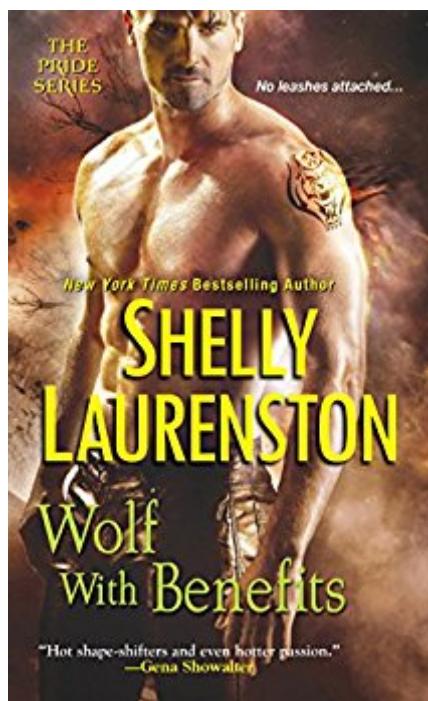


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Wolf With Benefits (The Pride Series)



Synopsis

There's nothing like a good-ol'-boy wolf. And ace security expert Ricky Lee Reed serves, protects and seduces with all the right moves. Sure, Toni Jean-Louis Parker has to be the responsible oldest sister to a crazy-brilliant clan of jackal siblings. But now she's cutting loose for some hot, sweaty, no-commitments fun—and the sexy, slow-talking, swift-moving predator assigned to keep her family safe is just the right thing to shapeshift her love life into overdrive. Trouble is, he's starting to get all obsessive wolf on her every time he looks in her direction. Getting serious about anyone isn't in Ricky Lee Reed's plans. Hell, even now he doesn't really have a plan outside of catching whoever is threatening this dangerously brilliant family. But the more he sees of Toni, the more he's howling for her. And whatever it takes to convince her that what they have is everything, well, this wily wolf is down for the sizzling chase. |

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Customer Reviews

I love a good book that makes me laugh out loud while reading. When you can't read it late at night for fear of waking the household up - it rates high with me. This one had several of those moments. I won't go into deep details of the story - others have already done that. I just want to share why I

liked this book. One of the reviews I read said something about not reading this book as a stand-alone. I would probably have to agree. To be able to get all of the humor and keep the secondary characters straight - you need to have read the other books. Personally I love when characters from previous books are not only mentioned but have a big part in the story. It keeps the series alive. Why read a series if each book is truly a stand-alone book? I loved the interactions among the various characters and that they each held true to their own personality in this book. DeeAnn was still very much DeeAnn. Irene was very much still Irene. Even having Angie, Miki, Conall, and Sara making an appearance was great. The romance was a little light in this one as far as the falling in love part, but that was ok, because a lot of the relationship is implied and understood from having read the other books. Laurenston doesn't rewrite the basis for her stories in every book. That gets old when you are a faithful reader. I can see the need if you are truly trying to write stand-alone books within a series but Shelly doesn't do that. She keeps her books going as if you are reading the stories in order, that you have the background knowledge of the other books while reading. I also liked that they didn't try to rehabilitate the "bad guy" at the end of the book. It was clearly understood that evil is just evil. If you are a faithful reader of Laurenston, you will enjoy the book.

I love Shelly Laurenston's books like crazy. Crazy! So it pains me very much to say how much I did not love this one. One of the things I like the most about this series is the sense of controlled chaos. The characters are over the top, the relationships are all intertwined and so many characters from previous books appear that it almost feels like this series is one long continuous narrative. However I think in this book it felt like the author lost control of that chaos. Toni Parker has descended on New York with her parents and ten genius prodigy siblings. Toni, we learn, is not a prodigy at anything except wrangling her family. The siblings range in age from toddler to 18. To the child, they are precocious, arrogant and talented. Toni feels a deep obligation to her family, convinced they can't function without her. So she has subsumed her own desire to get a job and possibly start her own family. But her ability to organize difficult people lands her a perk filled job with the shifter Hockey team after she manages to defuse a situation with the notoriously difficult Bo Novikov. Ricky Lee Reed meets Toni and is immediately smitten. He smoothly inserts himself into her life and ambles along as she grapples with her family and her new demanding job, finding her endlessly amusing. All the markers that make a typical Laurenston book are here: the outrageous characters, the well-drawn concept of the different shifter types that make up the world, and the humor that wafts over everything. And yet...yeah...I didn't love it. I think Toni and Ricky's romance got lost in the midst

of all other other stuff happening.

Antonella à ^Toniâ™ Jean-Louis Parkerâ™s life is, well, letâ™s just say à œunusualâ•. As the oldest child of eleven children, you would expect that a lot of the load for child care would fall to her. But when all your brothers and sisters are prodigies, totally absorbed in themselves, well, it is sort of like herding cats. Really spoiled, really demanding, really obnoxious cats. And everyone dumps their complete and total care (and really difficult scheduling) on Toni. à ^Toni I Wantâ™, à ^Toni Do This, Toni Do Thatâ™ à “ nothing like being personal slave to ten little monsters . . . And sweet, gentle Toni simply takes it on herself to do it all, with no complaints. But she is getting pretty tired of it à “ especially when her mother throws their lives into chaos once again, throwing all the careful plans and schedules out the window in order to keep the family in New York in order to stalk the wolf across the street who lives with the Wild Dog Pack. Being a music prodigy herself, mum is a little odd. Ok, letâ™s call a spade a spade. The whole freakinâ™ family is nuts à “ except for à ^normalâ™ Toni and their à ^normalâ™ father. This is Shelly Laurenston, so I always know when I pick up one of hers I am going to enjoy it. Especially her Pride series. These books are hugely fun. I skipped around more than a bit, reading and reviewing the first in the series, The Mane Event, then the ninth, Bite Me and I got tremendous pleasure out of both of those, (though I admit to enjoying Bite Me more than The Mane Event à “ the female character was more likeable to me in that one, and I feel like she hadnâ™t really hit her stride in the first book. And Wolf With Benefits keeps the humor going à “ I literally laughed uproariously the whole time I was working on stripping down and cleaning every inch of my kitchen all day.

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