



Accidental Alpha

Poppy Dennison

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A quiet life. A break from the dangers of being a cop. Yep, Lex Tompkins has his future all worked out. That is, until fate—or rather the stray toddler from the house across the street—bites those plans in the ass. Well, technically Lex's neck. Suddenly, he's transformed into the Alpha of the secret werewolf clan hiding in the perfect, out of the way neighborhood of Lex's dreams.

Now Lex is the unlikely leader of a dysfunctional pack... except for Spencer Robinson, the one shifter Lex can't seem to keep his paws off. Will Spencer be able to teach Lex how to embrace who he has truly become?

Because accidents happen...

...but fate marks its own territory.

Accidental Alpha Details

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From Reader Review Accidental Alpha for online ebook

Elspeth says

This could have been much better. The beginning was very rough, and the dialog jarring. It could have used another round of editing.

I really liked Dennison's Mind Magic so I know she can write better than this.

DaisyGirl says

2.0 Stars

Best thing about this book? Aiden, the baby biter. And while I love cute kids in my stories, if the little tyke is the BEST thing about the book ... *Houston, we have a problem.*

This one had promise but it fell victim to the tell-not-show syndrome which placed it firmly in yawn-city for me. I think part of the problem was its length (<100 pages). But also, I felt like I was dropped into the middle of the story. Funny thing is, I wasn't. But I felt that way because the story just took off. There was no world building, apart from Spencer and company were Lex's noisy neighbors ... bah, hum bug. Lex's transformation was unexpected, yet there was no upset about it. There was no "*What the fuck do you mean I'm a werewolf?!? Werewolves aren't real!!!!*" Lex took to his wolfiness and alpha status like a duck to water. No questions. There was no angst or turmoil about the impact to his human life or his family. Wait ... does Lex even have a family?!? See, this is what I mean.

One of the reasons I enjoy shifter werewolf stories is the pack dynamic. Well, not here! Pack dynamic, aside from the doggie pile (weird), was nil. I felt like I was playing my own game of twenty-questions and I got maybe three answers. Otherwise ... *crickets*.

Lastly, sexy, smexy fun. I love it. It's part of the reason I read m/m. By the time I got to 90%, I was prepared to categorize this book as sex-off-page. But then came the sex scene. It was underwhelming. Mostly because it felt like an after-thought. Like, *alright, here's your sexy, smexy*. It was about as enjoyable as a pity fuck. Not fun.

Bottom line: I really liked Poppy Dennison's Triad series so I had high hopes for this one. Sadly, it didn't compare. Since this is only book one, however, I'll give it two bites at the proverbial apple before tossing in the towel.

Arthur says

A really interesting take on werewolves pack. The human-form members behave like a pack: they crave the alpha's presence and they like to sleep (really sleep, not 'sleep') together.

Mandy*reads obsessively* says

3.5*

Cute start to a new series (even if it didn't end on a cliffy it did leave me wanting more and wanting it now, some day in the future I will learn to NOT start these books until all of them are out...)

Lex, grumpy and annoyed at his life, he's an ex cop and he's an ex because of an injury. He moved out to the boonies but his neighbor has more people over than he would like. It interrupts his grumpiness. So when a little bitty baby bites him, his life changes. He stays grumpy for a while but not for long.

It's a cute twist on the usual shifter lore and I liked it a lot, there are tons of things I want to know..Spencer's history, Nathan's history, I'm guessing Ruby might have a story to tell..and was Taylor's car accident really an accident..and when is the biting going to commence?

Will Mia see more in Justin and will anyone in the damn pack learn to knock? Tune in next time to see how the fur flies!

Ami says

On one hand, I appreciated that this story not focusing on finding a mate – which can easily turn into insta-love when it comes to shifters stories. Instead, this was more about building up a pack when Lex was turned accidentally into an Alpha of a pack whose previous Alpha died (by the way, this also had the cutest way of a man turned into an Alpha, ever! *grin*). Lex had to deal with pack members who like to cuddle and sleep together (really sleep, okay, *literally sleep* together), one pack member that was being ignored by the rest, other pack members sniffing around the territory, and such.

Unfortunately, in the romance department, I found it lacking and dry. Spencer, the love interest, got it right when he told Lex that he didn't know how to deal with Lex suddenly all over him when for months Lex didn't even notice Spencer.

For me, this could be remedied if there was a way of wooing, so I could feel that Lex had a change of heart. Alas, I didn't feel like it was there in the story. I didn't feel the interest being a two-way street and I didn't believe the romance between Lex and Spencer.

So it did provide something different but I just found the romance as slightly disappointing.

The book is provided by the publisher in exchange for honest review

~☆~Døni(ela) ♥ ?? love & semi-colons~☆~ says

~1.5~

I couldn't get behind this one. I skimmed and almost DNF. The entire situation (how Lex became Alpha) was ridiculous; the dialogue, wooden; the characters, shallow. Also, ZERO relationship development, no world building whatsoever, and some dumb plot about rogue shifters. All of this has been done before, and done better. I think I'm done with this author.

Nikyta *Miss Forgetful* says

I adored this story! It's a quick read but I found Lex absolutely sexy and Spencer so adorable. It was easy for me to get hooked on the book and being a shifter lover I liked how Ms. Dennison gave the typical wolf shifters a slight twist in how the Alpha of the pack is chosen.

Lex is this grumpy ex-cop that just wants to be left alone. He's so annoyed at his neighbor Spencer because he thinks Spencer is always having these parties that disturb Lex's quiet life. In reality, Spencer is a werewolf and that's his pack visiting him. Lex learns all this when he's bitten and forced into the role of the pack's Alpha. I found Lex's reaction to becoming Alpha hilarious but also liked how he came to terms with it all and his actions while getting accustomed to having claws and sharp teeth. I thought of Spencer as the motherhen of the pack. Everyone relies on him and adores him but he'll always be there for everyone. It's really cute and means he fits perfectly with Lex now! :D

I liked that this book showed the struggle of Lex trying to refrain from claiming Spencer as his mate (even though he didn't realize what was happening at first). If anything, I wished this book had been longer so we could have gotten more of these boys, learned more about them and how things work out from here but I loved it too much to not mind all that much that this is a brief glimpse into their bonding. Mostly, though, this book is about Lex taking up as Alpha and mending the broken connections that cause some of the pack to feel like outsiders. It was nice to see that play out and how much Lex helped in making the pack better and overall a whole 'family'.

I can't wait to see where this series goes from here and to get deeper into the world that's been created. Plus, all the characters were so fascinating and lovable to me and I really hope we get Nathan's story soon because I feel really bad for him and he deserves some happiness!

Sammy Goode says

How is it that I have not read this author before? Poppy Dennison wrote a sweet and clever little story about a reclusive, ex-police officer, Lex, who was wounded in the line of duty and who moves to the country to get away from everything and everyone. Sure, he notices his only neighbor, Spencer. But Spencer is small and thin and really just not what Lex usually goes for--ever. Plus the guy is always having parties! Poor Lex--all he wants to do is be alone! Have privacy! Well, not really, but he has convinced himself of that and is determined to stick to it! Then, a small child wanders into his yard and as Lex begrudgingly does the "right thing" by carrying the child back to Spencer's home, little Aiden bites his "Pa" and Lex's life changes forever!

There were times in this story that I laughed out loud--it was so funny and yet so sweet, As Lex begins to take care of the others he's inadvertently entrusted with, you see this gruff, grumpy man become this wonderfully rough yet caring leader. The paranormal aspect was so well done. There was the delightful nuance of "pack" living and then the growing relationship between Spencer and Lex...oh just lovely!

I really enjoyed this story, Accidental Alpha--and now have many Poppy Dennison novels to pick up and read, including what I hope will soon be a sequel to this little gem.

Mandi says

Really enjoyed this one! Can't wait until the next book (which is really why I should wait until more of the series is out before I rush off and read something!) Anyone know when the next book is due out?

Candice says

This was just a great short story with such a completely different take on becoming a werewolf and an Alpha of a pack. I really enjoyed all the characters, not just the MCs and really look forward to another book in series to see where the author takes all of them.

MLE says

A cute, sweet shifter story. I liked how being Alpha meant more than just being a controlling dick, and more about taking care of his pack. I liked the feelings between the pack, and not just between the mates. It made for a richer story for me.

Lilia Ford says

For a shifter fan like myself, Poppy Dennison's books are a gift. I love that I can rely on them to deliver a fun, feel-good read, without the genre's usual depressing rehash of stock characters and plotlines. I wouldn't call this an ambitious book, but it features likable characters and small but telling innovations on the familiar tropes. Most notable here is the emphasis on forming a "pack," and the Alpha's role in cementing the bonds between the members. A lot more page time is spent on those relationships than the usual "claiming" insta-lust stuff. Even the sleeping arrangements clue us in: we see Lex spend several nights curled up with the entire pack before he ever gets it on with his mate. It's a nice, original touch that shows the care Dennison puts into telling her good-natured tales.

Definitely recommended for those who want a fresh, feel-good shifter tale.

Gina says

I love shifter stories and this short book was fun, cute and I wanted more!

Heller says

4.5

Such a fantastic shifter book. The cutest EVER making of a werewolf that I've read in any book. Great pack dynamics here. Why was this so short?? Sob.

V says

This is just too adorable for words, this grumpy bear of a man just want to be left alone, but suddenly one day, he is the Alpha of a group of shifters, the way he was converted into a werewolf was so cute.

This is different from the other stories a have read about this gender, and it's one of the nicest.

I have read hundreds and hundreds werewolf stories, and this one is one of my favorites .

This is a very short story, however, the author didn't waste any time adding useless information to the plot, which is terrific.

I can't wait to read the next sequel, this series is a must buy for me from now on.

I'm against recommending books, but in this case I will make an exception and I highly recommend this story and I hope you like it as much as I did.
