it flowed very nicely from one scene to another.

Courtney Whittamore- The Moral of our Stories says

Everywhere you look it seems like there is another paranormal series trying to make its way into viability, especially those of the werewolf/vampire type. Some people are instantly turned off by this booking sub-genre due to over-exposure caused by block buster series such as *Twilight* and *The Mortal Instruments* while others are clambering over it for the very same reason. As an equal opportunity book lover, I try to give every book its fair chance, but I will admit, I was more than a little excited to read this story.

I have been a huge fan of Heather Hildenbrand since a friend of mine introduced me to her *Dystopian Series*, *The Imitation series*, and I have had S.M Reine's collective work on my TBR list for an absurd amount of time and cannot wait to have the time to dive into her highly acclaimed work. When this pairing of authors was announced, I was cautiously excited. I am always slightly wary of author collaborations, as they can either work out to be creative masterpieces, or quite the literary disaster. In my time of reading, I have found myself to be so hopeful for author collaborations, and usually sorely disappointed. With great relief I can say that this collaboration was one that was perfectly engineered. The writing styles of each author did not clash like many dual authored books unintentionally facilitate, but instead the both of their voices bolstered their work to a degree of expertise that cannot be overlooked.

The storyline was pleasantly intriguing, and I was drawn in within the very first scene. As the story developed, the characters began to round out into very relatable beings, which is something that can be found as lacking in this genre. Both Charlie and Regan were incredibly human in heart, despite their paranormal genetics. I really enjoyed that there is not one girl that outshines the other consistently throughout the story and that there are no guarantees. Everything is consistently changing, including the point of view in the story, which further lends to the intrigue that comes with never knowing how things are going to turn out. The only complaint that I have about this book is that the second isn't out yet! This is the first novella in the *Bitterroot* series, and the second is already up for pre-sale. As soon as I read the last page, I was so sad that I have to wait to find out what happens next! I am so invested in this reality, and I am anxiously excited to see where this journey leads.

I give this book 4 out of 5 stars. The plot was fast paced and flowed very easily, which is always a delight to read. The characters were all very intriguing yet relatable. I enjoyed that we could see their vulnerability, but that characteristic is what always spurred on their strength. I believe that this collaboration is a stunning success; one that I only wished could be said of more author pairings. This is a very well done first installment, and I eagerly wait to read what happens next.
