



Something Secret This Way Comes

Sierra Dean

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Some secrets are dangerous. This Secret is deadly.

For Secret McQueen, her life feels like the punch line for a terrible joke. Abandoned at birth by her werewolf mother, hired as a teen by the vampire council of New York City to kill rogues, Secret is a part of both worlds, but belongs to neither. At twenty-two, she has carved out as close to a normal life as a bounty hunter can.

When an enemy from her past returns with her death on his mind, she is forced to call on every ounce of her mixed heritage to save herself—and everyone else in the city she calls home. As if the fate of the world wasn't enough to deal with, there's Lucas Rain, King of the East Coast werewolves, who seems to believe he and Secret are fated to be together. Too bad Secret also feels a connection with Desmond, Lucas's second-in-command...

Warning: This book contains a sarcastic, kick-ass bounty hunter; a metaphysical love triangle with two sexy werewolves; a demanding vampire council; and a spicy seasoning of sex and violence.

This book was previously released by Samhain Publishing.

The new edition contains minor word changes but no story changes.

Something Secret This Way Comes Details

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Author : Sierra Dean

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From Reader Review Something Secret This Way Comes for online ebook

Mrs. Badass says

Won from Sierra Dean!

Alright all, my gut reactions, you ready?
3.5/5 grade B-

I have personal issues. You should know that by now if you follow me or my blog at all. There are very few things in books that turn me off. Two such things are cliffhangers---and triangles+. I was hesitant to start reading *Something Secret This Way Comes*, because I had heard, and read that there was more than one love interest. Still, the cover is badass, then I won a twitter contest and blam, I owned the book, and well, here I am.

Secret Mcqueen {Fabulous name by the way} is a hybrid that shouldn't exist. Half vampire and half werewolf, she is pretty strong and powerful, yet she is only twenty-two, and has a lot to learn. She has also only been hunting vamps and were's for the past six years (why then? I want to know a little more about why she left home, and started hunting vamps at 16 by herself)

I liked Sierra Deans's world and take on the supernatural. It was aptly described and fleshed out without being overly complicated or wordy. As a reader of a lot of UF and PNR, I appreciated that. The hierarchy's are clearly defined and it's easy to understand.

So saying, let's talk wolves. Yes...*wolves...plural* The Wolf King is Lucas, his second in command is Desmond. They are soul bonded to each other, and (view spoiler) I'm not entirely sure what that means exactly, and it wasn't explained well yet, I imagine we will learn more later, but all I can picture is two hot male wolves vying for dominance and I'm all a flutter...I'm just sayin. (There is no sexual male tension for those wanting to know, it's just my over active imagination) It was also hinted at the there will be MORE lovers in the cards for Secret. Um...say what now? I imagine a wolf and vampire will be in her life, seeing as she is half and half, making for an interesting menage in the future. Not my favorite love device :shakes head:

This reminds me of Keri Arthur's Riley Jensen series. I had a hard time with the first few books in that series as well. There was a lot of casual sex and that just doesn't wet my whistle. I hate when there are too many cocks in the hen house. It's just not for me. I'll give the next book a shot so I can see where Sierra is taking Secret and the collective gang, but if it goes the way of Anita Blake--I'm all set. There is only room for one magical vagina in the fictional world, and Anita claimed that stick a long time ago (How many puns can I make eh? Come on, you know I'm funny)

So overall, The plot went like this : Evil vampire trying to take over the city! The big bad vampire Tribunal dispatches Secret to capture him *alive* dun dun dun...

Below is a mild spoiler, read at your own risk, no seriously, it is a climax spoiler, and NO not that climax silly readers... that climax was pretty rushed {gimmme more Sierra, more, moar!!}

(view spoiler)

The classic, TSTL moment. Why!

Other than that, I Give Something Secret This Way Comes a B-/C+, it was entertaining, I just have issues, so take what I say with a grain of pepper.

VampireNovelFan says

A Secret I didn't really need to know

So I recently decided to give Secret McQueen's world a spin. This fairly new series by author Sierra Dean focuses on Secret (yes, that's her real name), as she takes on the supernatural underworld. She herself is a vampire/werewolf hybrid bounty hunter, giving her the best of both worlds, though neither side realizes her other half. They just know she's a little different, and she'd like to keep it that way.

Everything is thrown upside down when a former vampire foe returns to exact revenge upon her and destroy the supernatural underworld's secret existence as we know it. To make matters even more complicated, she meets a potential werewolf suitor...or two and her knowledge of her werewolf heritage is awakened, among other things.

There's really not much else to it besides that if I'm being honest. The beginning started off really promising but it just didn't sustain for me. I thought it read like fan fiction a lot of the time and the writing was on an amateur level. With such a short page count I was expecting a story that shouldn't really drag, but I felt that it did. I can't really put my finger on it, but the lack of originality made it a little boring for me. I also had a big problem with how her heritage is supposedly a secret from the other half. Vampires have interacted with werewolves and vice versa, so how could they not suspect that she could be a hybrid? They should know better than to buy that her job as an assassin is the reason why she "smells of death." She takes showers and her enemies are alive when she kills them, so I just couldn't buy that reasoning.

The characters are all pretty cookie cutter. Nobody stands out as particularly interesting or eccentric. It doesn't help that we know right away that her love life is going to be complicated. A triangle is bad enough all its own, but there is an allusion to even more suitors being on the way and nothing turns me off more than that.

The book is a short read, but it took me quite a while to get through it. Maybe it's because I lost my kindle and have been reading on the tablet, which I really don't like because it makes nauseous (I read on a moving train), maybe it was my personal family issues that slowed down my motivation, maybe it just wasn't the right time to read this book, but all I can really say is that it just didn't do it for me.

*Review also posted to Amazon.

XX Sarah XX (former Nefarious Breeder of Murderous Crustaceans) says

[#notsorry (hide spoiler)]

Melliane says

Mon avis en Français

My English review

Marcela made me a beautiful eulogy of this series and she was not the only one, far from it. And when I let the first volume go into my PAL, she made me promise to begin it without further delay. I do not know why I let this drag so long and I also would like to thank Zenda who gave me this first novel. All these people have helped me to discover a new fantastic urban fantasy series! And I thank them warmly.

We discover Secret McQueen, a young woman so different from others but who tries not to be too noticed out in the world that contains many creatures. Half-vampire half-wolf, she works for the court of vampires as a hired killer. With her unusual gifts, she is good at her job even if sometimes a little too much. But everything changes when a vampire from her past resurfaces, determined to make her pay for her mistakes of youth and to kill her for it. This is something difficult enough to manage, but on top of that our young heroine will face her wolf side she had always tried to ignore when she meets Lucas Rain. Indeed, the king seems to have a strange and intimate connection with our heroine, a link that will propel her into a world she had tried to avoid so far. But this event also allowed her to discover that part of herself that she tried to forget and it will help her to understand all the subtleties, or at least some. It was really interesting to follow our hybrid in the world she did not know about, allowing us to know the ideas of Sierra Dean over werewolves and vampires.

Each world is governed by very different way, and it was fascinating to know a little more so. This will allow us to meet many of the most fascinating characters. Holden is a vampire acting as a liaison between the Tribunal and Secret. We learn very little about him but we're intrigued by this character since his appearance in the story. He is very close to Secret though he does not show much and it is true that we often wonder what he really thinks. It is very difficult to read him, this is a very mysterious character and I'm curious to learn more about him. Of course, there are others just like our two dear werewolves Lucas and Desmond, two friends since youth. Our heroine is immediately attracted to each of them and it is true that it arises many questions about them. I am also convinced that this will cause many problems in the future, but I look forward to see the outcomes. One can only appreciate them both and I must say that I find it very difficult to choose one. Of course this is not everything, but I'll let you discover the other characters by yourself because they also are really worth the shot.

This is a really good first book for a series more than promising and I urge you to discover it. It was a nice surprise and I think I can tell you that Sierra Dean is a writer to follow! I look forward to the further adventures of Secret McQueen!

Hell Cat says

I have high expectations in books, I realize this. I can read a lot of books, struggle through them, but I honestly felt like Dean missed the mark. I did some reading of reviews after I gave up (did not finish) and realized I wasn't alone. 20% into a book, I need more tone of the writing and style. It felt bland. Or maybe inconsistent is the better word. Nothing worked together. Maybe some internal and external editing to cohesively tie together the plot points while weaving more strength of personality in Secret.

Secret reminded me too much of Anita Blake meets a Buffy sized package. Actually, on a phone call with a contact/friend, the Buffy thing is made into a joke. The world building felt completely weak. I really, really

didn't need the already two love interests included by the time I stopped because while I learned a lot in Info Dump Land of Conversations (chapter 9), I didn't learn enough about Secret herself to make her so crucial to the supernatural world. I get that it's a play on her name but she felt too weak to stand up to a King and a second choice. Her "secret" was somewhat weak by the point I read it because there was no intrigue as to why it was important.

Secret goes from Super Chick to empty when facing a hot guy...or two. I don't like Anita Blake, at all, but "Something Secret" comes close with the triangle that you know is coming since she's staring at one guy's butt while climbing stairs and practically drooling over the other. She also seems to be a bit reserved about men and flirting, but yet she's "been with enough men in the past to consider myself a woman of average experience" (Chapter 10). Again with the lack of consistency. Plus the Secret McQueen play on words doesn't quite match the original (Steve McQueen) when referencing the man's work.

I wish it had been better. I might have liked the book more. I love strong females and first person narrative but this one really didn't hit any of my favorites. And it makes me happy that the free price in February didn't put me out any money.

Anna (Bobs Her Hair) says

Grade: C-

Secret McQueen is a 22 year-old dhampire bounty hunter for the vampire Tribunal. She's was abandoned by her werewolf mother and raised by her maternal human/witch grandmother. Secret began hunting vampires at the age of sixteen when she was nearly killed by a rogue, saved by another bounty hunter, and trained by the Tribunal. She identifies strongly with her vampire side but only drinks packaged blood. Her werewolf side is buried deep down until she meets the werewolf King of the East, Lucas Rain, and his second-in command, Desmond Alvarez. As she learns more about werewolf politics, culture, and hierarchy she is officially hunting a former foe.

The world of Secret McQueen is interesting. It reminds me of a combination of Jeaniene Frost, Charlainne Harris, and Keri Arthur. There's a combination of weres, fae, oracles, vampires, and witches. Secret hunts rogue vampires and, a couple of times, werewolves to protect the paranormal community from exposure to humans. There's a lot of action as Secret hunts the rogue that nearly killed her six years ago.

This world has potential to become an erotic series with the two werewolves soul-mated to Secret. There's also a hint of another love interest that will appeal to her vampire side. I wonder how Ms. Dean solve this love quadrangle. These books are published through Samhaim; therefore, anything is possible.

I struggled understand the rules of the world. What are the guidelines for Tribunal bounter hunters? It's incredibly vague. An sealed envelope is passed to a bounty hunter with a name of the target, then the hunter is warned not to be seen by humans. Then I wonder how the paranormal communities co-exist? We know what is in Secret's world but little about their structure, culture, and hierarchy. At this time, it seems Secret's hunts are suicide missions or she has no survival instinct. She draws conclusions that don't serve to make her more intelligent but, rather, the obtuseness of her liaison. At one point, the bodyguards of the enemy come across as bumbling idiots. My final struggle is with why no one knows the existence of a half-vampire half-werewolf. She's the only one in existence. She's been hunting for six years.

Anyway, I will read the next book because I already paid for it. Others have enjoyed this book much more than I have. At this point, I'm trying to care about what happens to Secret McQueen. The series does have

potential. *crosses fingers*

Kelly says

Holy crumb, THIS BOOK WAS TOO MUCH FUN! (Do you see how serious I am about the amount of fun? I'm using all caps again!) I was zipping along reading it, I couldn't put it down and then I hit the end and I almost DIED! Yes, DIED! Sierra Dean nearly killed me with this ending. I am burning, itching, painfully clawing the walls to see what happens next. (That sentence is begging me to insert a joke about itching and burning and how they have creams for that! Haha. I make myself laugh.)

Good golly! This book was fabulous. Secret was a bundle of energy and secrets (YES! I said 'secrets' and her name is SECRET!). The setting was gritty and wonderfully dark. The secondary characters wound their way under your skin. In an entirely good way, mind you. And the ending! Did you hear how it almost killed me? *deep sigh*

Gorgeous storytelling and a cast of characters that were fully developed and wonderful to spend time with. The twists and turns will keep you glued to the pages. The overall arc is compelling and I'm dying to see where Secret and her crew go in the next installment.

No pressure, Sierra Dean, but I'm expecting great things from you. *wicked grin*

-Kelly @ Reading the Paranormal

? Irena ? says

I tend to rate the books I read mostly by how well they kept my attention. In this case? It did its job well. Actually, now when I think about it, it is even better than that because it has two of the most annoying things you could have in a book: a triangle of sorts and it ends in a cliffhanger and I still liked it.

The first thing you should know about this book (and probably the whole series) is that it's a lighter version of Riley Jensen Guardian series (lighter as in Riley's world is way darker, richer and more dangerous than Secret's).

However, there are some similarities and if you've read about Riley and didn't like her or her attitudes towards, well, everything, then you will either simply tolerate Secret McQueen because her story is a bit lighter or you'll hate her too.

I liked this book. I never understood people who read these genres and act surprised by often used tropes. I too was caught off-guard by a couple of books I had to rate one star, but that was never because I was surprised by romance and a book labeled as a freaking romance. I have a whole list of annoying things I've read from reviews.

Something Secret This Way Comes is both urban fantasy and paranormal romance.

As for the first, the protagonist is a vampire hunter working for the Tribunal (vampire ruling body).

The second is introduced a bit later in the story when the protagonist is faced with her other half of ancestry, the one she has been avoiding her whole life.

Bear in mind this was published in 2011 so some of the tropes used weren't as overused then. One is soul mates. I know some people hate them, but for me they are comforting (when written well). This one has a twist to it.

Next, you have a triangle. I can't exactly call it a love triangle. I didn't hate it because the heroine wasn't suffering. At least, I think this is part of the reason why I didn't hate something I usually avoid (I can't really explain this). Secret McQueen doesn't have the exact same attitude towards sex as Riley Jensen, but she isn't a prude either. The romance part isn't as prominent as the promise of the world itself. It doesn't really make an impression overall.

I'm going to continue with the series.

Jane says

I have this problem with books, Where if any of my 'pet peeves' occur, I immediately stop reading and cannot finish the book. It's frustrating, Because it happens so damn often.

This book was unfortunately the same, No build up. No chemistry. Just simply lust and straightforward advances. I hate it! Why do authors have to shove sex down their readers throats?

That being said, I liked the plot. It was interesting, And held me. But the love triangle was eye rolling, And the chemistry with both of the love interests was non-existent. Oh we're soul mates? Well I guess we don't need to get to know each other or spend any time together, We should just jump straight into bed.

I mean seriously!
Gah.

Also Secret, The main character is supposed to be some badass rogue vampire hunter, But when she's around the werewolves she acts like she hasn't got a clue in the world or super badass powers. She's just a blonde ditzzy human. It's infuriating. Why portray men having that kind of power over a independant woman? I dislike that alot.

I gave the book 2 stars, Because the plot was decent and because I'm sure there are other readers who don't like romances that beat around the bush.

?♥❁LovLivLife Reviews❁♥? (Chasity) says

Sierra Dean's characters and worldbuilding in nothing shy of remarkable.

The cover and the blurb drew me in but it's the world and the characters that held me. Sierra Dean's character building is sensational. Secret McQueen is 22 years old but has seen enough turmoil that many others would likely call it quits. With one foot in each of the werewolf and vampire worlds all she's trying to do is stabilize that footing but life can never be that simple.

Secret McQueen gets dirty with the best of them. Fighting for innocent lives is just one of the bullets points on her resume. Action and shockers like you won't imagine will come out of the wood works and it's an adventure to see Secret ride those out. The only stumper for me was the romance interest. I enjoy love

triangles when there is a more definitive choice of interest but this one is any man's game. There is some excitement there but it also serves to kill me with curiosity. Take that and couple it with the ending- I need to know what will come next for Secret, Lucas, Desmond, Holden, Sig and the rest of the crew.

All in all, Something Secret This Way Comes is a must read for PNR/UF adult fans alike.

<http://www.lovlivlifereviews.com/2011...>

Stella says

You know the feeling when you have read only the very first couple of paragraphs/pages of a book and know that you are in for an amazing story? That's what I knew right at on the 2nd page of Something Secret This Way Comes, and boy was I proven right!

Sierra Dean spellbinds the reader in her debut urban fantasy novel by introducing an exciting universe where werewolves exist and vampires have a strictly organized hierarchy, and in the middle is Secret McQueen an extraordinary young woman, a halfbreed: due to her werewolf mother having been attacked by a vampire when she was pregnant.

Secret is just the perfect UF heroine: she is feisty, she is snarky and she is decidedly kickass! But besides being strong and independent she has a fragile vulnerability to herself, which renders her human and makes her a character the reader can identify with and understand. She is quite young but has experienced more than her share of horrors and it has left her disenchanted. She is cynical and snarky, but her dry sarcastic humour is one of the highlights of the novel! I loved reading the story told through Secret's narrative as her voice was fresh with just the right amount of acerbic tone to make it entertaining.

“Look, Lucas. Mr. Rain. Your Furry Highness, or whatever it is I'm supposed to call you—”

“For you, Lucas will be more than acceptable.”

This had gone from pre-coital intensity to feeling like after-school detention in the span of seconds.

The characterization is very well done, Something Secret This Way Comes has a dozen of wonderful and interesting characters, all of whom I cannot wait to see again in later books! Secret is canvassed in depth with many nuances and subtlety and I can't wait to see both Lucas and Desmond explored in more detail in the next book(s). I'm sure every reader will find a favourite among the entertaining and memorable array of supporting characters: there is Sig a cheeky ancient, one of the leaders of the vampire society who still manages to act like an impertinent schoolboy when teasing the fairy goddess; then there is Holden the mostly quiet yet intriguing vampire warden, Secret's contact to the vampire organisation I cannot wait to discover more about and of course there is Keaty, Secret's business partner and one of her best friends, just to name a few.

Besides the intriguing characters one of the things I loved most about *Something Secret This Way Comes* was how Sierra Dean was not afraid to take the usual and well-established UF conventions and add her own twist to them (e.g. vampires cannot turn humans at a whim, the bond between destined mates is not restricted to just couples but best friends can also share it). It made me feel like nothing was a given and made me excited to explore her UF universe and discover how the usual things in other UF novels would end up here.

The romantic storyline in *Something Secret This Way Comes* was scorchingly hot and confusing! Confusing because Secret is not only bonded to one irresistibly charismatic werewolf, but two! And now time for me to talk about the "soul bonding". Soul bonding is what you would first call the usual "destined mates" line in other UF novels, however soul bonding in *Something Secret This Way Comes* is not a conscious decision, it develops between people who have some connection and is not strictly reserved to couples: Lucas and his second in command Desmond share a bond, and because of this Secret is also bonded to both of them. And here comes another big break Sierra does with conventional UF rules: though both heroes are alphas in every possible sense of the word, they are neither possessive nor jealous! Imagine a calm and rational werewolf being fine with sharing his love? I found it intriguing and a bit confusing how come neither of the men was concerned by the double bonding, and this raised many questions I kept pondering long after I have gobbled up the book: can the 3 of them live happily ever after together? Or were the men so chill about this because they take a step back to let Secret decide and will respect her decision? So many questions that only Sierra can answer, but I hope she'll do it soon!

It is a credit to Sierra Dean's fantastic writing that despite the fact that as soon Lucas was introduced in the novel I fell under his charm and was rooting for him, but then as the novel progressed my certainty wavered. Though Lucas is the ideal man: strong, exuding confidence and responsibility (and of course being easy on the eyes doesn't hurt either), as the reader gets to know Desmond we can see what an amazing man he is also. So Secret's choice is certainly not an easy one... In the 1st book the question of Secret's relationship with Lucas and/or Desmond did not get resolved and I would rather say wasn't even explored in depth yet, as Desmond was more present than Lucas. But besides the very hot and sensual love scenes Sierra Dean also brings out the heartsqueezing moments (which are my favourite!):

"You asked me what the negative is for me? When you went limp, I saw every chance I had for happiness die with you. I could stand ten feet away from you for the rest of my life and nothing, not sex or money or power, could match how that feels. Do you get that?" He gave me a shake for emphasis.

... His face was so intimate my heart tripped. There was a peacefulness to him I'd never seen before, like all the pain he'd been carrying around since we'd met had vanished. I could have stayed like that forever to watch him smile at me, because everything about his sweet, dreamy look made me believe I was completely wanted. I touched his cheek and drew him close, feeling him slide inside me with an aching slowness.

Both men's charisma shines through the pages and I dare you to remain unaffected: the chemistry between these three is so palpable, sparks were flying off my ereader! I cannot wait to see how their relationship will develop later!

The mystery was complex and I liked the different layers of the diabolical plan, there was only one aspect I'm still a bit befuddled about: why did Secret's mother have such boundless hatred towards her child? But I'm sure Sierra will be back to explain more about this to us.

(Just a warning: prepare yourself for a breathtaking cliffhanger at the end which will end the story with a BANG!)

My only complaint? It ended way too soon! :-p

Verdict: This novel was such an exhilarating ride for me I don't even know where to start. Let's start by saying that after I devoured *Something Secret This Way Comes*, debut novel and first book in Sierra Dean's urban fantasy series I knew that I had discovered a new favourite author to go on my must buy list just next to Kelley Armstrong! *Something Secret This Way Comes* is a fast paced, original story with a fantastic heroine and a fresh take on UF, it is one of the best books I have read this year and I cannot wait to read more!

If you are looking for another action packed, well written, dark yet humourous UF novel with a snarky heroine, *Something Secret This Way Comes* is just the book for you!

Step aside Kate Daniels, Secret McQueen is here now to take over!

Plot: 9/10

Characters: 9/10

Ending: 10/10

Writing: 10/10

Cover: 10/10 - Cover perfection! Love how kick ass and tough the cover model is, and she looks a lot like I would picture Secret, love the vibrant colours and the UF atmosphere of it, wonderful! I could just stare at it for minutes!

(Tori-Smexybooks) smexys_sidekick says

Originally posted at <http://www.smexybooks.com/2011/05/rev...>

Favorite Quote: "You have my word that any future insults will be much more personalized and meant only for you."

Secret McQueen is a bounty hunter. Half vampire and half werewolf, she was hired by the vampire council at age 16 to hunt and kill rogue vampires. Now at age 22, her name is the vampire equivalent of the bogey man. Keeping her dual nature a secret is difficult enough without being soul bonded to the king of the werewolves. Lucas Rain, the East Coast King, wants Secret as his queen. His body guard Desmond wants Secret too.

When an enemy from the past comes back to finish Secret off once and for all, she will have to use her expose dual nature to save herself and everyone around her.

Secret McQueen has a dangerous job that puts her in the cross hairs of many people. Part vampire and part werewolf, she embraces her vampire fully while hiding her wolf. When she chases down and kills a rogue vampire in Central Park, she realizes that this newly made vampire is none other than a child of Alexandre

Payton. A truly evil vampire who has tried to kill Secret before. Called before the vampire tribunal for the unsanctioned kill, Secret is given one chance to make amends-find & capture Peyton.

While Secret is figuring out how to capture a master vampire, she suddenly finds her wolf side going crazy when a chance encounter brings her into the sights of Lucas Rain. Lucas is the East Coast King of the Werewolves and he is convinced she is his soul mate and queen. He also knows things about Secret's past and her role in the werewolf hierarchy. Secret finds herself unable to control her libido around him which annoys her to no end. Toss in an attraction to his bodyguard Desmond and her new best friend, Secret is ready to hide under covers till Doomsday.

Sierra Dean's debut novel, *Something Secret This Way Comes*, is an enjoyable Urban Fantasy with a bite. Wonderful world building coupled with engaging characters held me entranced. Our feisty heroine, paired with some sexy supernaturals, and an action filled plot that twists and turns keeps you off balance. Smooth writing coupled with a fast pace kept the storyline from dragging. The dialogue is engaging; Secret and her friends show some very nice snarkiness.

Secret is an interesting heroine. Strong and intelligent, there is an undercurrent of insecurity and fear that keeps her on edge. I like that fact she is young and unsure at times. She has a vulnerability about herself and her past that lends an air of realism. There were a few times when I wanted her to break bad; but she obviously understands the art of compromise and negotiation much better than me. I will say that overall feel of the book reminds me of Keri Arthur's Riley series. A young woman in a supernatural law enforcement type job who is torn between two natures and two men.

The romance (and I hesitate to call it that) is HAWT yet unsettling. One, I have a hard time with the whole bonding over rides common sense issue. Secret doesn't understand the bond and doesn't seem to want it yet still has no qualms about having a sexual relationship with two men she really doesn't know. It felt off because she is portrayed as being calm and maintaining steadfast control over her emotions. It just seemed she accepted it all too easily.

Desmond is HAWT with his brooding aura and hints of vulnerability. He has bonded with Secret's wolf without meaning to and while his wolf loves it, he is unsure of the whole situation. There is a chemistry between them that felt like more than just the bond. Lucas, Desmond's king and best friend has also soul bonded with Secret but his actions came off a little stiff. I didn't feel any real chemistry there. I felt like he was there because of the bond, not because he had a real attraction to Secret. Plus, since he's a king, he does have some self entitlement issues!

The characters are well developed with distinct personalities. Some of them could easily have their own storyline. Our vampires are cold and stand offish but with an off beat humor that has you quirking a smile at the oddest times. Holden, Secret's handler through the Vampire council, has her back while the Vampire Council has you looking over your shoulder for the knife their about to stab you with. The villain(s) in here are a nasty piece of work and leave you reeling from their duplicity.

The ending is quite brutal with some shocking revelations for Secret that left me racing to the end. A small cliffhanger had me cursing Ms. Dean quietly but also guaranteed I'll be waiting for book two. All an all *Something Secret This Way Comes* is pleasant addition to the Urban Fantasy genre and I look forward to see what Ms. Dean produces for us next.

Rating: C+

All Things Urban Fantasy says

SOMETHING SECRET THIS WAY COMES reminded me of the fantasy books I read during high school. Not in content, but emotion. In a genre that abounds with vampires and werewolves, Dean managed to add twists to the mythology and social structure of her characters that made me feel like she was treading new ground. While **SOMETHING SECRET** does draw on many Urban Fantasy clichés, Dean adds enough of a new spin to make me interested in seeing where the series is going.

One of Dean's best departures from the Urban Fantasy cannon was giving both vampires and werewolves a strong respect for life and an almost National Parks service approach to managing their numbers and offspring. There were several instances where this attitude is pivotal to the plot (and being a vampire hunter is a new and different beast altogether when the vampires issue warrants themselves). Dean also made some clever assumptions regarding the personality quirks that would be common in an immortal or were population, and I enjoyed these glimpses of supernatural society.

While the preternatural anthropology was interesting, the writing in **SOMETHING SECRET** did have a few first novel downfalls. The first several chapters had heavy handed explanations and data dumps to establish the world, and the name "Secret McQueen" never stopped feeling awkward. These shortcomings were never enough to stop my forward progress, however, and I have high hopes that book 2, **A BLOODY GOOD SECRET**, will contain more of the creativity that sparked my interest with less of the writing bumps.

Sexual Content: Several sex scenes.

QueenB says

This book didn't make sense to me. The protag is supposed to be tough and smart and feared and independent. Then she meets this random stranger who's all, "We're meant to be" and she just kinda goes with it. She doesn't really question things she should and nothing gets explained to her very well. I absolutely did not feel the romance between her and Lucas and Desmond. Of the two, I thought she had a better emotional connection with Lucas, which was tenuous at best, and yet the only sex she ever had was with Desmond.

Here she is contemplating a life with one or both of these men and she never finds out if she can actually have both or if she has to choose, she lets them parade a well guarded secret out in public which made no sense, she won't tell them what she really is which kind of negated the whole possible true love angle for me and she became utterly weak around them. Also, when she was with one, she kinda forgot all her gooey feelings for the other.

The vampire part was honestly the most interesting and it was made so very obvious that she'll have at least one love interest from that quarter which would be welcome for me if she could even handle the love interests she has now.

The story was an interesting premise and it has a lot of potential for future stories to grow on, but I felt like the author tried to jam too much in to too short of a space and so everything suffered. The plot, the action, the romance, the character development.

I would read more from this author and I'm sure I'll try the next one in the series, but if the romance and characters don't get explored better in the next, I won't be reading any more in this particular series.

Nicole says

Review originally posted here: <http://thebookpushers.com/2011/05/11/...>

Publisher: Samhain

Publish Date: Out Now!

How I got this book: eARC from author

Secret McQueen, half vampire half werewolf bounty hunter for the vampire council, finds herself in a sticky situation when she gets tasked with having to take down (preferably alive) the one nemesis from her past that has her shaking in her sexy boots.

If that wasn't enough pressure, she also gets introduced to two sexy werewolves, the King of the East Coast Lucas and his broody second-in-command, Desmond. Secret is attracted to both males, and the feelings are mutual. But with trying to hide her half breed status, the pressure to catch the vampire rouge, and the never ending confrontations that arise in her life, Secret is having a hard time keeping up.

This debut book from Dean was a super fun UF, and I can't wait to see more from this author and series. I'll admit to being a little hesitant at first, not knowing where Dean was going with the whole werewolf love triangle. I typically CAN NOT stand when love triangles get introduced into a story, and then never get resolved or just drag out endlessly. However, I felt this was handled much better than any other book I've read recently. Secret doesn't ever seem to feel more deeply for one than the other. Although I thought she was a little premature is admitting feelings for two men who claimed to have a bond with her.

The world building and plot in this were fantastic. I love the dynamics between the vampires and werewolves, as well as the inner pack workings amongst the wolves themselves. The action was packed and the story constantly moved at a quick pace, pulling me in with each word. There were also a few twists and turns that I never expected and enjoyed as they came up, especially with regards to the pack politics and Secret's potential place within them.

Dean does an incredible job of bringing all the characters fully to life. I loved the Alpha ways of Lucas and Desmond, always wanting to be there to protect and hover over Secret. Likewise, the vampires Holden and Sig were great too, with just the right amount of mystery and intrigue. I think my favorite though is by far Calliope, the local Oracle who is shrouded in secrets that I can't wait to hear more about!

I am very anxiously awaiting the second book in the series, mainly because of the cliffhanger that was the last line of the book. Secret is going to have a lot of hard decisions ahead of her, and I can't wait to see where Dean takes us next. I do hope that as the series progresses, the love triangle between Secret and her wolves is worked out, however there were hints made that things might become even more and more complicated for Secret where her love life is concerned. While I'm hesitant with books where multiple men come forward and try to claim the heroine for himself, I'm hoping that Dean finds a way to balance it all out without going overboard.

All in all this was a wonderful UF debut filled with a great story line, a fun cast of characters, and some great blond joke references that had me liking Secret that much more. I can't wait for more from this author!

I give Something Secret This Way Comes a B-
