



A Match Made in Hell

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A brush with death and a brief trip to the hereafter left vintage clothing store owner Nicki Styx an unwilling ghoulfriend to the dead. She can see and hear spirits, and boy, do they want to be heard! Luckily, her new boyfriend, sexy doc Joe Bascombe, is there to help, especially when Nicki faces her latest ghost, a woman in pink sequins who holds the key to some family secrets.

Unfortunately for Nicki, it turns out that there are more skeletons in the family closet than she thought, including a twin sister and a mysterious house full of spirits and surprises. Things go from bad to worse when the devil himself shows up, determined to lure Nicki from Joe's side. Will she give in to temptation and sell her soul (or someone else's) for one incredible night?

Demons may be a ghoul's best friend, but with this particular hottie, it could be a match made in hell!

A Match Made in Hell Details

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Author : Terri Garey

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Lizfm says

This one was more uneven. The relationship between the 2 sisters was a little more difficult to believe.

I was really unconvinced that Joe and Kelly could go from believing it was Nicki saying those horrible things, to believing she didn't, so quickly.

The characters don't seem to have any middle ground. It's either 'everything is awesome' or it's 'impossible to overcome, life shattering disaster.'

While this is common in books, especially of this type of genre, the real flaw here is that everything is fixed too quickly and easily. Within a few pages, even. I don't remember the first book being that way.

The Flooze says

Terri Garey continues to prove her talent with this second Nicki Styx book. Yet again, the story is twisted and dark, yet appreciably lightened by Nicki's wry humour and never-ending sarcasm. The heroine's grounded and suspicious nature serves her well as she confronts the secrets of her past on a trip to haunted Savannah. Parts of her background are revealed, more ghosts pop up, Evan and Butch are still divine, and Joe remains in the picture to heat things up. Overall, quick and enjoyable with more than a few surprises.

L.A.L. says

This is the second book in the Nicki Styx series, and it will be the last one I read. After a sluggish first book that I was iffy on, I did start this one. Sadly, I had to force myself to finish it. This one was mired in loose ends, unbelievable connections, and a rather forced premise.

First, the plot was all over the place. Nicki has not even come to grips with her "knack" (as it's referred to in the book), but now there's long-lost twin Kelly, thrown into the mix. I get that Nicki now kinda understands the "interconnectedness" of all things during her brief stint in the light, but it was a bit of stretch that the doctor who saves her life and now wants to date her *just happens* to be married to her long-lost twin. And Nicki's reaction on the whole thing ran too long. I get it. It's a huge shock to find out you have a long-lost twin when you believed you were an only child. But it took her nearly to the end of the book to deal, and even then, I'm not sure she had. But instead of trying to work through it, Nicki's reaction was of a petulant child ... through the entire book - it became more than irritating.

Also, a theme that kept popping up was that while Nicki was adopted by loving parents, Kelly bounced from foster home to foster home and never had any one (cue sad violins) AND she was in a terrible car wreck. Since the twins were given up at birth, I have a very hard time believing that Kelly wouldn't have been adopted. And there's no real explanation as to WHY they were separated because apparently they were

supposed to be kept together. But we're just supposed to accept that Kelly grew up in foster care and no one ever knew about her. Alright. But the whole "Feel bad for her because no one loved her" got old fast.

On top of long-lost twin Kelly (as if that wasn't enough shock to Nicki's system), biological mother enters. Bio mom prefers to be called "Peaches" - really? Peaches? There was no clear explanation as to why when her name was Lila, except references to a peach smell and lots of pink clothing. But that seemed like a stretch. Anyway, Peaches tracks down long-lost sister. Now they're both on their way to meet Nicki. Except bio mom dies in car crash first and comes to Nicki as a ghost, but because she's a newish ghost, she's confused and doesn't recognize Nicki, but knows she's dead. Again, something that's never really explained.

Then we have Bijou, the mysterious "mother" of Peaches and "grandmother" to the twins, who *just happens* to show up at Peaches funeral. The twins pay for the funeral and have Peaches buried in Atlanta because apparently there are no other relatives. Yet, someone contacts Bijou? Again, not explained how that works either. And the whole Bijou is Leonard thing - weird. And again, not really clear what the point was other than maybe an attempt to give the story yet another twist. But it failed. It didn't work and was just dumb.

But before we learn the who Bijou-Leonard scenario, enter dead rich guy and his mistress, "Psycho Blonde." We then learn that Nicki can only see female spirits and Kelly can only see male spirits. Very yin/yang. So Kelly helps dead rich guy enter the light, even though he was not a nice guy and blatantly cheated on his wife. But Psycho Blonde does not take this well because she wants/needs his soul to burn in hell, literally. So Psycho Blonde now starts popping up periodically to screw with Nicki.

Then enter Sammy, who we learn later is the Devil in disguise. He's trying to tempt Nicki to the dark side. And he'd prefer her because apparently her "knack" is stronger than Kelly's. WTF?! We went from yin/yang to yin/ya with no clear explanation on why one of the identical twins, even though they share the "knack", would be stronger or weaker than the other. The only thing I could connect was it had to do with Nicki being raised in a loving home while poor little Kelly was the orphan no one wanted.

On top of the schizophrenic plot, the characters actually got weaker and one-dimensional. Both Kelly and Nicki became 8 year olds with two modes. Angry or whiny. No depth at all. Joe might as well not even been there, and I was actually rooting for him to get in the cab. I have no idea what he would see in Nicki, because frankly she was irritating. The only half-way interesting character, Evan, dropped out of sight completely, except a few brief conversations with Nicki.

Outside of the whole good vs. evil never-ending war, I think the point was to show the larger "interconnectedness" of the world, i.e., the message Nicki got when she went into the Light. But this book failed miserably to do so. If you want to read a book that seamless interconnects seemingly random scenes/events/characters together into one fluid plot, then read Douglas Adams' Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency and leave this book on the shelf.

Sara says

Book 2 in this series. Its a fun, quick read. Paranormal stuff, ghosts, good looking guys, and a weird twist at the end I didn't see coming.

I like Nicki, but I get exasperated because she has these spooky experiences but never tells her friends the story or only half the story so bad things keep happening because she shrugs off stuff she never should be shrugging off.

Minor complaint, I suppose. She's a bit too flippant for someone who sees dead people, but she's likable.

Moving on eventually to book 3!

Tracy says

This is the second book in the Nicki Styx series. The ghosts are back and so is Joe, Evan and Butch. A Match Made in Hell picks up where we left off Nicki finds out that her boyfriend Joe is married to her twin sister that she never knew she had. Nicki finds out more details about her birth family than she probably wanted to know.

After attending their share of funerals, Joe, Nicki and Kelly (yes - the long lost wife and twin sister) take an unexpected trip to Savannah - "America's Most Haunted City". Before they even arrive at their destination, they meet ghost hunters who say that the Blue Dahlia is one of the most haunted places in Savannah.

The Blue Dahlia is everything and more! I really enjoyed the trouble they got themselves into and hope to see them again soon!

Fefi says

Con questo secondo volume, la serie è decisamente migliorata. Veniamo a conoscenza della storia familiare di Nicky e della sua sorella gemella Kelly e, anche se quest'ultima ha delle battute che non direbbero nemmeno dei bambini di 5 anni, nel complesso è curiosa ed intrigante al punto giusto.

La comparsa dell'aitante diavolo e di una delle sue anime veramente arrabbiate, rendono alla storia una buona dose di azione e il disegno che ha Satana per Nicky mi spinge a proseguire con la serie. Ho anche apprezzato il piccolo colpo di scena finale della "nonna".

Julie (jjmachshev) says

I'm waffling between 3.5 and 4 stars for "A Match Made in Hell" by Teri Garey. It started with a whimper, got better, slowed down again, then ended with a bang. How in the heck do I rate that? I would also recommend reading the first book "Dead Girls Are Easy" before you start in on this one. You don't have to (of course), but I don't think I would have enjoyed this one as much without the back story provided in the earlier novel.

Nicki has some serious issues to deal with. As if coming back from the dead and being able to see dead people wasn't enough! Now she has a twin sister she never knew about (who is her current lover's not quite ex-wife), a dead mother giving her cryptic warnings, a haunted house inheritance, and oh...did I forget to mention one of her relatives apparently made a deal with the Devil? And now he seems to think Nicki would

be perfect for him?

While I did enjoy the story, I wish the author would step more firmly into either the humor/campy side or the emotional/relationship side, because both of them in one story was very distracting for me. I'm pulling for the humor side (no surprise there), and I'll be looking for the next one in this series to try and get a better idea of where the author's going.

If you liked "Dead Girls Are Easy", then grab "A Match Made In Hell". Watching Nicki try to cope with everything happening to her is enough to keep you reading.

Shadoshard says

You know the plot; pretty young woman with great life has supernatural encounter (in this case she died) and we now have a mary sue. It isn't great literature and there isn't much about this book that makes it stand out from any of the other books like it except that I hadn't read it yet. Well, now I have - hot young woman so hot and dazzling even the devil wants her - except he doesn't sparkle. And he doesn't get her - that honor goes to the hot young doctor that declares near the end she's the 'type of girl you have fun with, not marry' but declares he loves her anyway.

Cara says

The premise of this book was horrible. Nikki has a long lost twin sister that is married to her boyfriend, a cross-dressing grandfather who is posing as their grandmother, and the Devil himself is trying to sleep with her. This book was like reading a soap opera. I was actually laughing at how ridiculous the storyline was. I am giving up on this series!

Bobbie says

I love the character of Nicki Styx and how she comes to grips with living her life while coming to terms with seeing and interacting with spirits. This book had a couple of twists that truly made it a great read.

S. Rutherford says

Warning: Don't read the reviews. Except mine, if you want.

I always read the negative reviews before reading any book to prepare me for whatever issues I'll run across. The negative reviews are usually the honest reviews that get right down to the details as to why something is wrong.

This book doesn't have a whole lot of negative reviews about it. The two I found, I read, and one of them stuck with me. I kept thinking about the negative review that claimed "the sister is evil", so as I read the book, I kept trying to see WHERE Kelly was evil.

Damn negative review. There was no evil sister in here whatsoever.

Like the previous one, this story evolves around a girl who sees ghost, but now her twin sister is involved. Nikki, our main star, sees female ghosts--something we haven't actually realized until this book. Her sister Kelly sees the male ghosts. Their relationship is rocky, and there's over a dozen times I wanted to reach in and slap Kelly across the face in the bitchslap she needed. Trust me. It wasn't easy holding myself back, especially since this is a fictional character we're talking about here.

Finally, we get some information on the family, and that's pretty much the whole premises. Together, the two daughters are uncovering their own family history while Satan is trying to acquire their talents for his personal use. Evan and Butch return from the first novel, along with Joe, and I have to say I can understand Kelly's jealousy against Nikki. Kelly has no family, and no connections. Therefore she's easily manipulated into whatever trap the devil uses against her.

I will say that I'm happy the ending turned out the way it did. It's a bit twisted in a rather psychedelic manner. It's not gory or anything; just not what any of us had expected. I especially love how Kelly pretty much ended up with the same outcome Nikki had. Both girls have close relationships with someone in drag (Nikki's being outright gay), both drag's even have lovers, and both girls have boyfriends, albeit a little change here and there. It sort of fits the small difference between both girls in that one sees female ghosts while the other sees male.

The writing was equal to that of it's prequel. I did find a few mistakes in the writing, but I can't honestly tell you where they were. I just recall catching a few. For the most part, the writing was pretty well done.

I'm definitely saving these books for future reads.

Jenne says

4.25

While I was sucked in from the beginning the ending got a tad cheesy. This series really appeals to me though. I love Nicki's snark, reminds me a bit of Rhiannon. Joe is pretty dang hawt for an ordinary human. Living in the south, I adore the southern setting and influence. I think if you're a fan of Rhiannon's Law you'd enjoy this. It's like the quirky, cheesy, and tame cousin to that series. I have no idea why I waited so long to pick up book 2 but I was able to jump right back in without missing a beat. And I can honestly say that I won't be waiting that long to read book 3!

ChanelBooks says

<http://chanelbooks.blogspot.it/2015/1...>

Jae says

Nicki is just getting her life on track after a near-death experience left her with the ability to communicate with spirits, when the ghost of a woman comes to her, begging Nicki to help her daughter. The spirit leads

Nicki to the scene of a car accident, where a young woman hovers near death. Turns out that it's Nicki's long-lost twin sister, Kelly, and the ghost was their birth mother, Peaches.

Now Nicki is thrown for a loop again. Not only has she never met Kelly before, but her sister is still technically married to Nicki's new boyfriend, Joe. As Kelly recovers, Nicki is visited by an elderly woman, claiming to be their grandmother, who invites them to Savannah. Kelly is keen to go, and Nicki reluctantly accompanies her, along with Joe. Peaches has reappeared to her, warning Nicki that the twins will be visited by a man who will lie to them and bring great danger, and Nicki is not going to let Kelly face it alone.

Upon arriving in Savannah, however, they learn their grandmother has also passed recently. The staff left behind at the family home won't reveal any information, insisting that Nicki and Kelly will learn things on their own, assuming they have "the knack"--the family gift of psychic abilities. To shorten a long review, they encounter new people, new spirits, and the devil himself, and it's up to the sisters to stand together to save themselves and one another.

Sigh

It sounds interesting, and I suppose it was, but to me it felt less like reading a book and more like watching a soap opera. You had the long-lost twin, who's still married to the current boyfriend, long-lost family members, who may not be as lost as they seem, an evil spirit who tries to drive a wedge between Nicki and Kelly, as well as between Nicki and Joe, the devil, who wants Nicki but will settle for Kelly, and Kelly, who is acting like a rebellious teen, in that each time Nicki tries to warn her about impending doom just sneaks off to try to call spirits up on her own, resulting in one disaster after another. I wanted to punch her in the face, myself.

The story did not draw me in at all. I spent the entire time being too annoyed with most of the characters and their ridiculous behavior to enjoy it. I know I have at least one more book in this series on my shelf, and if it doesn't get any better than this, it will be the last one in this series that I read.

Anita says

I'm giving up on this series. Book one was slow going for me, and this one seems no better after 4 chapters, so I give up. It's just about to delve into long-lost evil twin territory (who also happens to be the almost ex-wife of the heroine's boyfriend), and I'm suppressing my instinct to vomit, so no more for me. This writer must be a soap opera fan. This series is heavy on fashionista name-dropping, which I dislike, and even though the writing is good, I just don't love the characters and the story.

The protagonist communicates with ghosts (after a near-death experience.)
