



Changing Hearts

Marilu Mann

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Changing Hearts Marilu Mann "Book 2 in the Lusting Wild series." It just got hotter on the bayou. Louisiana has never been this steamy When injured shapeshifter Malcolm, an Alpha running for his life, meets Cajun faith-healer Joie, their fates collide. Human to his wolf, she prefers dealing with the animals because animals love you unconditionally. Malcolm believes love is for weaklings and he can't afford to be weak. Hunted by his own Pack and having to face his own demons, he doesn't have time to cater to the sensitive feelings of a human female. Or the lust boiling between them. Still there's something about "this" female that turns him inside out. Can Joie tame this predator in bed and out?

Changing Hearts Details

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Author : Marilu Mann

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From Reader Review Changing Hearts for online ebook

Marilu says

I am the author.

Megan says

3.5 Stars

Malcolm Slade ran away from a challenge in his pack and now he is on the run. As the Alpha, he can't show weakness or cowardice and he did that when he ran. When his injuries cause him to stop and he blacks out, he is found by a faith healer Joie and her god mother. Joie is drawn to the wold she is helping to heal but she doesn't know that the wolf is really a shapeshifter. Once Slade gets better and leaves he finds himself drawn back to Joie for reasons he can't explain. He knows he should move on before his pack finds him but he can't seem to make himself leave.

When I found out who the hero of this book was I didn't think I would like it at all. Not only was he the villain in the first book of the series, he did some pretty awful things in general that made him a complete jerk. I didn't think that Mann would be able to redeem him but I was pleasantly surprised. I did find that some of his actions from the first book weren't addressed, like when he had random innocent humans killed and the rape he ordered. We learn why he acted the way he did but it's never really addressed and I would have liked to see his justification to Joie as to why he did those things.

Slade doesn't go from villain to good-guy hero quickly. It takes time for him to get used to the way Joie and her godmother treat him before he starts to realize what he has been missing. Not to mention the attraction he feels for Joie makes him want to be a better man. Or at least pretend until he can get her into bed. But his pretending eventually becomes reality and he is able to learn and grow as a person. There is also a plot with his old pack that I could have one without. I know it had to be done to close that circle but the ending just felt like it took too long. I enjoyed the book but it just felt like there was too many extra things going on at the end that weren't needed.

This is the second book in the Lusting Wild series and while it can be read as a stand alone since the back story is explained, I would recommend reading the series in order. Although you will like Slade better if you don't read the first book cause he isn't very nice in it.

Jane Stewart says

Plot was not very good. I had problems with motivations and conflicts. Story dragged a bit.

CHANGING HEARTS by Marilu Mann.

STORY BRIEF:

Joie had some sadness with an ex boyfriend and is staying with her godmother Kay in the Bayou. Kay is a psychic and a healer using herbs and prayers. Slade was the alpha in his pack of wolf shape shifters. An alpha female Maggie poisoned him with silver and tried to kill him. He escaped but is badly wounded. He ends up near Kay's home. Kay and Joie tend to his wounds and take care of him as he heals. Slade and Joie are drawn to each other. When Maggie learns he is alive, she plans to kill Slade and hurt Joie.

REVIEWER'S OPINION – CAUTION SPOILERS:

Author used three of my pet peeves to create conflict which annoyed me.

1. Slade's actions did not fit his feelings and motivations. Their first sex scene begins, but neither of them has a condom. So Slade goes to a bar and gets some condoms. Does he return to Joie? No. He sees a skanky woman and decides to have sex with her to take the edge off.
2. Heroine doing something stupid for the sake of the plot. An enemy comes to their home. Slade tells Joie to stay inside while he fights and hopefully kills the enemy. Does she stay inside? No. She goes to the fight because she wants to help him, but she has nothing to help him with. Joie is a distraction, and the enemy gets away as a result.

Another example: Slade tells Joie to stay inside and keep the rifle next to her. She doesn't. She goes outside without the rifle and gets kidnapped.

3. Conflict due to inaccurate assumptions. Slade loses a fight and thinks Joie will not love him anymore because he lost. Even though she nurses him back to health and repeatedly tells him she loves him, he doesn't believe her, and he leaves her. Instead of believing her actions and words, he believes his own inaccurate assumptions.

In addition, the story dragged. It took too long for things to start happening.

DATA:

Kindle count story length: 4894. Swearing language: strong, including religious swear words. Sexual language: mild. Number of sex scenes: 12. Setting: unknown time (trucks and motorcycles exist) Louisiana. Copyright: 2008. Genre: paranormal romance.

Linda says

I enjoyed this one so much more then the first!! I was worried how she would make the bad guy-go-good but it was realistic. She wrote about the conflict in the characters head with himself! I am in the process of the 3rd book and will check out more from this author. -DINK

Cindy says

I didn't know if I was going to be able to see Slade as a good guy. It was easier than I expected because it was written in a way that he doesn't turn instantly good. I still wish he hadn't been involved with the deaths of innocents.

Bitten_by_Books says

So, this is a poignant moment for me. Because Marilu Mann was our very FIRST author interview when we first began our site and Changing Times, the first book in the Lusting Wild series was the FIRST e-book I ever read. Changing Hearts is a step down in action from the first installment and a step up on love, lust and more importantly self discovery. In the first book "Slade" was the alpha dick head...

For the entire review please go to the Best Paranormal & Urban Fantasy Review site on the web, Bitten By Books for the review of Changing Hearts in it's entirety. You won't be sorry.
