



## The Vampire's Warden

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He moved. It was a flash in the moonlight, a blur of motion like I'd never witnessed before. No human had the capacity to move like that. When I found myself face-to-face with him there in the meadow, I knew without a doubt that the journal was authentic. I knew that my grandfather hadn't been crazy at all.

Because a foot away from me stood a vampire.

What do you do when you find out the people you trust have been hiding a terrible secret? When Sarah Wood's father passes away and hands over to her the responsibility of running the family's inn, she finds out things are far more complicated than she first imagined. She's not just responsible for running the inn. She's become the Vampire's Warden.

This is part one of a three-part series. It is 31,880 words long. It is a novella.

## **The Vampire's Warden Details**

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Author : S.J. Wright

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## From Reader Review The Vampire's Warden for online ebook

### Tishia (Paperback Opinion) says

This was a really good story! Sarah, who has no idea that vampires even exist, has the job of Vampire Warden fall into her lap after her father dies from cancer. Ok, so you would think that since this job falls to the next person in line in the family, the fact that vampire exist wouldn't have been kept from Sarah. Not only does Sarah have to deal with this whole new world she's been pushed into, she also has to deal with the recent death of her father, the fact that her mother isn't really dead - she just left, her sister being in danger, the regular family business to run, etc... She has a lot on her plate right now and you can't help but feel for her. A mysterious guy named Alex shows up at the Inn that Sarah now runs, saying that her mother sent him there to help her. She also is dealing with this attraction she is starting to feel toward Michael - the vampire she is supposed to guard who is equally as mysterious as Alex. There wasn't any romance in this book, which I was a little disappointed about, but I predict that will be coming in the next novella. I am sort of seeing a love triangle coming, but I guess I will just have to wait and see. There are also a lot of unanswered questions hanging, so I am definitely looking forward to finding out what happens next! I recommend this book to teen OR adult readers of the paranormal genre.

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### Megan says

So from the title the book is clearly a paranormal/fantasy genre and this book is generally not a bad read. I am not in love with this book, it wasn't a quick read I suppose but I did break this book down by getting to chapter 5 before bed and finishing this book in the morning within an hour I would say. It isn't a long drawn out read which I liked but I think maybe a little fast, often paranormal reads are though. In no way is this book hard to follow unless you're bored which it was a little. I found it slightly annoying how everything is just not explained fully and its a ploy in my opinion to get you to get the next book. Annoying yes but effective - completely.

Now the setting of this book is of course an old run down town and the actual place she lives is a distant farm house or ranch I suppose it is better known for. The feel this book first gave me was it was set in the past about 1800's and I'm not too sure why perhaps the old fashions house keeper and old wild west feel that this book gives me. With a family doctor visiting you to give you you're father's last possessions and such. That threw me majorly, and it actually made me disappointed because I wouldn't have minded the book being set in the past like that it may have made it more interesting. However it isn't (apparently) and it is set in modern day give or take a few years from this review of course.

The writing isn't bad, I'm not overallly fussed with it. It didn't make me imagine the scene any less or more. I'm fairly good at imagining my own scene if one is lacking. Lets just say I didn't notice anything wild and amazing nor anything that bad. I wasn't sat there picking out bad punctuation or bad grammar so I'd say the writing is pretty okay. The vocab in which everything is described is just that okay, I think for me to be completely confused for the first 5 chapters on which era this is set in explains quite a bit...

Events or rather lack of events are both told to us, meaning the author in my opinion doesn't really describe it very well or leads up to it all that great. It just kind of happens and that is it. Then again nothing is explained in this book so that isn't that suprising. One thing that did bother me is how violent Sarah is, there are scenes where she just punches people and I'm not altogether sure why? If I maybe missed something. Maybe heavy editing on this book edited out *too* much... Sarah is okay, I actually sort of like her, I like her sass with her ex and the fact she isn't perfect. She has a temper which you see (the punching thing is odd, I confess) but she

doesn't take much crap from anybody which is nice. There is also no instant love in this first book, its only 200 pages guys so give the author time...

I'm not that bothered about what happens to the characters if I'm honest, I'm curious about the things we don't know about. Questions like why is Sarah a Warden and things surrounding that which I won't say for spoilers. I want to know about what happens next but I'm also not that fussed if Sarah gets hit my lightning either. I don't like her or dislike her, she was just the story teller and that is pretty much it. I hope the author does improve the next book to show the scene, to make us understand what is going on and why its going on as at the moment nothing seems to be happening?

### Summary

#### **Good Points**

- Vampires
- Some action (kind of)
- Mystery
- No Instant love connections, but there are connections

#### **Not so good points**

- Very short
- The action isn't that good
- Slightly predictable
- Going to be a love triangle, my bones can feel it...
- Nothing is explained
- God damn predictable cliffhanger ending.
- She doesn't read the journal that apparently details what she is mean't to do. Wonders why she doesn't know what to do. But instantly knows how vampires work.
- Where is the detainee for the book? He's in it about 10 pages and barely then.

3 Stars, will maybe read the next book (if there is one) but I am unsure.

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### **Mandy says**

I really thought the premise of this book was unique. Humans being set to be caretakers of bad vampires, the wardens of vamps who misbehave- love it!

Overall, this book was enjoyable and left me salivating for more. I will definitely be checking out the next installment. I really liked Sarah. She was a tough, no-nonsense woman. She was always honest, never beat around the bush, and took no crap from anyone. I really enjoyed that about her. Unlike, her over-emotional sister, who I think went a little overboard... The characters were overall well-developed, though there are a lot of questions still unanswered about where some of them come from, how much they each knew of the past, and who can be trusted. I liked the backstory, how it was brought into the plot through the journal, that's so much better than paragraphs of description.

As for the plot, at times it felt like the characters knew things that had not been revealed to the reader, like the author knew the details and just kind of forgot to write them in. The relationship between Alex and Sarah's mother is not quite fully explained. The relationship between Michael and Sarah, which I feel has great potential, felt rushed. I felt like they needed more scenes before her confusing feeling started. But they do have a couple awesome, tense scenes that I'm looking forward to seeing more of. And do we ever find out

why Alex was found unconscious and bleeding on the side of the road in the beginning of the book? How did the rogue group know that Sarah knew? And who was the mastermind of the rogue group? Victoria? A couple things in the climax scene confused me and I hope they will get answered better in the next book. And I want to know what Michael is eating while he's being held captive... :)

At times, the author's writing is great. Her descriptions draw you right into the story and by the middle, I felt like I was there. I had trouble in the beginning, however, because I felt like the plot was sluggish and I was instead focusing on grammatical errors and choppy sentences. By the middle - I was no longer noticing these things, instead focusing on the story.

I don't want to be overly picky, and the average reader may not even notice these things, but I used to be an English teacher, so it was my job, and errors in grammar and choppy writing catch my attention. I assume these would be taken care of with the help of a professional editor.

In summary, I liked the idea of this book and it was a fun read. In my humble opinion- and really I feel horrible - I'm not trying to be mean, I just feel like a good going over would help this book go from good to awesome. I would rate this 3 stars, it has a lot of potential and I'll be reading the following books in the series.

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## **JD says**

31,880 words...not sure that meets the criteria for a novella, for me, it was an hour and a half.

SJ Wright is a new author and I want to try and sample as many new voices as possible especially if they are a buck on Amazon for Kindle. With this said, the story has promise. We have a young woman, Sarah, who discovers that her family's farm has a meadow that has been cursed or blessed to be a place for vampires to rest for long periods of time. You know, go to ground like in Anne Rice books. Generations ago, some vamp made an agreement with an Indian Shaman or similar type to ward a patch of land to protect him while he slept. This is now a meadow and focal point of the story. The Shaman/Magical Indian ended up creating a warded space that can not only hold them for a period of rest but can keep them there if not propely released. You know, vamps check in but check out is at the discretion of management. Our heroine has inherited the land upon the death of her father and is now being told of her job as warden. You see, one of the vamps in the meadow is not there by choice, he is a prisoner. His name is Michael and he is the most interesting thing in the book.

Before we know it, everything cumulates into a barrel of snakes. We are left wondering...who does not have an agenda in this story? What did super vamp Michael do to get locked in meadow? What is Alex? What is the Council? What other supernatural beings live in or around Sarah's world because the vamps imply there are others? What happened to Sarah's mom. What's the doc upto? Where did the horse run off to? You get the drift. The story ends abruptly and not necessarily neatly.

I did not fall in love with the book for several reasons. It's not a book, it's an essay. It's too short. It has a YA feel not because Sarah is 23 but because I don't see any sex happening outside of her mind. Sarah is annoying in that she runs off bodily, verbally, or with her fist anytime she gets frustrated so she never gets any answers. She is also a little stupid too. She is left a journal by her father that tells everything but she can't seem to find the time to read it after she learns vamps are real.

According to Amazon, this is a three part series. If the next installment is an actual book, I may read it but no more of this 31,880 word crap. If you are a YA fan or someone who doesn't mind waiting for an unknown

writer to finish her body of work, I recommend you try this cheap read. I meant it when I said, there is potential in it's humor and interesting cast of characters. That's why 3 stars.

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### **Jamie (The Kansan Reader) says**

My edition: Kindle

Pages: 201

Series: Undead in Brown County #1

Rating: 2.5

Review: **Contains spoilers!!!! Fair warned**

I can't really explain what is going on in this book because my head hasn't fully processed it. Sarah is now a warden to the vampire Michael, who turned her mother who is now living in California, and a couple others who are underground. But before all this her father's doctor tells her that her mother is alive after fourteen years of thinking she had died. After that a mysterious guy, Alex, shows up. He tells Sarah that her mother had sent him. He then tells Sarah how he met her mother and even told her that the sex with her is magical.

Hello idiot! She just found out her mother is not really dead and you tell her that the sex was magical and that she was a vampire turned by Michael. Yeah good idea, jackass! Then he tells her that it is a lie. (The sex with Sarah's mother not the other stuff.) He only said that to keep her at arms length. You are proving to be an even bigger jackass.

Then it got confusing every time Sarah was around Michael. She had a hard time remembering that she was on earth let alone that there is a reason this vampire is in a "prison". Then a rogue vampire group shows up who have Sarah's sister, Katie. They want Michael because of his blood. He is one of the most powerful vamps and they want that power. Of course all hell breaks loose.

Due to the MC's long explanations of her emotions I skimmed through a bunch. That probably didn't help my understanding but it was like "Get to the damn point already!" She was annoying. She made it to my ***How am I even standing your BS*** list. I want to just bang my head against the wall. I know I will lose brain cells faster this way. (Harsh I know but that is totally my feelings right now.)

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### **Sheri says**

Like a bad cup of coffee

Weak, thin, absolutely no jolts or bolts of pleasure.

Orphaned in her early twenties, Sarah is running the family Inn. Left with her sister Katie- whom is away at veterinarian school and her aunt-like figure Nelly....she is suddenly given some disturbing news. Her mother is still alive, is a vampire, and she is the new vampire warden. And this is where it takes a turn from bad to worse.

Short-yes  
Free-yes  
Either of those make me feel any better?  
Nope

Considered putting into DNF pile on several occasions, pushed through since I do not have such a pile. After completion my first thought was, hmmm need to get a DNF pile!!

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## **Hungry Vampire says**

Good start with this book. It has great potential, but way too short. I wish the author would have kept it a little longer to polish it more. That said, I liked this book enough to recommend it to friends.

I didn't feel there was lot of build up to it. I expected it to be this great romance, but it didn't quite get there. Yeah, there were a quite a few spots where there should be something going on, but I was left wishing for more.

I whizzed through this book so fast and moved on, that I forgot to write a review.

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## **Beverly says**

My thoughts:

This was a fast read. It is mysterious and intriguing. I really enjoyed the characters!

Michael is so interesting! What is really going on? Who is/was Michael and what is he to be to Sarah? Alex is great! What is his story for real? How does he know Michael? Where does this budding friendship between he and Sarah go? Speaking of Sarah... she is a fantastic character. Tough and determined. I can't wait to find out what she does with her new job as The Vampire's Warden. I get the impression that her and Michael will be changing the way things have been for the last hundred years.

The ending is shocking! Total cliffhanger!!! CAN'T wait for book 2!

I will be checking out the final stop on the blog tour where we will be getting a sneak peek at book 2.

I enjoyed the story, but feel like it could have been fleshed out in places. I finished with questions - loads of questions. Some of those questions I am sure are left unanswered so that the reader is looking for the next book in the series, but I felt that there were some holes.

All in all though a really entertaining read! Be sure to check it out!

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## **Marina Channel says**

### **Clickbait**

Really, it doesn't happen much in this book. I wasn't even able to relate to any of the characters. Close to just

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a clickbait to get the second partm

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## Andrea says

Review coming soon!

Merged review:

I love vampire-themed books. I have read many, many vampire books over the last few years. But I've never read any quite like *The Vampire's Warden*. Sarah, the main character, is a Warden, charged with guarding vampires who have broken the laws of the council. *The Vampire's Warden* has an intriguing opening, involving the mystery of Sarah's mother's supposed death. Is she not dead? Where is she? Why did she leave?

Sarah was a nice character to read. She felt like a real person with real reactions. Every time a new turn was thrown at her, she didn't just shrug and roll with it. Sarah was reactive. She became angry, violent, and skeptical.

*The Vampire's Warden* has not one, but two sexy, mysterious guys, Alex and Michael. Each man affects Sarah in a curious way. The mystery surrounding Alex and Michael is never quite solved, and I was left not quite knowing who was the good and bad guy.

At times, I felt confused as to what was going on in the plot. But, I accepted that because Sarah never quite knows what is happening. I just went with it as "part of the ride", and I'm trusting that all of the questions I had will be answered as the series continues.

All in all, I liked *The Vampire's Warden* quite a bit. The mystery was continually ramped up throughout the book, leaving me wanting to read more. And I'll definitely give SJ Wright credit for writing an ending that left me in serious suspense. I can't wait to read the next book in the series, *The Vampire's Curse*.

Go check out SJ Wright's website: <http://www.vampireswarden.blogspot.com/>

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## C.C. Jackson says

This was a really great story. I fell in love with the characters and definitely had a hard time putting it down. I do wish that it was longer, but only because I couldn't get enough. I can't wait to find out what happens next!

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## Magda says

The plot was not completely developed, the main character was over the top annoying and the story just stops without tying anything together.

Michael did seem intriguing but, unfortunately, he was in 2% of the book.

Also, the main character's name is I. Seriously? Not that it was completely confusing, but it was annoying and completely unneeded. Her worry would take paragraphs to completely describe which had me skimming lots ... and lots. She hadn't even read the diary left explaining what she was required to do for the rest of her life but, suddenly, was an expert on vampires and their behavior.

I gave it 2 stars only because I was able to make it through the whole book.

I bought this book from Amazon because of all the 5 star reviews and regret it.

## Dorsi says

This is a super short story. It was just okay for me. I really wanted to like it as the setting is Brown County, Indiana. I have spent a lot of time in Brown County and I love it there. I have lots of childhood memories there with my dad. I think I would have liked it more had it been longer. It was too short to really get going. I believe that there are going to be more in the series. My recommendations to the author would be to make future stories longer, make the lead character just a little less annoying, and give some depth to her other characters. Maybe the whole vampire thing is just worn out. What a shame...I have loved vampires since I was a child.

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## Shelly says

This is a fun **short** story. It's also a fast read. However, it took me a month to finish because I had more interesting books to read beside this one.

Sarah's (23) life was peachy and carefree ~~-(that her mom died when she was 9)~~ until her dad died of cancer. She finds herself taking over the family's Woodhaven Inn (*because her dad assumed she would*). While her younger beautiful sister gets to follow her dreams and do whatever she wants to do. Now, if you think that all of the sudden changes in Sarah's life couldn't get any worse, you're dead wrong! She gets her dad's journal handed over and what she discovers in there..

Well, humans as wardens for vampires? I thought that idea was original. I haven't read anything like that yet. I really really wanted to find out why they used people to do this job. Unfortunately there wasn't much of an explanation than an 'it has been like this for centuries'-kind of thing and that was not the only thing that stayed vague through this book.

This story has a lot of potential, it's just not completed. It could've been amazing if it was longer with more content.

I might read the sequel one day..

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## Naomi says

The Vampire's Warden is the first novel in the 'Undead in Brown County' series by S.J Wright. This book was a delectable and great read.

Sarah Brightman is an independent and strong willed young woman. Her mother left her and her sister when she was little and now their father has died. The family business, a bed and breakfast, has been passed over to Sarah whilst her sister, Katie, continues her studies at a college far from home.

After their father's death, Sarah finds out a lot more than she thought she knew like the fact that she has been

living right next two vampires her entire life. With the help of Nelly, her exuberant and serious employee, and Alex, a wayward stranger that seems to know a lot about Sarah's missing mother, she finds out all about her heritage.

I really enjoyed this book. I'm not sure which vampire's side I am on though. Both are gorgeous, charismatic, charming and endearing. Michael has this way of winning you over and making you think that he has done nothing wrong, whereas the other vampire has been nothing but helpful to Sarah but at the same time keeping a lot of secrets from her that she ends up figuring out on her own and blowing up about.

My favourite moments were the flashbacks that Sarah got. I also thought it was brilliant that Sarah wasn't all too gullible to believe that vampire's existed right off the bat. She needed some convincing which I found quite realistic. I know I certainly wouldn't believe that vampires existed just because I read it in a book. Pretty sure if I did, people would think I was a lunatic and cart me off to the nut house. I can't say I disliked any parts from the book. Everything seemed to flow easily and was a nice light read.

Overall, I would recommend this book to everyone except for young children. Excellent read for a teenager and young adult enthusiasts alike.

Disclaimer: I was sent this e-book as part of a blog tour via The Bookish Snob Promotions. I have not been paid for this review and everything I have said is of my own honest opinion.

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