



## Walking Wolf Road

*Brandon M. Herbert*

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Uprooted and dumped in a small town at the edge of the Colorado mountains, Jimmy Walker is at odds with everything. He feels adrift, alienated from his classmates and even his own family. It's hard being a teenager in a new town, struggling with grades, depression, hostile classmates, and a stepfather bent on making his life hell—

Until a collision with fate leaves Jimmy bleeding under the light of a Full Moon...

Praise for Walking Wolf Road:

"[Walking Wolf Road] has everything. Ghosts, werewolves, romance, and some beautifully arranged prose. I hope to see more work from author Brandon M. Herbert on our platform soon!" Heather Weid, Kbuuk "Halloween Weekend Reads"

"Brandon M. Herbert has written an exciting urban fantasy that kept me highly entertained. I highly recommend this book if you love paranormal, shifter or urban fantasy genres!" Lynn Worton, Book Reviews by Lynn blog.

"I loved it! This is a great, fast-paced read you can really sink your teeth into, no pun intended!" Janell Rhiannon, author Invisible Wings and Birth

"[Herbert] kept the tension high right up to the end, and provided a great finale using all of the elements he began building from the start. Needless to say I was satisfied... and I am (not so) patiently awaiting a sequel!" J.D. Wiley, award winning author of The Bitter Bullet & Sky Gala

"Walking Wolf Road was filled with the mythology of werewolves, shamanism, and philosophy. All of this hit exactly the right spot for me. I thoroughly enjoyed this book!" K.C. Faelan, author of If At First You Don't Succeed.

## **Walking Wolf Road Details**

Date : Published September 9th 2014 by Wolfgate Productions (first published February 14th 2012)

ISBN : 9780692265147

Author : Brandon M. Herbert

Format : Paperback 366 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Paranormal, Shapeshifters, Fantasy, Romance, Urban Fantasy, Supernatural

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## From Reader Review Walking Wolf Road for online ebook

### Lynn Worton says

I originally purchased and downloaded this book when I first bought my Kindle in 2012, as the blurb intrigued me, though only read and reviewed it in 2014 due to my large reading list. I was recently contacted by the author this year (2016) saying that this story had been re-written in certain scenes and would I be willing to re-read it? I agreed. However, the original book had been pulled so I re-purchased the newer version as I couldn't update the version I had. I loved it as much as I did the first time.

Jimmy Walker is an intriguing character. I really liked him a lot. He is a teenage boy full of loneliness and angst. Bullied and overweight, he is struggling to find a place to fit in. It's not easy when his family has just moved to a new town. However, a fateful encounter will change his life forever.

I love the idea of shapeshifters - wolves, bears, big cats etc. and have a soft spot for these types of books. I'm glad the author asked me to re-read it as it captured me all over again. The story is an exciting roller coaster ride from start to finish. The story had been a bit hard to get into originally, but on the second reading I became quickly hooked; it was like I was meeting old friends.

I felt for Jimmy as his life unraveled and then was re-built. He is one of the nicest characters I have met in between the pages of a book, and his bravery in embracing his heritage blew me away. This story had me in tears in places (again!), and giggling in others. The interaction between Jimmy and the other characters, especially his younger brother, was extremely touching. Even his new friends and pack members, Fen, Loki and Geri are interesting characters. Their personalities are all different, and they each have their own problems and angst issues. The story is told from Jimmy's point of view, and takes the reader through an amazing journey full of twists and turns. I have always been interested in the spiritual beliefs of the Native American people and the author seems to have the same interest. He also seems to have done a lot of research, or has had some experience in Shamanism. His descriptions of the rituals and practices brought them to life. He made me want to find my spiritual inner animal.

Walking Wolf Road is an intriguing blend of myth and coming of age tale. Unfortunately, there are a few proofreading errors where the scenes were re-written and which were not caught before publication. I have notified the author about them but, they did not detract from my enjoyment of the tale. The end of the book has a slight twist that I hadn't expected originally, but it made an interesting conclusion to a most intriguing urban fantasy.

Brandon M. Herbert has written an exciting urban fantasy that kept me highly entertained. I loved his writing style which, on the second read through, felt more fast paced than originally, and it flowed wonderfully. I would definitely read more of this author's books in the future.

I highly recommend this book if you love YA paranormal, shifter or urban fantasy genres. - Lynn Worton

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### Na Deela says

I'm struggling for words on this one. I really enjoyed this story and it will definitely be one I'll read again and again. It was very difficult for me to remember this was a story I was reading, I often felt I was looking through Jimmy's eyes. That's weird for me, considering he's a male and I don't often relate to guys. On top of

that, the story felt so real that I caught myself searching for my own inner wolf, hoping there really was one to find. There were a few times I was sure I was catching a clue left inadvertently as to who did what, and I was seriously shocked to find out I was far off track. I was pleasantly surprised though, I don't like too much predictability. I'm really happy with this find, it was very obviously well thought out and full of interesting ideas, some I've never heard of or considered. Its always nice to see something new and non-traditional. The way this story was written, well it makes me wonder how much of it is actually possible... one can hope right?

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### **Meshanna says**

Great book!!! Very well written. Totally grabbed me from the start and held my interest all the way through.

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### **Penumbra says**

I was given this book to review through the *Paranormal Romance and Urban Fantasy Fanatics R2R* for an honest review, thank you.

Jimmy Walker's step-father has once again uprooted the family and moved them to a small town in Colorado. Over-weight, insecure and depressed, Jimmy feels aimless and alienated from everyone. His life takes a sudden drastic turn when he is viciously bitten by a strange creature during the Full Moon.

Unexplainable transformations start to happen to Jimmy and his dreams are haunted by a white wolf. Jimmy is soon sought out by Fen a fellow student, and given information about the changes that leave Jimmy thinking Fen and Fen's friends are crazy. But the bizarre changes happening to Jimmy aren't stopping and he fears he is losing his sanity.

(view spoiler)

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### **Toni says**

What a great read! This is not your everyday werewolf read! This story is about Jimmy who is moved around and is a loner! Then he is thrown in a small town, and where he meets new friends and his life changes for the better!!

This story is well written and fast paced, I really enjoyed the Native American aspect of it!! Brandon Herbert is a great writer! and I can see he has a great future ahead of him~!

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### **Marie Stephens says**

I read the book and over all liked it. I liked the characters and the direction of the story. There seemed to be a lot going on toward the end of the book that kind of threw me off a little. I was confused as to whether this book is for young adults or adults due to some of the language used. I would recommend it to others.

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### **Justin says**

First, let me start by saying that Walking Wolf Road wasn't in my usual genre. I had no idea what to expect in an urban fantasy, but thankfully I was not disappointed. Herbert managed to deliver a very engrossing and personal story about a young man with a lot of inner conflict. I found myself relating to him and his experiences, as well as his coping mechanisms. He made me feel like I was in highschool again.

The writing style allowed me to go beyond seeing through Jimmy's eyes. From early in the book I began to feel like I WAS Jimmy. The character was portrayed in a very emotionally rich fashion, which allowed for a lot of build up, and ultimately a much greater payoff later in the book. His exploration of self is something that I think we all go through at that age, though not all of us get the answers we'd like. I enjoyed the relationships he formed with his friends, especially the more unlikely ones (no spoilers here) and the unexpected way they developed over the course of the book. The characters all held a sense of self, and Herbert's strong literary voice kept me engaged the whole way through. I also really enjoyed the Native American theme and mysticism throughout. It really gave a more original take on the fantasy approach.

What was most impressive to me however was the way the plot culminated in the end. Several different plot threads had been established up to that point, and many things were hinted at and foreshadowed. There were so many questions going into the final stretch that I was unsure if Herbert would be able to answer them all and provide a satisfying end to the book. Not only did he answer the questions I'd formed throughout, he delivered an ending that I was unable to predict. He kept the tension high right up to the end, and provided a great finale using all of the elements he began building from the start. Needless to say I was satisfied with the conclusion, and I am (not so) patiently awaiting a sequel!

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Keep writing! I'll be looking for more.

## **Terri says**

### **Wonderful experience**

What an awesome story. This book covered so many things I can't even begin to say. Yes the base is a paranormal werewolf story, but it touches on loss, pain, abuse, suicide, murder, suspense, love, letting go and finding one's true self. I have found a new favorite author. This story will stay with me for a long time. I can't wait to get the next book. Thank for such a lovely way to tell what teenagers face and deal with in this day and age.(well, maybe not the werewolf part)

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## **Karimia says**

Wow! let me start by saying that this was a really great book! I never read a book by a male author before because I thought they wouldn't bring out the emotional aspects that I love to feel when I read. Let's just say I was so wrong . Brandon Herbert, you have changed my mind; I will not be so closed-minded about male authors anymore! I felt like I was right there in this book. It was great, because some of the events that took place in the story happened in my life; so your story was able to get my emotions stirred up. I also liked how you put a spin on the paranormal, because this is not your normal werewolf story. What a great read.

This story is about Jimmy Walker who is moved around a lot, a loner, and a guy just trying to figure life out. Jimmy is thrown into a new town, and he ends up meeting new friends that change his life forever.

I would recommend this book to others. I will be looking forward to reading more books by Brandon Herbert.

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## **Shirley Frances says**

I'll start by congratulating the author, Brandon M. Herbert, in bringing to life a very different and interesting tale of teenage life and the paranormal aspects of werewolves.

“Isn’t it funny how the moments that define our lives the most are almost always the smallest? A scattering of almost inconsequential seconds that steer our course; the proverbial butterfly wings which produce the hurricane of our lives. Single sentences, concepts, and choices—especially choices—which make or break who you are, and who you will become.”

Jimmy is your common teenager – insecure, having a hard time dealing with high school and feeling like an outcast. I found him to be very mature for his age and enjoyed his ‘voice’ very much. It was great to see how he developed into a young man throughout the story. He accepted his fate, lived with some very painful events in his life and eventually found his place in the world. His journey through all this made for a very interesting read.

The author’s writing was very good, filled with a wide range of emotions, humor and playful banter between

the characters. I got to know a lot of the characters very well and their story really resonated with me. Who doesn't want to belong? These characters had this in common and the bond they found through the Pack really made a difference for them. The author managed to really engage me into this world, so very different from any I had read before. However, I did find that the pace dragged for a while. Enough that at times I had to step away, because it became too slow for me to keep my attention.

The plot and its resolution was very exciting. I really wanted to know what happened next and it kept me guessing as to who was the bad guy in the story. This and the fact that I wanted Jimmy to find himself and accept his fate is what ultimately kept me reading when at times I just wanted to give up.

I received this book as part of the R2R (Read to Review) program in the group Paranormal Romance and Urban Fantasy Fanatics! and would like to thank them for giving me the opportunity to read and review this title.

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### **Kelsi says**

It was okay, is all I can say about this book. So did not turn out the way I thought it would. I might get the second one when it comes out, depending on the plot.

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### **J.R. Barker says**

This one was a bit weird, I don't remember buying it, and it wasn't until amazon told me I needed to update the copy that I realised that I even had it, and then I couldn't find it.

Amazon kept bugging me, and I eventually did manage to find it hiding out of one of my devices.

As the five stars suggest I thoroughly enjoyed it, the author deals with characters and their emotions very well, and it made the story more compelling.

Although the book did have an overarching plot, it was more focused on the MC battling with depression and learning to accept himself, his wolf, and learning to be more mindful of those around him, and generally becoming more aware of himself as a human being.

I get the feeling it's a great one for those who are trying to find themselves, or who are going through tough times, but who also love wolves, the paranormal, and a splash of romance.

Cons- There were a few typos, but nothing massive.

I'm glad I read it on a sick break, as it meant I could just binge read it.

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### **Brandon Herbert says**

#### **About Walking Wolf Road**

*-A Note from the Author-*

When this book started in 2005, I honestly had no idea where it was going to go. Walking Wolf Road started

off largely as a fictionalized autobiography, and over time evolved its own existence separate from me. There is still a lot of me in there for those who know where to look. A lot of the impossible things were real events in my life, and a lot of the mundane events never occurred. Which is which though, is my little secret. ;) I also had a lot of fun with symbolism, and if you read it with a critical eye it's like an Easter egg hunt.

One of the things that made this book difficult was that it is actually two storylines intermeshed. One is a coming of age story, confronting some of the biggest challenges and taboos my friends and I faced; parental conflict and separation, social life, love, sexuality, suicide, depression, and collegiate expectations. I refused to dumb down and weaken the material, because these conflicts are real in teen lives, and pretending they don't happen won't make them go away.

The other story is a paranormal mystery, chronicling Jimmy's transformation (both paranormal and mundane) and his evolution tied intrinsically with that of his antagonists (yes, plural).

Walking Wolf Road is my debut novel, and I hope you enjoy reading it! If you do, please spread the word! And if you feel like contacting me, I would love to hear from you! Please leave a review when you're done, and share it with anybody you think would enjoy the story! Be sure to join the Walking Wolf Road Facebook page too for special contests and news.

Howls.

~B

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### **Jocelyn Fullerton says**

Extremely well written book!

*Walking Wolf Road* takes the reader on a journey of the heart that ultimately leads into the supernatural. This journey is not an easy path and this book presents many obstacles and curve-balls as readers work their way through the story. This book begins Jimmy's evolution from a struggling, awkward teen into a young man. Along the way Jimmy moves to a new town, has to make new friends in high school, deal with his overbearing step-father, and he experiences grief, school violence, and transformation on several levels. The author uses vivid language painting breathtaking settings and the extra details allow the reader to experience this journey through Jimmy's mind, heart and eyes.

This book takes on themes that include loss, bullying, love, sexual tensions, bounds of friendship and a supernatural world that is not far from reality. Readers like me (rabid fans of Young Adult Supernatural novels, as well as Urban Fantasy) will love this book, and the subtle commentary on difficult topics rarely addressed in mainstream novels. This book will make you laugh, cry, and fall in love, all while you read along this incredible, unforgettable journey. I can't wait for the sequel, *Bearing Raven's Mark*, and hope it comes out soon!

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