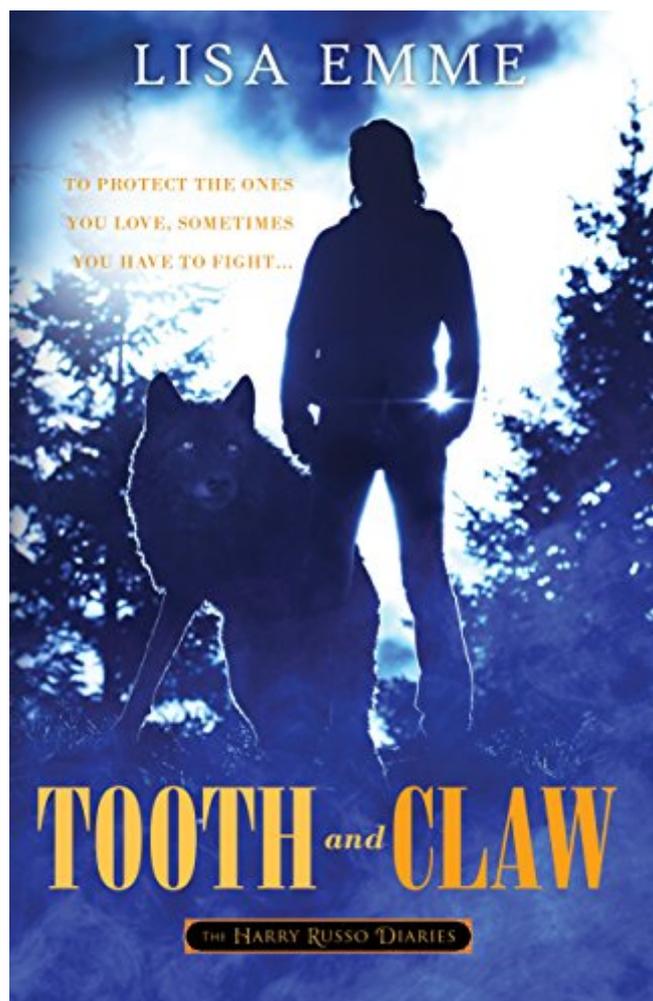


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Tooth And Claw (The Harry Russo Diaries Book 2)



Synopsis

Q: When is a witch, not a witch? A: When sheâ™s a necromancer. Angharad â™Harryâ™ Russo has had to adjust to some major changes in her life. Her computer is haunted, she accidentally acquired a vampire servant and sheâ™s attracted to the most aggravating alpha male on the planet. Her friend betrayed her, a lunatic tried to sacrifice her to raise a god and she accidentally â™outedâ™ herself to the Magister, the most powerful vampire in town. What else could go wrong? Oh yeah, sheâ™s just discovered that her father is a vampire and her dhamphiric powers are emerging prematurely. Poor Harry doesnâ™t know what weird ability could pop up next. When werewolves start to go missing, and two young men die suspiciously, not to mention horrifically, Harry believes itâ™s all connected. It could be a hunch, or it could be the big, grey wolf that stepped out of her dreams to haunt her waking moments; either way, Harry knows that she needs to help solve the mystery. Now if she could just convince the sexy police detective, Cian Nash, to take her seriously. This is book two of the Harry Russo Diaries. It is a stand-alone adventure with no cliffhanger. Intended for a mature audience.

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Customer Reviews

****No Worries- No Spoilers here****I received an Advance copy of this book from the Author in exchange for an honest review. Yes, I'm gloating a little because I had the privilege of getting my Harry fix early, but good news for everyone else, especially if you're reading this is that Tooth and Claw has been released today. Tooth and Claw is the second volume/book in the series, The Harry Russo Diaries. The first book is Dead and Kicking, and I absolutely loved it. So I was eager for this second installment, especially since the first left me with my jaw hanging to the floor. This was something I found controversial and opinion oriented. Some reviews I read said no cliffhanger, while others said yes to a cliffhanger. I'm with the latter. Both books felt like cliffhanger endings to me, but on the other hand the author did wrap up each story so they did have a conclusion. The endings of each book were left with room to expand, as the author obviously did by continuing on with volume two and I believe there will be a volume three also. The story is in first person, Harry's POV. You don't necessarily need to read book one in order to enjoy book two, but I highly recommend you do because you might feel a little left out of the loop when past events are referenced since book two is a continuation. This series is Paranormal all the way and is filled with a variety of species. This is probably one of my favorite things about this series. Lisa Emme has built a world around so many different types of supernatural beings. Again, as I skimmed through other's reviews this was also controversial. Some found that having so many various creatures to be overwhelming but I loved that fact and found this is what kept both books exciting for me.

Emme writes well and as an independent author, takes care to eliminate common editing mistakes many do not. For that she deserves kudos. Her heroine Harry has Kate Daniels'-like supernatural and martial arts skills and like many other books in the genre, she develops new powers which are superior to others. I like this type of context. Where the book(s) fall short for me, however, are in three areas: First: the world-building is very light. We have a made-up city of unknown proportions that appears to be the first choice when villains are attempting to establish a new world order. Why exactly? Do other cities have identical political setups (i.e. a master vamp in control)? Is there a master supernatural council somewhere worldwide? Why is Nash an Alpha but clearly subservient to the local Werewolf council headed by his mother? Who is Isaac and where does he fit in the vampire hierarchy? We know Harry has unique skills that have not been seen for millenia; wouldn't

that set off alarm bells elsewhere? Etc, etc. This aspect of the books remains underdeveloped and I thought would be fleshed out as the series progressed. Not so. Second: The romance is rushed, almost to the point of mere convenience. Harry herself points out multiple times that she and Nash haven't gone on a single date and even though Nash's wolf says they're mated, neither "human" agrees they truly like each other. Most of their encounters involved him yelling at her for interfering in his investigation so I'm not sure why Emme accelerated their relationship to intimacy so quickly. (The old "I hate him but I can't resist him" trope).

I read the first book in the Harry Russo series, and even though it was flawed with character, dialogue, and plot missteps, it was an easy read that made me think I might enjoy the sequel. I was wrong. These are just a few of the problems I had with the follow-up book: I am tired of authors not writing stand alone stories. Nothing really was resolved in the first novel, and now this one also ends in a cliffhanger. I understand that some authors think this is good marketing but it isn't. If someone thinks enough of the world you've built, that person will likely buy another book without you resorting to a gimmick. I understand the main character is young, even though she's a business owner, but having her stick her tongue out at people and constantly engaging in fist-pumping is just stupid behavior. She also gets into inane arguments with friends/foes at ridiculous moments. It's not comic relief. Stop it. Harry's total obliviousness to plot points makes her appear really, really dumb. She's supposed to have super duper turbo powers, but she can't think her way out of any situation and needs to have it all spelled out for her, usually by a male character. She should be much more savvy than she is. By far the most egregious errors surround the character of Cian Nash, the misogynistic yet HOT love interest. He bosses the main character around, tells her to stay out of trouble/danger, to the point that he handcuffs her to keep her out of danger -- in the middle of a major magical fight! Seriously, did he think the bad guys would just ignore the lady in handcuffs for her own protection? Get it together, that was insulting to the main character. Then we come to the main character thinking of sex in the middle of a dire situation.

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