



# Wild

*Meghan O'Brien*

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The only thing that frightens shapeshifter Selene Rhodes more than the full moon is the idea of falling in love.

Selene Rhodes has lived her whole life with a terrible secret: not only can she take the form of any animal at will, but once a month the full moon transforms her into a fierce wolf-creature without a human conscience. Managing her condition means living by a strict routine, and more importantly, abstaining from intimate relationships with human beings. Selene is convinced that love and friendship can only bring her pain.

Forensic pathologist Eve Thomas is well-acquainted with the pain of romantic love. Swearing off relationships after having her heart broken by a cheating ex, Eve throws herself into her work: catching murderers. When Selene comes to her aid after an attack by a masked man in Golden Gate Park, Eve is shocked by how powerfully she is drawn to her mysterious savior.

Shaken by her own feelings for Eve, Selene is even more terrified to realize she isn't even close to being the scariest monster stalking San Francisco. There is someone out in the city who is killing for pleasure, and his next target is the one woman he thinks might be able to stop him: Eve

## Wild Details

Date : Published June 14th 2011 by Bold Strokes Books

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Author : Meghan O'Brien

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# From Reader Review Wild for online ebook

## Lissa says

3.5 stars

Selene Rhodes is a shapeshifter, and to keep her secret, she's closeted herself off from life. At the mercy of the full moon once a month, she works from home, is friendless, and definitely doesn't have a social or dating life. That is, until she finds a wounded woman in a nearby park, and there is an inexplicable attraction between the two of them.

Dr. Eve Thomas is used to studying corpses, but she almost becomes one herself on a simple early morning walk - until she's saved by a wolf. But the man who attacked her gets away, and Eve has to find him before he finds her.

At the risk of sounding like a broken record in my reviews, I really wanted to like this book more than I did. It's an okay read, and it's hard to find quality paranormal lesbian fiction, and there are some really great parts to the story. The problem with the book, however, is that it feels rather uneven to me; sometimes the action is at a great pace, and sometimes the book drags so badly that I had to put the book down and read something else for a while. The last half of the book really picked up, but it felt like a chore at times getting there.

Selene is an okay character, but she comes off as rather "too good" to me. She's virtually perfect (save for the shifting against her will thing once a month into a presumed ferocious wolf, I guess). Eve, meanwhile, is more fleshed out in the book, and so I could empathize with her more. In spite of it all, though, the two characters did have blistering chemistry, and the sex scenes were *amazingly* written and scorching hot. Heck, I'll read more from this author just for those alone!

There were a lot of loose ends that really felt like they should have been expounded on in the story. (view spoiler)

I did like the book, and I will definitely read more from the author. I just wish that the execution had been a little tighter.

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## lov2laf says

I'd rate this book around 3.75 stars.

I found myself really pulled in and entertained...ie, couldn't stop reading so the writing style and premise were compelling. There is an insta-love, animal-like connection between the leads, Selene and Eve, which I forgive more in this paranormal genre than if it was a straight romance. The story arc, dialogue, characters, intimacy scenes, etc all work and, overall, this is a better than average read.

What dinged it is Selene, the shape-shifter's, character and the fact that there's no backstory/world building to the whole paranormal element. It just exists and does so only with Selene so it feels oddly out of place at

times. The ending also feels a little abrupt.

Regarding Selene, interestingly, we start the book out with her and I felt she had a really strong presence. However, that shifts and she recedes in the book as a focus is placed on Eve, the forensic pathologist. Eve is interesting and well-defined so it's not a travesty but a weird dynamic gets set where Selene almost becomes juvenile in nature, in an arrested development type manner. Maybe it's just me that feels that way. Anyway, Selene starts feeling somewhat like a teenager while Eve is this mature woman so...I don't know. I think I would've liked it more if Selene continued to embody the strength and maturity we were initially introduced to.

I did like that Meghan O'Brien went in a completely different direction from her other books in topic and genre.

Worth the read.

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### **Jae Jae says**

I really liked Meghan O'Brien's Endgame and Battle Scars, but while Wild isn't badly written per se, I didn't like it as much. It didn't have enough world building to work as paranormal fiction. Selene is the only shape-shifter/werewolf around, and she doesn't even seem to wonder if there are others like her.

It's more of a romance than a paranormal novel, but even the romance didn't fully convince me. For someone who avoided emotional attachments for many years, she let herself enter into a relationship a bit too quickly.

If you are looking for a good paranormal fiction novel, you'll probably be disappointed.

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### **T says**

I read this a couple years ago but just listened to the Audible version of it. The sultry yummy voice of the narrator turned this 4 star book into a 5 star audio book experience.

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### **Luce says**

4.5 Stars rounded up to 5 STARS for a re-read, this time for the audio book.

Excellent narrator (Alexandria Wilde) that added to the experience and a star. Each voice was distinctive, though I'm not sure if Selene's accent is necessarily Italian. It was mentioned in the book as "European" when Jac could not place her accent so I guess it fits.

I believe this is O'Brien's only paranormal book (unless you count "The Muse")? I wouldn't mind if wrote another or even revisit this couple. Unlike many paranormal books, there wasn't much world building which didn't bother me. Selene was alone in the world, not knowing anyone like herself. We ride along with her as

she stretches her powers to protect Eve.

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### **Marilyn says**

It was a fun ride. I liked both characters. I wish there hadn't been a serial killer, but you can't have everything. ;)

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### **Megzz says**

What an entertaining story!

It sounds like the typical "supernatural girl falls for the human" and vice versa story, but it really is different from anything I've read before. Selene might be a shape shifter, but she's spent half her life hiding and suppressing her true self, which makes her every bit as vulnerable as any human being (if not more). Her story is incredibly touching: she's been alone and lonely for years, and doesn't expect her life to change, ever. Of course, once Eve, brave, sweet, geeky intelligent Eve enters the picture, everything changes for both of them. Eve and Selene are both afraid to get attached (Eve because her ex cheated on her, and Selene because she thinks she'll never be able to share her whole self with somebody). But the connection is there from the start and undeniable. A supernatural bond that neither can really understand, and the strength of it defies all reason: Selene and Eve can't help but fall into each other's arms, mere days after they first meet. It may sound corny and unrealistic, but it really works.

I like the fact that we get to read about how their relationship evolves, and how Selene struggles to hide her secret when she is obviously head over heels in love with Eve. There's a great deal of angst, but not the kind of angst that depresses you, the kind that excites you, that makes you want to keep reading, because you KNOW it's going to end well.

The story has everything: a great balance of supernatural and human emotions, of hot arousing sex and tender love, of romance and thriller, of humor and seriousness. I was hooked from the first chapter that I started at 10pm, took a few bathroom breaks here and there and didn't stop until sunrise (really.). It was, quite simply, a delight to read.

We get to read the story from both women's POV so it was really easy to understand their motives and behaviors. Admittedly, I sometimes found it hard to relate to some of the things the women were feeling, since those things were induced by their supernatural bond, but I still believed every word of the story.

I really recommend it!

And I advise you NOT to read it at work. Or on the street. Or at a café. Or any place where there are people around. I knew O'Brien mastered the art of erotica but damn. I was surprised by how well those sex scenes were integrated within a really sweet romantic story. Great, great read indeed!

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### **Samantha Luce says**

5 stars. Exciting, sexy, fun, and one hell of an adventure. Please oh please let there be a sequel. If you get the

audio version it will blow you away. The narrator brought the characters to life. Very sexy.

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## Lexxi Kitty says

Despite giving this book a five star rating the first time I read it, I can't finish the audio book 'rereading'. The reason can be seen through my updates:

10/30/2016

4.0% "I hope there are not a lot of men in this book. I forget now the ratio of men/women in this story. For this narrator can't do men. It hurts my ears each time she attempts to do a male voice. I'm going to end up with a headache if I having to hear her with this harsh scratchy male voice."

10/30/2016

5.0% "Oh damn. There is another man immediately. And . . . again the narrator gives the man a super grating very annoying voice. fuck, my ears are going to die."

10/30/2016

13.0% "oh bloody hell. Now scratchy hard to stand voice for a new female voice. mmphs. \*whimpers\* And another guy has a horrifying voice."

10/30/2016

14.0% "Well. I'm going to have to pause this 'reread' now. I just can't take the voices the female narrator gives male voices, and now to Jacqueline, the secondary lead's ex-girlfriend."

10/30/2016

32.0%

11/01/2016

36.0% "mmphs. This difficult to listen to. I never pictured Selene with a Russian accent. mmphs. heh. I mean, isn't she supposed to be from Italy?"

Yes - I'm blaming the narrator for my inability to 'reread' a book I'd previously given 5 stars to. What with the super annoying voices the narrator chose to use for both women and men; plus the weird decision to give Selene a Russian accent despite being from Italy.

Started: October 30 2016

Paused or DNF'd: November 1 2016

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## Book Worm says

I loved to listen to this audiobook. What more can a girl want? A thrilling crime case, a shape-shifter, telepathy, romance ... a great narrator. It's been a treat.

I love how O'Brien can create characters I REALLY like and identify with (well apart from Kev).

However, I've decided from now on to review the cover as well. Even though I do not judge a book by its cover (mostly), I'm really sad, when the cover does not show how truly great the book is.

So, what is it that I don't like about the cover. First, the moon and the bird on the face look like horns or bumps in the thumbnail. Second, and this may be a matter of taste, I just don't like how the title sits on the cover. Anyway as I really, really liked this book I've created an illustration, just so I'll be able to look at that when I want to read it again.

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## Sascha Broich says

A rather unique take on the shape shifter genre.

Mixed with an jealous ex girlfriend cop and a psychopathic serial killer.

In these modern days Selene's problem should be quite easy to solve. HD wildlife cameras are cheap and easy to buy. A restraining basement with a time lock shouldn't be hard to get too.

Otherwise it's a dear story.

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## Tara says

Wild by Meghan O'Brien is a paranormal romance with a heavy emphasis on the romance. It's got the sexiness we all expect from this author, but with a shifter and a wannabe serial killer thrown in the mix, it's totally different from anything else she's published.

Full review here: <http://www.thelesbianreview.com/wild-...>

Podcast episode here: <https://thelesbiantalkshow.podbean.co...>

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## Just a man's point of view says

I really liked this book.

I'm usually not a fan of werewolves with heightened sexual frenzy, but, in this case, there was a great stress on feelings, and the result was rather delicate. Erotic parts were harmoniously melted with inner emotions of the characters and they are really nice. There's much consideration and attention between them, even an ideal sincerity. I appreciated it.

Also, reading is compelling and there is an intriguing thriller subplot, even if the end is a bit predictable.

But what I liked most about this story are Selene's contrasts. She could be the most perfect supernatural hunter, with physical and psychic superpowers, and yet she's the most lovingly insecure sweetheart. Stunning and frail: my heart was conquered.

4.5 stars

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## Sprinkles says

I believe this was one of my first strolls into erotic lesbian romance. Makes me kick myself, considering that it took so long to start. Her characters are so vivid I can practically picture them. Or, visuals I find the most attractive suit Eve and Selene. Either way, it's a pleasure, really.

The paranormal angle is a delightful twist. Enough of it to add zest and intrigue to the story, but not so much that my eyes glazed over walls of description text. At the very heart of this, it's a steamy, gratifying romance. Meghan O'Brien's sex scenes are some the absolute best and I never feel like I'm reading the same acts over

and over again. Imaginative and hot.

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## **C. Mack says**

### **A sexy super natural thriller!**

I really enjoyed this psychological thriller, supernatural mash-up. It took me a while to read, but only because I tend to read at night and some of the content got the darker, more morbid part of my imagination too riled up to sleep comfortably...I know I'm a wimp, that's why my usual style are sexy romances, for sweet dreams of course!

So, this is different from any other M B books I've read, but still superbly written with plenty of steamy bits entwined in the story to help balance out the more intense bits. Really enjoyed it and certainly worth the read. I'm sure now I know the plot I'll be able to re-read, even at bedtime!

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