



## Crazed Hearts

*Shiloh Walker*

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**Crazed Hearts** Shiloh Walker

Grimm's Circle, Book 3

Ren has always danced along the fine line between being a little bit crazy and being overcome by a darkness that's haunted him since his mortal days. As an empath, he prefers to live far from people who would leak their emotions all over him, so he's not expecting the woman who drives right into the heart of his wood. She has a cursed book with her and demons hot on her heels. Even more surprising are her abilities and the reaction Ren has to her.

Aileas is on the run. She just isn't certain if she's running from something real or imagined. One thing is for sure, her brother is dead and she's certain the book she found has something to do with his death. She really starts to doubt her sanity when she meets a hot but somewhat crazed man in the middle of nowhere.

He calls himself Ren, and although he doesn't seem to be out to hurt her, he definitely seems to want something. She just doesn't understand what. She does know what she wants though. She wants him, and the shadows and darkness she glimpses inside him don't matter. At least, right up until he claims to be a guardian angel.

And she thought she was going crazy.

## Crazed Hearts Details

Date : Published (first published July 13th 2010)

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## From Reader Review Crazy Hearts for online ebook

### K says

SPOILERS...

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Really? Mrs. Walker, this is the second time you've made one of my faves mortal. I'm still not over Vax's story. This one was better, though, I guess. I do wish there had been a scene with mortal Ren and Elle, Greta, and Rip. I enjoyed Ali. I wish there would have been a convo between her and Ren about her job. I'm assuming she was a vet. Good read. I'm just upset that he probably won't show up in later stories.

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### Theresa says

This is Ren's HEA. Lots of good action at first, then there's a lot of talk, explanations proving what's going on and what are Grimms, denial and disbelief and of course sex. Which though needed through book after book it gets to be a little boring. But then the fighting action starts again and things perk up before the bittersweet ending.

I love the how Ren and Aileas meet, though Ren's 'the moment I saw her' attraction was a bit awkward. I'd love to have his talent. It's be cool to have a lot of different animals around me that I can communicate with. Bo is especially cool. Ren's back story explains how he got the way he is, thought is a bit disjointed and not as different as the previous histories. Once I knew his mane I sort of guessed what tale/legend he was supposed to be.

We don't get much background on Aileas other than that her brother just died and she seems very indecisive and flighty. It's mostly because of the fright she's be through, but she's strong person, so after getting over the shock of it all she should be okay.

Mandy doesn't have many scenes in this, but she does go out in a big way and we will see her again. All the previous characters show up to help along with a few unidentified Grimms that maybe the one's in future stories.

Quick Thoughts: 1)I hope we get Will's story someday. I feel that it's fascinating.

2)I didn't know he/they could read minds. Some have the power over emotions but I'd hope Aileas could keep secrets from him.

Fave Scenes: Ren and Will's visit to the battle site, the red wine, Will rescuing Ren and the book burning party.

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## **Calisto says**

I love this universe. It's because I love it that they don't go beyond three stars. Weird? Let me explain.

The concept of the Grimm's is awesome. It's a rich UF/PNR material, but because it's being used in the erotic romance novella category, it feels truncated.

So really the problem is me. I want more depth and longer stories. To me the sex here feels like it interrupts the storytelling rather than enriching it. So if I liked the concept less, I would love these stories more. Does that make sense?

Despite my unhappiness with the length, I'll totally into this series. Ms. Walker is a terrific writer and I autobuy each Grimm.

BTW, I loved Ren. Shocker I know, his archetype of hero (tortured, dark, warrior) is my reading version of chocolate.

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## **TinaMarie says**

Ren's a tortured soul, Aileas is being hunted not only for the book she carries but for herself. They share similar talents and when they come together they can't seem to help themselves. Ren comes across as a very odd duck, and a tortured soul, full of guilt. Aileas sometimes comes across strong and at others weak. Mixed feelings about their story, but the author does build an incredible connection between the two. Minor editing problems.

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## **? BookAddict ✍️ La Crimson Femme says**

Ms. Walker doesn't really write anything without a painful conflict so that she can resolve it with a happily ever after. I do like the Grimm stories she's been writing. This is a bit of a different ending for Ren because he's already a Grimm. I enjoyed this book. I enjoy the Grimm stories because they are a sexy and dark twist on the Brother Grimm's fairytales.

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## **Patricia Williams says**

This was my favorite Grimm story so far. I just recently found Shiloh on twitter and she has quickly become one of my favorite authors. I like the grown up version of childhood classics.

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## **Kelly says**

Apparently, my obsessive need to read things in order has completely abandoned me with this series since

I've been reading them backwards thus far. Go figure. On the plus side, reading them out of order doesn't detract from the overall series. I mean, maybe I would have enjoyed the revisiting of previous main characters a bit more, but I totally understood what was going on. Totally. By the by, I will say that one of the things I like most about these books (besides the hot sex) is trying to figure out which fairy tale we're dealing with. In this case, Shiloh Walker threw me a curve ball and I didn't see this one coming. At all.

Ren's isolation from the world and his fellow Grimm was well laid out. You get a real sense that Mandy's presence in his life is already a big concession. Having a stranger drop in on him who happens to have a pack of demons on her tail just makes things so very much worse. His insanity pushes and pulls at him and he feels an answering spark in Aileas that draws him as he hasn't been drawn to anyone in ages. The slow unfolding of his story is sad and heartbreaking. Her story is also a sad journey, but nowhere near poor Ren's.

In the end, it was a solid piece of storytelling that pulled me in with the glimpses of Ren's past and the heat between Ren and Aileas. I liked it. I liked it a lot.

-Kelly @ Reading the Paranormal

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### **Nikki says**

Another hit! I really liked this one. It had more violence than the others so far, but it was still a great read. The HEA was somewhat surprising, but I have to say towards the end I kinda saw it coming.

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### **Maria Almeida says**

loved it Ren finally knew where He belonged all along love has a way of changing who We are

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### **Mare says**

I guess since Ren is in book #2 & #2.5 it makes sense his book (#3) is short.  
I'll give it a 3.5 stars.

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### **MBR says**

My first Grimm book.  
My review: <http://bit.ly/afdEJZ>

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### **Ally says**

I bought this book because I follow Shiloh Walker on twitter and she was tweeting excerpts and I really liked what I'd been reading but I didn't like the sound of the two books before this one so I started with Crazy

Hearts.

Ren has always danced along the fine line between being a little bit crazy and being overcome by a darkness that's haunted him since his mortal days. As an empath, he prefers to live far from people who would leak their emotions all over him, so he's not expecting the woman who drives right into the heart of his world. She has a cursed book with her and demons hot on her heels. Even more surprising are her abilities and the reaction Ren has to her. Aileas is on the run. She just isn't certain if she's running from something real or imagined. One thing is for sure, her brother is dead and she's certain the book she found has something to do with his death. She really starts to doubt her sanity when she meets a hot but somewhat crazed man in the middle of nowhere. He calls himself Ren, and although he doesn't seem to be out to hurt her, he definitely seems to want something. She just doesn't understand what. She does know what she wants though. She wants him, and the shadows and darkness she glimpses inside him don't matter. At least, right up until he claims to be a guardian angel. And she thought she was going crazy.

I really liked *Crazed Hearts*, although I haven't read the previous two books *Candy Houses* and *No Prince Charming*, I didn't feel lost following the storyline of *Crazed Hearts*. I think this is mainly because of Ms Walker's writing doesn't make you feel as though you've missed something without reading the previous books. Which made the book that much more enjoyable for me.

I really loved Ren, I thought he was a great character and I quite enjoyed Aileas too! I really liked their story and really enjoyed the twist at the end it made it a really great HEA!

I got really intrigued about another two characters mentioned at the start of the book Mandy and Will and really hope they get their own story at some point.

Near the end of the book Greta and Rip (*Candy Houses*), Elle and Michael (*No Prince Charming*) and some others turned up to help Ren and Aileas out which I liked and made me really interested in buying and reading *Candy Houses*!

I really wished *Crazed Hearts* was a much longer book and had a bit more action and romance to it than it already had, but other than that I really liked it and would recommend it!

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### **Michelle Leah Olson says**

Incredible, they just keep getting better!!

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### **Tracy says**

#### **Not Quite Enough Substance**

If there's one thing Ren knows, it's crazy. He should, given the century or so he's spent dancing that particular line of darkness. And he no longer has his best friend, occasional partner, and sometimes lover Elle to help keep him steady. Instead, head Grimm and general pain in the backside Will has tasked him with training the still human Mandy for the role she will one day fill.

It's not a bad gig, really, but he stays away from people as much as possible, remaining with Mandy at his

cabin in the woods. The stress and pain from his empathetic gift is far less damaging that way, and he can sense danger coming long before it gets anywhere close to reaching them.

Danger or evil, like what he feels hungrily circling the young woman he finds standing next to her car on a road through his woods. A woman who rocks him to his foundation even as she scares the hell out of him. Not because of who or what she is, but because of what she has with her.

Aileas Corbett thinks she's losing her mind. That's the only rational explanation for her grim certainty that her brother's death was not only suspicious, but had something to do with the book that she has in the back of her car. The book that she can feel...whispering...to her. A book that feels actively malicious.

She's on the run because she doesn't know what else to do and she isn't sure where to go. She's running because she's certain that if she stops, she'll die. Only when a wolf dashes out in front of her as she rides through the woods does she finally jerk her car to a stop. Then, as if it happens every day, a strange and oddly compelling man walks up behind the wolf and confronts her, too much knowledge and too many horrors reflected in his eyes.

Insanity. Impending doom. And two people on a collision course with forces of evil bent on ultimate destruction. Not everyone is going to get out of this one alive.

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As much as I love the concept for this series, and as big a fan as I am of the first two books, I can't say I fully enjoyed this one. I was surprised, too, because I had been really looking forward to a Happily Ever After for poor Ren, who I felt so badly for after seeing him lose Elle in *No Prince Charming*. Because of that, I was open to liking just about anything that would give him a chance at happiness of his own, but this one didn't quite do it for me.

Though the writing is as solid as ever, I didn't feel like the plot of this novella had much meat to it, either in relation to the external plot conflict or the romance threads. There also seemed to be a curious lack of character depth in either of the main characters. Yes, I've met Ren before, but only as a secondary character, and Aileas was a completely new commodity. Though the framework for strong, original character definition was in place for them both, I never felt the narrative dug far enough beneath surface development for either of them.

And that may be the first time I've had that issue with character depth and dimension in a Walker story. Realistic and gritty character development is usually one of her strongest gifts as an author.

Sadly, the external conflict of the sadistic soul-sucking book from hell and its merry band of bloodthirsty *orin* was also a little disappointing. Despite a couple of powerfully emotional scenes (another Walker standard), overall I felt the threat and danger was fairly limited in scope and lacking in substantial layers. Too much of the story seemed little more complex than Ren protecting Aileas at his home while danger advanced.

I have to admit, I also had problems with the end of the novella. I am not a fan of that type of conflict resolution or romance denouement. I've read similar situations in other books and it's never worked for me, though that is strictly a reading preference, and a completely subjective opinion.

The pieces were all there for this novella, and my hopes were high for Ren, but his story didn't seem to give

him everything I was hoping for him. It didn't give me everything I was hoping for me, either. The good points, though, are there, if scattered more than I would like. I'm a fan of this series, even now, and hold out hope for a longer, more detailed and fully invested story with better defined characters in the next installment.

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Reviewed for One Good Book Deserves Another.

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## **Shelley says**

I'm not sure I liked the ending but...oh, well.

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