



# Sentinel of Darkness

*Katie Reus*

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**Sentinel of Darkness** Katie Reus

**She thought she'd put her past behind her...**

Local artist Keva might be human, but she knows about the things that go bump in the night. Years ago, a dragon shifter saved her from certain death. Ever since, she's lived in his clan's territory and put her life back together. But the feeling of security is only an illusion, because her past has come back to haunt her. A past with claws and fangs, demanding blood.

**He'll do whatever it takes to defend his mate...**

Dagen has finally met his mate—except he insults her the first time they meet. He's not too proud to grovel to get back into her good graces. But when a threat from her past emerges, he realizes that he'll do anything to keep her safe. Even if it means dying—or losing her forever.

Length: 30,000 words

*Author note: This is a stand-alone story in the Darkness series complete with an HEA and no cliffhanger.*

Darkness series:

1. Darkness Awakened
2. Taste of Darkness
3. Beyond the Darkness
4. Hunted by Darkness
5. Into the Darkness
6. Saved by Darkness
7. Guardian of Darkness
8. Sentinel of Darkness

## Sentinel of Darkness Details

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Author : Katie Reus

Format : Kindle Edition 99 pages

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## From Reader Review Sentinel of Darkness for online ebook

### Bev says

I love a good woman on the run story, throw in a hot, growly dragon shifter and I'm right in my happy place. I loved it!

Although this is a fast read, this novella packs quite a punch. Keva's life was saved by an alpha dragon shifter when she was running from her abusive ex, so she's understandably leery of men and is happy living her quiet life. Till Dagen, ha! There was no way that protective, sweet dragon was going to give up. Nope, he'd found his mate and was quite happy to play it her way as long as it took for her to accept her destiny.

This novella right here is why I love this series, Reus rocks these dragon shifters.

4.5 stars

Arc provided by Netgalley for review.

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### Julie (Jewls Book Blog) says

Dragon shifter Dagen's first face to face meeting with Keva, a human, started out great but went downhill fast when Keva learns the lowballed offers for her store are coming from him. Dagen now has to rectify matters since his dragon points out Keva is their mate. Lucky for him, her troubled past gives him the perfect opportunity to get up close and personal.

Yay for Dragons! Katie Reus writes some of the toughest, cutest, protective, and quirkiest ones I've found to date and I adore them! They provided humor and frankness to the storyline I got a kick out of. Dagen was cute and growly, but Keva! She was sassy, stubborn and made him work to convince her to give a relationship another whirl. Good for her!

This was a super quick read with dragon fire incineration-just imagine the enemies that could be vanquished!-romantic sizzle, hysterical characters, and many familiar faces to catch up with. Book 8 in the Darkness series, Sentinel can be read as a stand alone, but I recommend reading the other books in the series to fully appreciate all the characters!

I voluntarily read and reviewed an advanced copy of this book. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

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### Sophia Triad says

*Basically he wanted anything she would give him. Which felt a little sad and desperate, but his dragon apparently had no pride or shame when it came to her.*

That was such a feel-good, easy-to-read, fast-paced, heart-warming, full-on-romantic shifters' story that takes place in the world of one of the most brilliant PNR series.

I absolutely loved it!

The story is about a lonely dragon, Dagen, who belongs to Conall's clan and lonely human, Keva, who is an

artist and makes jewellery and statues and has a little shop in Conall's clan's territory.

When Dagen tries to buy her shop for the clan, he will realise that:

1. Keva does not sell
2. Keva is his mate
3. Keva is protected by Conall

Dagen is a good guy. He will try to earn Keva's trust before he explains to her that she is his mate – especially because he will realise that Keva had a previous bad experience with a wolf shifter.

Dagen is also a protector. When he finds out that Keva is in danger, he will protect her - even when she is not sure about her feelings towards Dagen.

Overall, I truly enjoyed the story and I hope that we will have many more stories that take place in this world.

Favourite scene:

*And he was absolutely beautiful. His wings were a waterfall of colors, mostly blue and silver, with subtle lavender undertones, creating a visual feast. His body was more silver than anything, his scales glittering, and the most beautiful thing she'd ever seen. God, she wanted to see him in the air, soaring.*

*She stared for a long moment, drinking in all of his beautiful colors. "Will you stretch out your wings?" she whispered.*

*She was pretty sure he could understand her when he was in dragon form, and as he let out a little huff of breath and did as she asked, she grinned. Holy crap, he was stunning.*

*"You're the most beautiful thing I've ever seen." There was no way to deny his beauty, his raw power.*

*He let out another little huff and flapped his wings a couple times, fanning her with a gentle breeze. Then he stood up and strutted around the yard, as if he was actually showing off for her.*

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## ♥ WishfulMiss ♥ says

### 3.5 stars

There is something so awesome about Dragon Shifters and KR always gives me such amazing characters to root for. Sentinel of Darkness is another 100% safe, HEA read that I went through in one sitting.

When Keva was young and grieving the loss of her family, she met a guy, a shifter, who basically takes advantage of her. By the time she is able to see him for what he truly is, it's almost too late. Fast forward four years and Keva has built a new life for herself and although she is grateful for how accepting the dragon clan has been to her, she has closed herself off to any romantic entanglements with the supernatural.

When she meets Dagen, she is instantly attracted but also wary. He is almost too perfect to believe and she's torn between taking a chance or keeping a safe distance.

Dagen on the other hand, doesn't fight what his dragon instantly recognizes in Keva. She's their mate and he is already half way in love with her when they first meet. He's excited and humbled to have found his mate. But Keva isn't ready to hear his promises of forever, so he sets out to court her.

The slow burn between Keva and Dagen was so sweet and the sizzling tension added just the right amount of spice to their story. I loved that they became friends first and were able to form a genuine bond before things get physical. Their level of communication, understanding and support was unwavering and adorable.

**Would I recommend?** For safe, sweet, and sexy, Katie Reus is always a must read!

**Favorite Moments:** I loved how Dagen's dragon was so genuinely happy that he could provide for his mate. The way both the man and the beast basically high fived over the fact that they got to feed Keva was too cute. I really liked that he was sweet and kind of dorky one minute and a total bad ass the next.

*\*\*\* ARC provided for an honest review \*\*\**

*I voluntarily read and reviewed an advanced copy of this book. All thoughts and opinions are my own.*

**SAFETY INFO:** (view spoiler)

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### **Kimberley C. says**

I liked this one, and that is saying something because I very rarely read fantasy of any kind. However, I really like Katie Reus' writing so I gave it a shot and I'm glad I did. I loved how they met and the sparks just kept getting hotter from there. I will have to check out the rest in the series!

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### **Leigh says**

3.5 stars

Sentinel of Darkness is book 8 in the Darkness series. Although it seemed a lot shorter than the others in this series it was still enjoyable. Keva and Dagan are very sweet together. Dagan was actually a lot like Drake, a very protective and sweet male. As always I look forward to more in this series.

*\*\*\*ARC provided by NetGalley\*\*\**

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### **Laurie says**

There is a lot to love about author Katie Reus' Darkness series, but the one thing I can't get enough of is all

the sex-on-a-stick dragons to be found. Every time I read a dragon shifter book, it just underscores that you can never, ever, EVER have enough smoking hot, growly, alpha dragons in your book. Yum.

I'm all about stories featuring battered women who not only rise above their pasts, but who go on to positively soar. I love it when a heroine who has hit rock bottom then grows into a strong woman who is perfectly capable of not only fighting her own battles, but winning them. It took Keva several years to fully come into her own inner strength and the new threat terrified her, but she met it head on and I adored her for it.

Degan was everything I expected him to be, but he also had a vulnerability about him due to a horrific past of his own. I found this trait of his endearing as all get out. The instant bond he found with Keva did not translate to insta-love because both were too cautious for that. Still, even though they didn't act on things immediately, they freaking sizzled together.

What I didn't enjoy was how anticlimactic the suspense aspect felt when it was resolved, even after another threat surfaced. It ended up feeling too quick and tidy of a resolution, almost forced actually.

I truly enjoyed the time spent with some of my favorite dragons. Arya and her sisters-in-law kept me smiling and the shifter baby shower had me giggling with all its cuteness. Sentinel of Darkness was quick, fun and seriously sexy—how could it not be with such an alphatastic but oh so sweet dragon.

Rating: 4 Growly Dragons Just Do It For Me Stars

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### **Liz says**

Sentinel of Darkness was the first book by Katie Reus that I've read and, now I've found this author, it won't be the last one. Keva, the heroine has been badly hurt in the past by her ex-boyfriend, a wolf shifter and it was only the intervention of alpha dragon shifter Conall killing her attacker that saved her life. This has left her reluctant to trust her own judgement when it comes to any man let alone another shifter. She's happy, living her life quietly under the protection of Conall and his clan in their territory. Dagen, the hero, has also been hurt in the past but he knows instantly that Keva is his mate. I loved that he didn't try to push the whole mate thing well except for growling at any male who spoke to Keva. He was happy to go at Keva's pace and be her friend if that was all she wanted. Gradually Keva comes to see him for the gentle giant he is. Don't get me wrong though, he's no wimp. When the past rears its ugly head and Keva is threatened by rogue wolf shifters it isn't long before he goes all alpha to protect the woman he loves.

I don't normally read novellas, preferring full length novels where I feel the story can be expanded on in more depth but I honestly didn't feel that anything was rushed about this book despite its brevity. Another plus for me is that this was book eight in the series so now I can go and read the other books and see how the other characters mentioned in Sentinel of Darkness got together.

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### **Claire Robinson says**

5 - *She was starting to like this dragon... Way too much.* Stars!

I absolutely loved returning to the *Darkness* series again, *Sentinel of Darkness* being the eighth offering gives us Keva and Dagen's story. Human female/dragon male, although Keva is aware of what Dagen is, having been saved by a shifter like himself a few years previously.

***He was going to make her his...***

This was a quick read, but as always Katie manages to fit a whole lot of story into a novella. Keva was feisty, Dagen, a true alpha male, but as soon as he realizes Keva is his true mate turns into an overprotective cream puff where she is concerned. That's the thing with Katie's men though, you as a reader are always envious of the women they set their hearts, sights and high libidos on!

**"You make it hard to breathe..."**

***"You can't just say stuff like that... We're friends."***

**"...I think we both know that's not true. We're more than friends... Or I hope we will be."**

Another winner, I pretty much love everything this author releases, but this series is still my favourite, and it makes me happy to know we get another visit to the *Petronilla Clan* with *A Very Dragon Christmas* due next month!

**"It's hard to get mad at you when you're being all logical."**

ARC generously provided by the author, in exchange for the above honest review.

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## **Deborah says**

It's taken me 12 days but I've just read the entire series. And I'm hooked.

I love a good paranormal romance and for me dragons are just the icing on the cake. And this book is nearly all dragons.

Keva is human and running for her life. Her wolf shifter ex-boyfriend is after her and she knows this time when he catches her he'll kill her.

She's saved by Conall the Alpha of the Petronilla Clan. Keva makes a life for herself in Petronilla living amongst dragons.

Dagen may be a huge dragon and a powerful man. But he's suffered in the past and still carries the emotional scars. When he meets Keva his dragon knows it's meeting it's mate. But Keva has been hurt by a shifter and she's determined not to get involved with another one.

I love this series and this book. It's a cute romance involving a dragon who'll do anything to get its mate.

I voluntarily read a review copy kindly provided by NetGalley.

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## **Mindy Lou's Book Review says**

When I read a novella, it's not always easy to find one that checks all the boxes like a full length book does and this one does. Holy cow, Dagen was amazing!

Dagen's the type of hero that is big, very tough, but also quiet. Sometimes I think the quiet tells you more about a person than anything else and I seem to be drawn to these types of heroes. Add to that, he was amazing with Keva. He recognized instantly that she was his mate. A mate he never thought he would find. Instead of resisting, he handled her with a care that just made me sigh with happiness.

Keva was also a great heroine. She resisted a bit due to her past, but it wasn't too much and it was also understandable seeing as she is human and a previous shifter had already used their strength against her. But what I loved most about her was that she paid attention and saw that Dagen was handling her with care that was completely sincere and she adjusted.

Having great main characters is great in itself, but when you also get great side characters and an exciting story, it really puts a book right to the top. I particularly love this clan of dragons, especially since Mira came out of hibernation. She's going to be one heck of a future main character.

I'm really looking forward to more in this series. ARC provided by NetGalley.

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## **Carvanz says**

Dragons!!! I love them, but holy heck...Dagen was PERFECT!!! Absolutely, unequivocally perfect!

For a novella, this was packed full of all kinds of goodness! It has everything a full length novel has and believe it or not, was one of the best books I've read this year.

Dagen was such a wonderful alpha hero with a bit of insecurity that actually worked so well that I couldn't have loved him more. I absolutely loved his courting of Keva and he was so darn cute that I swooned from his charm. However, when it came time to protect her, there was nothing insecure about him. He went into full on protective mode in the only manner a dragon shifter can and oh my gawd it just added to my total enjoyment of this story. Add in his inability to stop growling each time a man talked about her or he thought another man might be even thinking about her and I was GONE! Did I mention he was just so freaking cute?

Along with the getting to know you stage for this couple, came the standard Katie Reus suspense that always amps the action up. While the length of this book didn't allow for a lot of expanded drama in this instance, it was still very well done and there were even a few surprises thrown in to add to the overall believability of danger.

I can't recommend this book enough if you like dragon shifters, perfect possessive/protective and jealous heroes, and a story that works from beginning to end. I absolutely LOVED it!

I voluntarily read and reviewed an advanced copy of this book. All thoughts and opinions are my own.

Dual POV

Safe(view spoiler)

Triggers(view spoiler)

## Ezinwanyi says

★★★★½

I loved this one! This story was written in a way that was endearing and heartwarming. Katie Reus delivers another winner in this awesome dragon shifter series.

Dagen Hunter was everything! He was a protective male without being bossy. He was attentive and considerate and he COMMUNICATED very clearly. Wow. He actually shared what he was thinking and what he wanted with the object of his affection. Imagine that, an alpha male who growls and talks too!

"You make it hard to breathe...I don't think you realize what you mean to me Keva."

Keva Sheehan, a jewelry maker, lived in the Conall's (dragon) territory after surviving an attack by her ex-boyfriend, a wolf shifter. While on business meeting for his alpha Conall, Dagen runs into Keva and immediately scents her as his mate. His dilemma became how to communicate to a skittish human that she was his mate despite her history of being brutalized by a werewolf shifter.

What I loved about the heroine was that she drew strength from her past of being abused. Keva had prepared mentally and physically for how she would react and defend herself if confronted by an attacker. She showed courage in the midst of her fear knowing that shifters are much stronger than humans. Dagen was just so cute and sweet. He showed that a dragon can be an alpha male without dictating or being aggressive. His honesty seemed almost childlike and made the trust develop quickly. He protected his mate and took care of her, and he gave her room to draw her own conclusions. Keva seemed to draw strength from his supportive stance and her confidence grew as the dragons subtly protected her and extended friendship her by letting her know things about their clan. Many of the past characters made appearances and Keva found camaraderie amongst even the most ancient of dragons. This story was cohesive and had a steady flow. It was everything I love about paranormal romances without being overly heavy. One of the best stories I've read all year.

*\*I voluntarily read this advanced reading copy gotten from Netgalley. All opinions are my own honest opinions.*

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## Sissy's Romance Book Review says

Sentinel of Darkness by Katie Reus is book 8 in the Darkness series. This is the story of Dagen and Keva. I haven't yet read the previous books, so for me this was a standalone book.

Keva is still dealing with the fall out of a abusive relationship will working to rebuild her life. Dagen also has a past with similar pains so their is a kinder spirits there. Keva was a sweet caring women and Dagen was somewhat alpha male protective of Keva. I enjoyed this book a lot and want to read more in this series along with this author.

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## Val ?? Shameless, Skanky & Bitchy ?? says

3 Meh Stars

I liked it...but not as much as the full length series installments.  
Felt a little superficial and rushed in comparison.

Also, the H in this was a little too...sweet and staid for me.

A huge bummer in general, actually, because this book could have been really awesome.

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