



Romanus

Mary Calmes

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2nd Edition

Stopping to offer help one sultry summer night, Mason James is unprepared for the change that this simple act of kindness will bring. After giving an old man a ride home, Mason discovers a new, magical, and even dangerous world he cannot hope to understand. But he also finds Luc Toussaint and is intoxicated at first sight... and even the secret Luc protects won't be enough to keep Mason away from the truth of his heritage and their love.

1st edition published by Dreamspinner Press, 2010.

Romanus Details

Date : Published January 27th 2016 by Dreamspinner Press (first published June 1st 2010)

ISBN :

Author : Mary Calmes

Format : Kindle Edition 70 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Fantasy, Paranormal, Shapeshifters

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From Reader Review Romanus for online ebook

Bubbles Huntly Honest & Direct Opinions says

3.5 to 4 stars.

I enjoyed the story and really Liked Mason and Luc all though it was also really confusing for a lot of it, to me other people might understand the paranormal aspect better than I did.

I do not understand how Mason could possibly continue to be friends with Eli after Eli sleeps with all of Mason's dates and then just walks into Mason's room and starts touching his date while the date is sleeping naked in mason's bed.

Jenni Lea says

Still 3.5 stars but this time I'm rounding up instead of down.

Because reasons.

3.5 stars

SheReadsALot says

Audiobook Review - 3.75 Hearts--Well *hello* Mr. Greg Tremblay!

I've read so many testaments that this narrator is one of the elite. And being an audiobook neophyte, I didn't pay attention much. I didn't know.

I figured why not try this narrator out with a book I've already read and written by an author I enjoy.

Tremblay made the book an even *better* experience.

This is gargoyles, Calmes style! And she even followed up with a new story, Chevalier this year. (Which I definitely will be reading)

To be honest, I prefer Calmes' contemporary the most **BUT** Romanus was one paranormal story I really

enjoyed. Possibly because the length and gargoyles. But it had the items that makes a Calmes...a *Calmes*. Possessive hero, everyone is drawn to the other hero, melty kisses.

Firefighter Mason does what he thinks is a easy rescue job on his way home in Kentucky one night. Instead, he discovers the gateway to changing his life upside down. He discovers a gargoyle clan and finds a mate in Luc, a soldier of the clan. Luc and Mason heat up the pages with their chemistry. They find a balance because Luc wants to be the one and only right the fuck NOW, but Mason puts his foot down...while starting something with the other man.

And public sex.

Growly possessive public sex.

Okay, so the story hit my buttons. *Tee-hee*.

Now I see the difference great narration does for a book. Tremblay did different, distinct voices. He did the accents, he really narrated the hell out of a **3.5 star** book for me. He made it magic. I could visualize every action and he made it better. So much so, I'm bumping up my rating to **3.75 Hearts** because the narration was a 4 Heart job...the story was basically the same, so I'm not going to get rating crazy.

I had the same feels for the plot twists - couldn't stand the jealous supposed friend and the 'action'/kidnapping plot was a little out there. But it works because this is paranormal. I am happy for the sequel because there were a few questions I had that I wanted answered three years ago when I originally read *Romanus* - who were Mason's parents? what can a Romanus do? what will happen with a gargoyle/human pairing (secondary characters)?

Still think gargoyles were cool, loved how Tremblay did their accents (think French)! Oh la la!

This is a quick read for readers who are in the mood for alpha possessiveness, hot sex, and gargoyles!

I recommend listening to an audiobook by Tremblay.

This will **not** be my last.

Initial Reading - (2/4/13) THREE & A HALF STARS-- *smacks lips*

Just what I needed, a solid paranormal Mary Calmes story featuring a sexy alpha gargoyle named Luc and an average main character named Mason. I felt the length hindered the quality of the story...it felt rushed at times. The ending left me wanting more and I enjoyed the gargoyle mythology introduced.

This author seriously has the gift of creating characters you just want more of or secondary characters you wish to have their own book too.

I really liked Mason & Luc together, the one scene in the park? Hotness!!!

Valerie ❀M/M Romance Junkie❀ says

As much as I adore Mary Calmes, I've come to the conclusion that her paranormal isn't for me. No rating.

Anna Zedda says

3,5 stelline.. l'inizio era promettente ma poi la brevità del racconto ha lasciato troppi interrogativi .. spero che nel secondo libro della serie venga spiegato qualcosa in più

Susan says

The perfect narration of Greg Tremblay was the only reason I didn't DNF this one.

I can do shifter stories, but this gargoyle story was confusing and just plain weird.

Firefighter Mason encounters a naked old man in the streets. He gets the man to get into his truck and takes him home. He gets taken to a house in a clearing, where it seems like a bunch of naked people are sitting around a bonfire.

The people there are acting very strange and the only reason Mason stays is because he is struck by the beauty of one man, Luc.

The guys hit it off, there is sex, there is some talk of MINE blahblablah. Oh, and Mason just shrugs when he finds out Luc is a gargoyle and that Mason is a descendant of gargoyles himself.

This was the insta-est of insta love romances. It was weird, it was awful. Thank god it was short.

Karen says

I'm feeling a little out of sorts right now...

I have to admit I'm a little taken aback by how I'm feeling about this story. I was sure this would be a win. I love Mary Calmes and Greg Tremblay narrating one of her books is a sure thing and trust me it's not the gargoyles because hell, when my son was little I sat and happily watched that cartoon with him and truthfully when it comes to paranormal it's probably the least explored concept but it's one of my faves. I'd rather have gargoyles than vampires and some shifters any day.

I've enjoyed all of this author's paranormal series...her Warders, L'Ange and her 'Change of Heart' series so much so that I have them all on both e-book and audio. I guess it was inevitable that I'd eventually come across something that didn't work well for me and this was it. I loved the premise and Greg Tremblay's narration of the audio book...eeerrrr...story, it's just under 2 hours, so really I can't in good conscience call it a book and honestly even if this had been longer and more filled out I'm not sure it would have worked any better for me but considering all the hours of reading and listening pleasure that this author has given me...well, this one's just a blip on the radar and as far as I'm concerned Mary Calmes stories are still a guaranteed happy place for me.

Elise ✕ a.k.a Ryder's Pet ✕ says

??????*Might contain spoilers*??????

Mason “Mace” James and **Luc Toussaint** met, and Mace is totally mesmerized by the man. He can't stop looking. Even though he's so tired he could fall asleep standing, he just want to look at Luc. Luc's not human, he's a goji—gargoyle, and apparently Mace has goji blood in him and he is a Romanus (a seer). **Overall**, the story is a story of *insta-love* and apparently not freaking out when it turns out your lover is a gargoyle — Mace just smiled. Alrighty then. I feel like **Mary Calmes'** stories goes like this: “*Well, hello.*” “*Hi, we're mates.*” “*Really?*” “*Yes, you're mine.*” “*I'm yours.*” “*I love you.*” “*I love you, too.*” Awesome. Not. God, me and *insta-love* does not get along. And this review is awful.

“How do you simply accept this new truth of our existence so easily?”

“Seeing is believing.” I gestured at him. “But at some point we’ll have to figure out how I managed to have gargoyle blood in me and never know it...”

Quick basic facts:

Genre: - (Adult) Paranormal Romance (M/M)

Series: - Series (Standalone?), Book One (Short Story)

Love triangle? - (view spoiler)

Cheating? - (view spoiler)

HEA? - (view spoiler)

Favorite character? - Sariel.

Would I read more by this author/or of series? - I just keep coming back to Mary Calmes.

Would I recommend this book/series? - No.

Will I read this again in the future? - No.

Rating - 1.5/2 stars.

Amy says

AudiobookNarrated by Greg Tremblay***Very interesting. Not my normal read. My first gargoyles, in fact. I will definitely read or listen to the sequel. I need to know what happens with Mace and Luc!

Jennifer?Pher? says

Of course, as is normal with a Mary book, not nearly enough. I always want more.

This just wrapped up way too quickly for my liking. There is the potential for *so* much more story! I need more story!

Looks like in May 2016 I will get my wish. Thank goodness!

I love, love, love gargoyles and can't wait to dig more into this world.

Serena Yates says

A new, magical, and even dangerous world discovered by hunky, kindhearted firefighter Mason? Sign me up! This story starts harmlessly enough, not a trace of the supernatural. It sucked me in, curious for the “big reveal” Mason was about to unearth, but what I got instead was a most delicious gradual unveiling with small mystery after small mystery pointing in the direction of “something is going on here” – but no clarity about the details until almost the last possible moment. Masterfully done!

Mason is a really great guy. No matter how tired he is after a double shift, he stops for the old man wandering around in the dark, then ensures that the slightly confused guy makes it home safely. But what Mason finds there is more than odd: a group of people around a bonfire, naked guys all over the place, and a woman who treats him reverently just for bringing home her grandfather. The mysteries and riddles just keep coming, and nobody seems willing to give Mason a straight answer.

Then there is Luc. The man is gorgeous to the point of being beautiful, slightly arrogant at first, and definitely intriguing. When it is all too weird for Mason and he flees, Luc follows him. A few intriguingly mysterious statements later they fall into bed together, and Mason begins to feel possessive. And when Luc finally reveals who and what he is, who his people are, it's only the beginning of an even more astounding adventure than Mason could have ever imagined.

I read this book's first edition many years ago, but coming back to it hasn't reduced my fascination with the

world Mary Calmes has created here. And yes, I am STILL hoping for a sequel. I think there is potential for a few more stories.

If you like paranormal stories with unusual touches, if “a mystery on top of a riddle wrapped in an enigma” is your thing, and if you’re looking for a read that contains a touching love story as well as an intriguing journey of discovery, then you will probably like this novella as much as I did.

NOTE: This book was provided by Dreamspinner Press for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Trio says

This was pretty weird to be honest... gargoyles, insta-love to the max, confused MC. Ugh, not sure I would have finished this one but I had it on audio and Greg Tremblay manages to make it work.

BWT (Belen) says

Greg Tremblay gives such good audio. *sighs*

When firefighter Mason "Mace" James stops to help a naked old man on the side of the road one late night he doesn't expect his good Samaritan duty to change his life forever. Coming off a double shift, he's exhausted and the strange people and sights when he returns the old man home are just plain weird. When he ends up agreeing to stay the night, it's mainly because he meets Luc Toussaint and is intoxicated at first sight.

When things get a little more weird than Mace can explain away, even in his exhausted state, he quickly leaves and goes home. But events have now been set in motion, and Mace can't run from his man or his destiny.

An interesting paranormal romance, Mace finds the love of his life, learns he is a Romanus, that gargoyles are real and he can see their true forms, and that not everyone is happy for the Romanus to have been found.

Greg Tremblay showcases the confusion, wonder, and heat of the story all while drawing the listener in and wrapping them up creating this cocoon until the last seconds of the audio.

As with any Mary Calmes novella I find myself wanting more as soon as I get to the last page. *Romanus* felt a little unexplored, like there was so much more story to tell, but there's good news for readers as Mace and Luc's story continues in *Chevalier*.

Ultimately I was thoroughly entertained by the audio, with Greg Tremblay giving another fantastic performance. Recommended.

Audio copy of Romanus provided by Dreamspinner Press in exchange of an honest review.

This review has been cross-posted at Gay Book Reviews.

Gigi says

Well that was... Weird. Review of books 1 and 2 together.

Bookwatcher says

The plot

Mason James, a fireman, in the middle of the night, going back home after work see a naked and frightened old guy running

He stop, help him, and taking him home (the old guy point a direction, and Mason take him there) will be stunned by his "friends", almost all naked. There he will know Luc Toussaint, a incredible gorgeous guy that seems not be very certain about how much he is handsome, and why Mason like him so much.

I'll not spoil telling what Luc and all his friends are. The mystery is what will made you read this story. All book is in Mason POV so you can't guess what is happening and why everyone from Luc's "village" call him Romanus.

I liked it, a lot and enjoy very much this book but lately I read some short stories and I can say how much I hate when the plot is not very much explored. This short story has everything to be a BIG story, so the fact it's so short left a huge void in the plot development (showing Luc flying, for example, was a thing I would love to read) and obviously the romance too.

Everything happened to quickly, and I think more pages (and more time expended developing the story) would transform this 3 stars short story in a 5 stars full book.

In my view something was missing, BUT I certainly recommend it to all. Incredible funny characters, and very good paranormal story. I just think (very personal opinion) the romance was rushed, and I didn't feel the love between the main characters.

So 3 stars, and I really would love a long story with this topic.
