



## The United & The Divided

*L.A. Witt*

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Tooth & Claw #3

Where do you go when there's nowhere left to go?

Levi, Darius, and Ian have been on the run from Levi's wolf clan, but now they've got a problem. Levi's now part vampire. Darius, a vampire for the last half century, is now part wolf. They have to feed on blood, but a bite will turn a human to a wolf.

They're left with only one option: find a group of wolves to live amongst... which is a challenge when the wolves want them dead.

On a remote island off the coast of Alaska, though, they find a small community willing to let them stay, at least for the time being. The decision isn't unanimous, though, and the community is divided. Some are willing to let the fugitives stay and feed off their people. Others, though, want the three men dead, even if it means destroying their own village in the process.

And when one of the clan Elders learns that the island wolves are harboring them, he's going to make sure Levi, Darius, and Ian are dead if he has to do it himself.

Contains a vampire and two vampire-wolves who are seriously over all this running around stuff. Also lots of bullets and fur flying, but you'd better believe the boys still find time to burn up the sheets. Because really, when any night could be your last, you might as well make it count.

This 51,000 word novel was previously published.

## The United & The Divided Details

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Author : L.A. Witt

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## From Reader Review The United & The Divided for online ebook

### Clare O'Beara says

This paranormal mixes up the supernatural beings in the Arctic Circle. Levi, Ian and Darius have already appeared in two books of the 'Tooth And Claw' series (which I had not read) and by now are a unit. All three are vampires but Levi and Darius are also werewolves. If they bite a person to feed the vampire, the person will turn into a werewolf. They need to find a willing wolf shifter who will allow them to snack. There's a nearby wolf village on Sitka Island, but the guys have a string of wolf enemies.

I have to say I started wondering if the bitten wolf would turn into a vampire. But I'm all in favour of giving characters challenges and I wanted to see how long it would take before Ian was a wolf too. The narrators switch each chapter which can be confusing and there is little to differentiate between their voices.

Action includes drinking blood and a strong, loving gay relationship between the three vampire men. It always baffles me how people in the midst of being hunted and tortured take time out to have sex in these stories. I'd be saving my energy and making better use of my time, like preparing weapons or food. For adult readers only, with strong language, violence and the odd Molotov cocktail just when you thought you could relax.

Horror fans, followers of the series or gay readers might well give this more stars.

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### Chelle says

I read all three books in this series over the course of a few days. I'm kind of exhausted, and wrung out, like I've been on the run for a couple of months. It was painful, and tragic, and beautiful, and sort of a HEA, but tentative (because none of us are letting our guard down after that), and with a last ditch poke in the eye so you wouldn't be allowed to walk away without crying anyway.

I think there might have been a loose end or two, but my head is still swimming.. and I've decided I prefer the loose ends. Nothing is less satisfying to me than when a book ties everything up neatly at the end. I like being left wondering. The uncertainty doesn't let go.

This is not your typical werewolf/vampire thing.

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### Vanessa North says

When LA Witt decides to send a trope up in flames, she does it literally. And writes the hottest vamp/shifter sex ever. Sad to see this series end, but happy to see the guys get their HEA at last. :)

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### LiveYourLife BuyTheBook says

4 Stars

## A "Live Your Life, Buy The Book" Review

After the events of "The Given & The Taken" and "The Healing & The Dying", Levi, Ian and Darius hope they've finally found sanctuary with a wolf clan far enough away that the Clan Elders will stop looking for them and allow them to live and love in peace. Yeah, no such luck! In spite of the support they have from the community's Elders, they aren't long there when the cabin they are staying in is set on fire with a bombardment of Molotov cocktails. During the day. They are rescued from certain death from flames or sunlight by a small group of supporters. One of those supporters is Julie, a young woman who was initially disapproving of them. When she comes across Ian watching the Northern Lights, curiosity gets the better of her. She approaches Ian to ask him their real story. After that, she becomes a staunch ally to the guys and ropes her less than impressed boyfriend, Harlan, into helping them as well.

Although they escape the burning cabin, the three lovers once again find themselves facing certain death when one of the clan Elders suddenly appears on the island demanding they face their original sentence – to be placed in cages and left to face the dawn.

The "United & the Divided" was fast paced and action packed as Levi, Ian and Darius reel from one life threatening situation to the next, relentlessly pursued. The author did a good job of incorporating recaps of major points in previous books into the story without it feeling tedious. Each chapter is told in first person POV, rotating between the MCs. Although I'd get momentarily lost every now and then and had to recall which MC it was, it quickly became obvious again as to who's head we were in and I didn't find it detracted from the story. I loved the three MCs and the sex scenes were oh-my-god hot! However, while the sex scenes really were smokin', it would have been nice to have had more of the guys just interacting with each – the love and affection without the sex every time – because the few times there were, I really loved.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book. The characters were wonderful and the action had me turning the page needing to know what would happen next! The last scene was definitely my favourite. It showed the love and support the three of them have with each other and was a lovely conclusion to Levi, Ian and Darius's story.

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### **Paul says**

I have read a few shifter and vamp novels over the years, as far back as awaiting Anne Rice's Interview With a Vampire series to be released but never was interested in Twilight or the Sookie Stackhouse novels.

I am however a big fan of Illona Andrews, Patricia Briggs, Jim Butcher, Kim Harrison and a few Sherrilyn Kenyon novels.

The Tooth and the Claw series though is so unlike any other of those books within this genre that I give L.A Witt 5 stars for pushing these boundaries with the characters to their absolute limits. They are strictly M/M though but it wouldn't have mattered if they weren't.

The direction of how these people are pushed within the parameters is the most original take on this and done so convincingly and unbelievably well. It's like nothing else I've read within this style of urban fantasy that wasn't over the top either and I absolutely loved them.

Most authors stick to the few so called lore of how these characters should be defined with years of preceding literature setting just how each of these particular traits should be portrayed, all written though

with their own little twists and quirks to give it their own personal touch, but these were incredible and became better as each book progressed.

Yes I'll admit the first book is dripping with a bit of teen angst but if you like these kind of stories then keep on reading.

Not only is the depth of the love and hatred between characters rock solid and phew is there some rather steamy and quite frequent sex but it's the story that drives these books, they are well written with a solid plot.

I don't want to even begin with individual characters as I'd write a thesis (just kidding) it's just too complex for a quick review, but there's an underlying mixture of intense love, loyalty and friendship that is heartbreakingly woven within that from the get go is intense tension with an unexpected hardcore thriller aspect that just keeps this relentless pace, leaving you on the edge of your seat through all three books. Some might see some of these situations they get into maybe a bit much but remember it's urban fantasy and people with powers do everything possible to get out of one nasty situation to another from such a strong bond of love.

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### **Melissa says**

OMG, this was torturous. The old adage, "If you can't say anything nice, then don't say anything at all." Well, I guess I am going to ignore that because the narration was just so baaaad!!!! I couldn't stand it. I put up with it because it was only in short doses at one time, but I wanted to reach in through my phone and just *do something not polite* because, gah, it wasn't good.

As for the story, there was waaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaay too much sex. This story could have been about an hour long if all the sex had been removed.

Sorry All, but I can't recommend, and I just can't say anymore because I would be here all night, and still not get to everything that bothered me.

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### **Anu says**

At last there is hope of a sanctuary, a village of wolves on an isolated island. Somewhere they could be safe, start a new life together. But as to be expected, things don't go as planned. This was the hardest book for me to read, the boys are at breaking point here - they've literally been on the run non-stop for weeks and Levi and Darius have had to adjust to their new status as wolf/vampire hybrids along with the trio navigating the realities of a relationship. My heart ached so much for them all here, the anticipation of how things were going to be resolved in the end was so well built up. But so well rewarded in the end.

I expected the series to be well written, after all this is an LA Witt book - but I did not expect the story to sweep me off my feet so much. The individual chapters with each protagonist's POV gives the story depth and keeps things interesting, and I really loved each character's inner monologue about their feelings for the others. As menages go, this had a good dynamic because each had a separate relationship with another outside the trio. Ian and Levi were together for a long time before their enforced separation but Ian and Darius' feelings were made no less valid for being around a shorter time. And Darius and Levi's was (for me)

the most beautiful relationship of all, how they had to overcome a lifetime of conditioning and hatred.

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### **Christy says**

It felt like I waited forever for this final story of Levi, Darius and Ian. 'The United & The Divided' is book three in L.A. Witt's series 'Tooth & Claw' and it stands to be the most exciting as the finale. When I left the guys at the end of the previous book, they had just escaped the pack at Levi's grandmother's home in Sitka, Alaska, and with grandma and Levi's cousin in tow, were heading to a remote island where a pack of wolves lived that might, or might not, accept them into the fold. Starting off with a bang, huh?

I couldn't begin to comprehend how absolutely terrifying it must have been for Levi, Darius, and Ian to step onto that island with the wolves. Not knowing whether they had been tricked and were going to be killed at any second. Especially when they had to stand up in front of the whole pack to discuss the pros and cons. In fact, I'm not sure how the guys have managed as long as they have these weeks of running, hiding, and fighting to stay alive. The pack Elders agree to allowing them to stay, and once a few of the pack experience being fed from and can banish their fears, it looks like the guys might be able to relax.

Until the Molotov cocktails come exploding into their bedroom forcing them to deal with the sunlight outside. Luckily, Levi's cousin and one of the female pack members save them and takes them to the temple to heal in total darkness. The six wolves responsible are found and brought before the Elders and the pack. When the Elders decide to punish them by banishment, Ian steps forward to state that there's been enough anger, hatred, revenge, and banishing them isn't going to do anything but cause more problems. Ian, Darius, and Levi are tired of all the fighting. They just want to be safe and be allowed to live.

The clan Elders aren't going to allow that, though, and when one of them discovers where Levi, Darius, and Ian are hiding out, the hunt is back on. This time though, they've got a couple of wolf friends who try to help. Unfortunately, outnumbered and not wanting to get their friends killed, Levi, Darius, and Ian surrender. The clan Elder sentences them to death at sunrise. And, I'm not spoiling the surprise. So there.

Unbelievable finale to this incredible series. At least, I'm assuming this is the finale, but I suppose you never know. The love that Levi, Darius, and Ian showed to each other, and then as a trio once that began, was steady and true, all of them risking their lives over and over again for one another. Even though so much of these books involved serious action adventure, the love and desire showed through, constantly, and when they had a moment to show that love, sexually, they grasped it and held on with everything they had. Amazing. I loved it. I can't recommend it enough!

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

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### **Natalie says**

[So they'll be living in Alaska permanently? That's all well and good during the w

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## **Aniko says**

4 to 4.25 stars

After the events of The Given & The Taken and The Healing & The Dying, Levi, Ian and Darius hope they've finally found sanctuary with a wolf clan far enough away that the Clan Elders will stop looking for them and allow them to live and love in peace. Yeah, no such luck! In spite of the support they have from the community's Elders, they aren't long there when the cabin they are staying in is set on fire with a bombardment of Molotov cocktails. During the day.

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I thoroughly enjoyed this book. The characters were wonderful and the action had me turning the page needing to know what would happen next! The last scene was definitely my favourite. It showed the love and support the three of them have with each other and was a lovely conclusion to Levi, Ian and Darius's story.

Read the full review at [Live Your Life, Buy The Book](#)

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## **Sunne says**

This is the third book of the "Tooth & Claw" series.

While I enjoyed the first book a lot, I've found the second one probably as stressful as the MCs themselves, I'm kind of disappointed with this one. After two books "on the run" I had hoped for something more different but this book could have been added seamlessly to the end of the second one. This is just the continuation of "catch your breath for a moment" and then "someone is going to betray you and you are on the run again"....and again...and again....The end comes remarkably "uneventful". Another seemingly hopeless showdown, some talking and "poof" the Elder - while still not seeing reason and realizing that his attitude is cause for all the pain - at least accepts to leave them in peace to avoid more causalities. While this is a reasonable solution, it also expects the reader to accept a very sudden and unlikely change of heart.

Personally I would have hoped for a more creative ending (not that I have any idea what) or would have felt better with everything sorted out in the second book with one or two "near death" situations less. This felt a lot like prolonging the story for the sake for another book, sorry.

It's not that I didn't like it but I missed some of the magic between the boys, I got annoyed with yet another run and that made it average for me.

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## **EscaPe iNTo thE PaGEs says**

3.75 stars.

After being on the run for so long and so much loss and heartache, I felt like any ending that didn't result in death would be anti-climactic. But I really enjoyed the interaction and dynamic of the trio. Overall a very nice series!

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## **Adara says**

[someone finally said

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## **piranha says**

Damn. This series started so promising, with the deft twisting of some well-worn tropes. The second book cranked up the angst, but what I expected from this one — a more complex resolution for the clan elders to deal with wolf-vampire hybrids, a re-evaluation of the bonding rules — didn't materialize.

Structurally, this was a weak novel. They keep running, half-heartedly trust somebody because they don't have much of a choice, and get betrayed; rinse, lather, repeat. Some of this makes no sense whatsoever — ok, so they're in deep shit because they have gone against the elders and the rules, and now the elders are deliberating what to do, and things don't look good for them. The very clear orders from the elders has been to leave them alone in the cabin and do nothing to them. So a bunch of people on the island also decide to defy the elders' rules? Really, nobody actually seems to give much of a fuck for rules. The last betrayal also makes no sense — what, at that time the people involved didn't actually understand fully what the hell they were doing? Do they have more than two neurons to rub together? Julie's reaction to what happens to Harlan is staggeringly unbelievable — this is NOT how anyone acts who loves a person. Ever. And the ending is just anti-climactic. Nothing new is said that wasn't said to the clan elder a day or so before, yet this time he caves, and for no good reason whatsoever. And exactly how will our intrepid trio go on now? This feels at best like a HFN, and I am almost hoping for a 4th book to repair the damage, but I am also not sure I'd want to read a 4th book after this one. I didn't even like the sex anymore, because I got conditioned that it would be interrupted in some potentially deadly way.

In general I got the impression that the author wrote herself into a corner with this book and never managed to find a believable way out.

Nit-picky addendum: It's been too long since I read the previous two books, but did we get a good reason for why they're limited to drinking from wolves? Ok, so biting humans would turn them, but can't they take donations via an IV baggie? That would solve their major problem real easily. Also, in general I like my paranormal fantasy to make some semi-scientific sense. I know, vampires already don't make any much sense (except for the ones who supposedly have a virus), and neither do shifters who lose much of their mass when shifting into an animal. But with all that extra energy expenditure, they can live on half a cup of blood for several days? I know, I know, why am I even asking; paranormal romance doesn't give a shit about making sense in general, I shouldn't blame this author in specific. It's just when I am already unhappy, I turn more critical in general.

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**Sarah says**

So, I've just finished the last book of the series. I rather enjoyed the conclusion. There was way more blood shed than I would have liked and some of it was rather gruesome, but it was a good strong ending that brought the characters full circle.

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