



Exodus

Bailey Bradford

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Survival of the fittest? Not when chaos rules.

Rivvie does his best as beta, but he's lonely and secretly nursing a broken heart. He fell for Matthew instantly, to no avail. Matt was too busy screwing every female in sight. He didn't give one whit about Rivvie. Well, he told Rivvie he wasn't interested. Rivvie just didn't think he meant it.

Matt's whole life has changed. He was the good son, the village hero, and the village stud. Now he's just a man in a pack full of exceptional men. He's a human—smaller, weaker and slower than the shifter males he lives with. External chaos has nothing on the internal crap he deals with every day.

When Rivvie and Matt are paired together for a task, sparks fly. It's just possible that there's more to sex—and more to Rivvie—than Matt ever suspected.

While Rivvie is dancing around an attraction to a certain human male, his brother, Valen is trying to lead his pack and take care of his own mate, Aaron. Just when he thinks he's got everything under control, that very control is yanked from him by a powerful series of natural disasters, and soon Valen's leading his pack on an exodus he'd never expected.

Reader Advisory: This book contains scenes of BDSM, spanking, CBT and biting.

Exodus Details

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Author : Bailey Bradford

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From Reader Review Exodus for online ebook

Inked Reads says

FourandHalfStars

I have to admit that it took me a while to really get in to this story. Usually, if a story does not catch me right at the beginning, I have a hard time reading it. While I enjoyed this story, I found it somewhat quirky. Valen was trying desperately to find his pack a new home, the conflict between the two species, the long journey, etc. Everything culminated to a good story, but for me, it was somewhat choppy in its execution.

But, I LOVED the relationship between Valen and Aaron. They were so in love - you could see their devotion to each other in every word. You could feel the relationship grow and change throughout the story. They supported each other and were constantly worried for and about one another.

The relationship between Matt and Rivvie was a little strange to start. Despite all of the angst between them, they just all of a sudden fall in to bed? Not very believable for me. BUT, as the book continued, their relationship grew on me. I loved how they both found they had the same kink - their mutual enjoyment - the sex, man was it hot!

In the end, I did enjoy the book; it came together nicely for me.

I was given this in return for an honest review by Inked Rainbow Reads.

AvidReader

Gerri says

Devoured

This is the usual shifter meets mate and has wild sex and falls happily ever after I love. BUT then you add in that it's set in a post-apocalyptic world, there is a sickness turning humans insane and you have a highly entertaining book. Can't wait for more of this series.

multitaskingmomma says

Original Blog Post: Review: Exodus (Valen's Pack #2) by Bailey Bradford

Review by: multitaskingmomma

My Rating: 4.5 of 5 Stars

I have to admit, I really, really did not expect this to go the way it did. After reading the first book, Run With the Moon (Valen's Pack #1), I had lower expectations. There, I said it.

In that first book, the world building, the violence, the series of misfortunes, mating, romance, erotica, it felt a little too formulaic. That is only to be expected, I guess, but with this second installment, all my misgivings have been erased. There were a few plot holes in the first book and although it was romantic somewhat, there was a sense of disconnection. In Exodus, the writer successfully covered up the holes, and for the first time, I fell in love with Valen and Aaron for it is only in this book is their relationship solidified. That is strange for I had expected it to happen in their story.

With this one, we have Valen's brother and Beta, Rivvie who falls for Matt, the older brother of Aaron. Their story began in that first book and we caught a glimpse of a tempestuous relationship which quickly went south because of their fears, expectations and lack of information. One point in contention was Matt's playboy ways and when we first read him, he was like a bee, going from one woman to the next. His conflicting emotions and thoughts only come out when we get his side of the story. As for Rivvie, well, he has his own insecurities as well and when reading him, we discover how deep those go, especially when he watched Matt with others.

In the midst of the romances and trials of the heart, we have a world going haywire. The new pack of humans and shape shifters are a bit lost, especially when Lanaka goes on a walkabout and does not return. Then the natural disasters happen which are mysterious in their own way for nothing could be natural about those. Add in the mysterious malady that seems to be affecting the human population, both Valen and Rivvie are up to their necks in trying to get their pack to safety and saving them from the marauding crazy humans. To make matters worse, another mystery is happening and Valen and Rivvie discover, this one may just be their saving grace. Question is, will the humans be acceptable to the change it may bring about.

This second installment is well thought out compared to the first. It is only in this book do I recommend to follow this particular series for there is a difference going on and it is for the better. Bailey Bradford really surprised me with the twist in this series arc and I am anticipating the release of the third book where more answers get revealed and more partnerships in the making.

Note: Review based on copy provided by Totally Bound.

Bradley Mathis-Krone says

When the world comes to an end, and the strongest via for survival, I want Val, Revi and their pack of Wares and humans on my side. The second installment of Valens Pack does not disappoint. Taking up straight were book one ends, the reader is effortlessly transported back, or forward I should say, into this scary, loving world. Definitely not to be missed.

Jacq says

STARS 3.45

Sweet read, better than book ... just a little slow.

Julie scott says

Exodus (Valen's Pack Book 2)

This was another great book in this series can't wait to read the next one hope it's soon...Will be watching for it.

Ann says

The reader advisory for this story called to me like a siren's song. I should start by saying I have not read the first in the series, Run with the Moon. That being said, I had no trouble following along with the overall story arc in Exodus. I'm not generally a big fan of diving into a series, mostly because I have the attention span of a hamster and by the time the next book comes out I've lost enough details in my brain to be thoroughly confuzzled as I try and keep up. But, Bailey Bradford is really good at keeping you locked in to one of her series' which is probably why I stick with hers pretty faithfully. The next book will always give you just enough recap and detail without feeling like a regurgitation of the first story and it flows organically through the second (or third, or fourth) enough so that it becomes part of that story.

My only niggles I'm sure are because I didn't read the first though, so I'm going to be shining those on somewhat. Valen and Aaron (the focus of Book 1) play a big part in Exodus, so I felt like I knew them pretty well. From what I can gather, Matt and Rivvie were pretty prominent in Book 1 as well so I'm definitely going back to read it to get their full character development. Either way, I really like the two of them together. Putting humans and shifters together in one pack has led to some interesting dynamics just by the nature of their species and the adjustment is hard on every one. Shifters are bigger, stronger, faster and usually nekkid. The humans don't really know what to do with that. Just because Matt was top dog in the human village, doesn't mean he quite measures up when they merge with the shifters and it makes him seriously pissy. But underneath, he's just an insecure dude who's kind of lost his way, reading about him finding and accepting himself was a great part of the story.

Rivvie is just plain awesome. He's smarter than he gives himself credit for and so he's got his own insecurities to deal with. Valen has the idea to pair up one shifter with one human to complete tasks around the village and to try and develop some cohesiveness with the two species. Guess who gets to work together? Yep, it's Rivvie and Matt and the two of them are constantly on the edge of either fucking or fighting. It becomes a big part of their acceptance of themselves and each other and shows what a smart alpha Valen really is.

I'm really loving the world building and overall story with this series already. There is an illness spreading through the remainder of the human population and no one knows what it really is, how contagious it is or how to prevent it. It's basically a death sentence for anyone who contracts it (a really ugly and awful death sentence) and for all they know all the humans in their pack may already have the disease, it just hasn't presented itself in them yet. So, not only are they trying to survive the new landscape and the pack dynamics, they have this pall hanging over them with no real answers.

Now, as far as Rivvie and Matt together and the aforementioned reader advisory. I love nothing more than

when two characters have a bit of a kink and then find each other. Both these cats love that extra little bite of pain where too much is just enough and they've both hidden it away forever. So, thank the gods and goddesses they've found each other, because damn do these boys fit one another. It's nothing too terribly extreme or squinch-worthy, in fact it kind of felt like just the beginning of their kink adventure. I hope they get to explore more in book 3.

The intro of characters at the end of this one has me completely hooked on the series. I'm not even going to say what happened because you've got to check it out for yourself, but if that doesn't hook you nothing will. So, I'm off to read the first one because I want all the details and am anxiously awaiting the third installment.

a copy of this story was provided for an honest review

Christy says

Shifters. Bailey Bradford. Exactly what I needed to immerse myself in. 'Exodus' is book two in her new series, 'Valen's Pack', and considering how much I enjoyed the first book, I had high hopes for this installment. I was very pleased that the author continued to actively incorporate Valen and Aaron, as that really helped me to connect with the series.

When I finished book one in the series, I thought "Valen has his work cut out for him trying to merge humans with shifters - two groups who have stayed away from each other for hundreds, if not thousands, of years." I had no idea, however, how hard this job would really be. Pairing his brother, Rivvie, with Aaron's brother, Matt, to start working on a project together in order to begin to facilitate common ground between the two species seemed like a very bad idea, to all parties involved. Of course, Rivvie and Matt have been dancing around their attraction, more Matt doing the dance than Rivvie, since they met. It doesn't take long before they admit to their attraction, and begin a sexual relationship.

The human and shifter pairings to work on projects seems to be going along nicely, until insane, crazy weather threatens their home and forces the entire pack to flee for their lives. Once they stumble into an unfamiliar area, something even more remarkable occurs with Aaron, throwing the humans into a very fearful state, and upsetting the balance, along with throwing more insecurities into Rivvie and Matt's burgeoning relationship. And I can't begin to tell you what happened - it's a giant spoiler - but it's a doozy, and I tip my hat to Bailey for taking the story in this direction.

This post-apocalyptic world Ms. Bradford has created has limitless possibilities for surprises, and it appears the author plans to make full use of them. I can't wait to see where this storyline is going to go with the human disease, and integration of the species. Oh boy, Bailey, you've got me drooling for the next installment.

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

Merissa (Archaeolibrarian) says

I received this ARC from Totally Bound Publishing in return for a fair and honest review. So Valen is happily mated with Aaron and life is good, right? Well, not quite. In this sequel to *Run With The Moon*, the pack is still integrating and although Valen is doing what he can, it is still a 'them and us' situation. Still, he manages to come up with an idea which will help both sides work together as well as building up their village. Of course, nothing is quite as straightforward as that and Rivvie and Matthew are the ones we hear most about (as it's their book). They get off to a very rocky start but the attraction quickly flares up. Matthew is feeling very insecure as he used to be the one that all the ladies wanted as they knew he wouldn't make them pregnant. Now, he's surrounded by all the buff bodies of the shifters and he feels like he's not needed anymore. Add to that, he's upset because Rivvie isn't flirting with him anymore and he doesn't quite understand that as he thought he was in to females. So we have all that going on but hey, that's nowhere near enough. Throw in a couple of natural disasters - earthquakes, twisters, floods and storms - plus some rabid humans, a missing shaman and a mother who can't work past her grief. This book is full on action with a fast pace that will keep you turning the pages. There is more to Rivvie than just being a joker and there is more to Matthew than just being a stud but it takes the two of them time and patience to learn that. A brilliant second book in the series and I can't wait to read more. Thoroughly enjoyed it and definitely recommended.

Tiferet says

Book two continues very much in the spirit of book one with the main plot taking even more space in relation to the romantic subplot(s). Oh, did I mention that we get some very nice discussions about progressive gender/sexuality politics in this series? It really is full of nice surprises :)

Shelley says

3.5 stars

Angela Goodrich says

Exodus is the second book in Ms. Bradford's Valen's Pack series and I strongly recommend that you read *Run With the Moon* first so that you will fully understand what is occurring within the pack dynamics. In an attempt to help smooth the integration of the shifters and the humans, Valen decides to pair a human and a shifter to work together on the various tasks within their community so that they can get to know one another and form the bonds vital to a successful community. When Valen assigns his brother Rivvie to work with Aaron's brother Matt, I was stoked. First off, that assignment meant that *Exodus* was indeed Rivvie's book, which I wanted immediately upon finishing the first book. Second, it also meant that Matt was going to have to come to terms with the attraction he felt for Rivvie – something we learn rather quickly that he dealt with poorly after their initial meeting. And finally, IT'S RIVVIE'S STORY!!!

In case you can't tell, I was kind of partial to Rivvie. As Rivvie and Matt "suck it up" and work together at their Alpha's request, the reader has the opportunity to get to know Matt. With each bit of information I learned about Matt, I found that I liked him more and more and any lingering dislikes or hard feelings I had

for him were pretty much obliterated when learning of his infertility and the feelings of insecurity he developed because of it. The upside to being the reader of *Exodus* is that I could appreciate the humor in the consistency of Rivvie and Matt's miscommunications. Because they had been at odds for so long and because both were nursing some rather raw feelings, they both had a tendency to say the wrong thing and/or misinterpret what the other was saying. This added to the realism of their relationship and made their ultimate coming together that much sweeter ... and hotter. Man. Wolf. Teeth. Need I say more?

What added to my overall enjoyment of *Exodus* is that while we get to see the romance between Rivvie and Matt take shape, we also get to see what Valen has to deal with as the pack Alpha. Ms. Bradford holds true to the series title – Valen's Pack – and includes some rather tough situations for Valen and the pack to overcome. Not only are they challenged with the growing pains of an integrated pack, they also have to deal with attacks from outside of their pack from both humans and Mother Nature when the title of the book comes into play. While Valen was forced to make some hard choices, Rivvie was given the opportunity to show his true worth as his brother's Beta and did so admirably. I loved the unexpected twist that Ms. Bradford included as a result of the human and shifter integration and am looking forward to see how that continues to play out in the next book in the series.

I received a complimentary copy of the book in exchange for an honest review.

Reviewed by Angela at Crystal's Many Reviewers!

Misty says

I love, love, love Rivvie! Can't wait to see what happens next.

Eva Millien says

Rivvie and Matt keep dancing around their attraction to each other but when disaster strikes they'll have to pair up for an important tasks in this exciting paranormal romance.

Lots of changes are in store for Valen and his pack of wolves and humans, not only are they struggling to get along, but a series of natural disasters brings chaos and the reader can't help but get caught up in the turmoil as they struggle with uncertain futures which causes lots of tension and heated clashes. The strong compelling characters demand attention while the fast paced and smooth flowing plot keeps reader hovering in expectation with lots of suspense, action and romance.

Numerous dangers builds lots of excitement and anticipation as the pack tries to survive all the changes not only from within but from outside influences as well including some dangerous adversaries that bring death with unexpected twists keeping everyone on their toes. Vivid imagery brings the story to life while the thrilling suspense ensures that the reader can't put the book down and then there is the abundance of red hot sex and steamy desires to spice up the story even more so as Matt and Rivvie's relationship finally starts to grow into something more, but there's also lots of emotional angst that adds to the chaos and tugs at the heartstrings.

I was completely spellbound by this story full of intriguing characters and interesting elements set in such an unpredictable world that I couldn't possibly guess what was going to happen next and I can't wait to find out

what Valen's Pack faces in the coming future.

Vanessa theJeepDiva says

Rivvie and Matt have been dancing around a mutual attraction. Matt enjoys the company of women (or so he likes to make others think) so of course he isn't attracted to Rivvie. Rivvie was raised within a pack that has always been taught to embrace ones sexuality and enjoy it. The human villagers were raised with beliefs of procreate to repopulate the decimated world they live in. The different backgrounds are enough for Rivvie and Matt to keep away from each other. Valen has other thoughts on the matter entirely. He wants to see his pack fully integrated and thriving. His plan to pair humans and shifters for any and every task seems like an easy way to pave the road to a cohesive pack.

Once Matt and Rivvie figure out that they can have some fun together they burn the pages of this book up. Matt not only discovers the pleasures that someone of the same sex can offer, but both men discover they tend to like things a little on the rough side. Once they decide to give in and get it on these two really start to get it on all the time.

The main characters from Run With the Moon, Valen and Aaron have very large roles in this installment of the series. I was shocked to see just how much page time they got. Valen is still trying to get the pack to see themselves as one, not shifters and villagers. The integration is not going smoothly so this allows for their page time to work without giving the book the feeling that Matt and Rivvie's page time is being hijacked. I have not read Run With the Moon. In respects of Exodus working as a stand-alone I can honestly say that I was not lost. I was left curious about if there was an explanation there as to what happened to change the world so drastically. Although I've read a many apocalypse type books where readers are just put into a vastly changed world and are left to wonder what has happened along with the characters they are reading. The thing that Bradford has done here that is intriguing is the fact that she is still changing the world that these characters are trying to live in.
