



Fateful

Claudia Gray

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A tragic tale about falling in love on the world's most infamous ill-fated sea voyage as heroine, Tess, discovers darker secrets that lie beneath the doomed crossing. and a hidden brotherhood that threaten to tear her lover from her forever.

Fateful Details

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Author : Claudia Gray

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From Reader Review Fateful for online ebook

Christie says

First sentence: "It's not too late to turn back, I tell myself."

There may be minor spoilers so beware if you are someone who hates spoilers so much you can't even read the synopsis of a book.

So I was excited about this book and I really wanted to love it. I mean it's Titanic with werewolves. Unfortunately, it was James Cameron's *Titanic* with werewolves. Let me explain:

Enter poor little rich girl/boy:

Rose...I mean Alec

Oh but it's different because he turns into this at sunset:

Ok, ok maybe it is totally different, except meet evil man holding rich person back:

Evil fiance

Evil Count

Well that hardly makes it the same thing you are just making this up. Am I? Allow me to introduce the love interest from the other side of the tracks:

Jack [image error]

Tess

Yes but but....

Oh and there's a necklace

Replace this:

With this:

Replace this:

[image error]

With this:

And voila you have essentially the same story, but not nearly as good. I was expecting at any moment to hear a Celine Dion song. Honestly, it's almost as if the author just watched the movie a lot of times and decided you know what would make this better??? Wolves. (view spoiler)

The book was pretty ho-hum. The romance was predictable and whirlwind of course. There were historical inaccuracies galore and it seemed like the author wanted to find an excuse for Alec and Tess to wind up in

every single room on the Titanic so she could show how much she knew. The last 15 pages were the worst.

The werewolf angle was kind of interesting and I think if the book had taken place anywhere but the Titanic it would have been a pretty interesting story. Like others have said it seems like the story with the ship and the werewolf part of it were at war with each other trying to be the main focus. It could have been so much better in my opinion if the werewolf story was given it's own room to breathe instead of being suffocated by the monstrosity of the Titanic, or vice versa. This was one of those books that had so much potential but just became cliche.

Geography challenge: Seafaring (Atlantic Ocean)

Dixie Marie says

As if the movie didn't make me cry enough! This book put me in constant tears near the end! I thought we were gonna have the Titanic movie all over again! Thank God we didn't.

Isa Cantos (Crónicas de una Merodeadora) says

Cuando iba a empezar a leer este libro estaba como "OHMYGOD, ES DEL TITANIC, QUÉ GENIAAL", luego empecé a leerlo y fue como "hmm... okay, sí, se desarrolla en el Titanic, pero normal" y al terminarlo pensé "bueeno... siguiente". Mi punto es... tú no quieras terminar un libro y que te deje sin pensar ni preguntándote qué habrá pasado con los personajes, no; lo que quieras es cerrar la última página deseando que hubiera más historia, que hubiera una página más. Y, bueno, Aguas Oscuras me dejó en blanco. No hubo fangirleo, no hubo sufrimiento... nada, ni una chispa.

Este libro cuenta la historia de Tess, una chica que trabaja como sirvienta de una familia bastante reconocida de Inglaterra y que se embarca con ellos en el Titanic. En medio del afán de la Sra. Lisle -su jefa- de encontrarle un buen marido a Irene, su hija, Tess conoce a Alec, un caballero americano que está retornando a su país. Entre ellos dos va a surgir un interés inmediato que van a tratar de combatir porque ¿cuándo en la vida se ha visto que un hombre de dinero se case con una sirvienta y más en 1912? La cosa aquí es que, pronto, Tess va a descubrir un gran secreto: los hombres lobo existen, hay dos en el Titanic y ambos se detestan.

Si bien al principio me chocó un poco lo de situar un romance paranormal en las cubiertas del Titanic, dije que le iba a dar una oportunidad por más extraño que me pareciera. PERO mi problema al final no fueron los elementos sobrenaturales, sino la falta de conexión que tuve con la historia. Sencillamente pasaba páginas esperando que lo que pasaba entre Tessa y Alec me produjera algo, cualquier sentimiento, pero nada... creo que no me creí su relación y eso fue lo que hizo que el libro no me convenciera mucho.

A pesar de todo eso, creo que los dos personajes principales, Tessa y Alec, e incluso algunos secundarios como Myriam, George, el padre de Alec y Mijail están muy bien construidos. Todos tienen secretos y una personalidad bastante interesante; todos tienen objetivos diferentes e intentan alcanzarlos en este libro de una manera u otra, sea ayudándose o destruyéndose entre sí.

Algo que me pareció muy positivo del libro es que tiene una muy buena documentación por detrás. Yo, que soy una friki del Titanic... y por friki del Titanic no me refiero sólo a la película del 97 sino a los hechos reales, puedo dar fe de que Claudia Gray investigó bastante para no escribir cualquier cosa que se le ocurriera. En el libro se menciona a un montón de pasajeros reales e incluso se alude a datos curiosos que no mucha gente sabe. También me gustó que Claudia Gray le diera algunas páginas y pequeños diálogos al Sr. Andrews, un hombre que, de acuerdo a todos los datos de la época, era encantador y una gran persona, pero que murió en el naufragio, sin siquiera intentar salvarse. Pero bueno, ese es otro tema y me estoy enrollando xD.

Cait says

I rated this book 3.5 stars, and there are some slight spoilers, but they're not that huge. So read it now.....if you DARE!

Let me start off this review by saying that I love love love love love *love* the American cover for this book. It has everything I want: it's got raised lettering, different textures, and it's oh so tantalizingly shiny. I'm seriously obsessed with it right now. Sometimes I just sit in my room for hours just stroking and thinking about the many dirty things I could do with it, because I'm totally cool like that.

drools just thinking about it

Ahem.....but *anywayssss....* on with what this review should be about: the inside of the book!

Is it sad to say that I liked the male love-interest a lot more than the MC? Because I really really enjoyed Alec a lot more than I ever expected to. I mean, it's about a werewolf. On the freakin *Titanic*. First off; Claudia Gray knows how to write a damn smexy character, and I could really picture his character and how he looked inside of my head. And I also loved his backstory; I just wanted to know as much about him as I could, and my heart always bled for him when we find out how much his curse has really destroyed his life. However, unlike a certain *other* character from *Twilight* a different novel that will remain unnamed, he just doesn't sit around twiddling his thumbs and feeling sorry for himself. He's actually trying to *change* and figure out a way to ease the pain and suffering that he has caused his father and, when he needs to, he'll put his love for Tessa aside in order to do what is best for the greater good, which is something rare that you don't see too often in the wild and dangerous world of YA novels these days.

And I did like Tessa. She's definitely not the most stand-out female MC that I've ever read, but she was... nice. She wasn't a total idiot and said some very funny things sometimes. I didn't like the insta-love that happened with her, though. I got the typical: *a weird zing went through me, our eyes met, my heart got stuck in my throat, and I couldn't stop staring at him insta-love.* Blah. I've had enough of that in the 180+ books I've read on Goodreads and the hundreds, if not thousands that I've read on my own, so she lost a bit of respect with me there. She did have a backbone for the most part through the novel, and it was nice knowing that she was going to leave their service as soon as she got to America, which was why she was trying to be good with her employers, and that at least she was *thinking* horrible things about them.

Also, the Brotherhood is freaking scary and messed up; I really like how Gray wrote them into the story. They were good suspense and really helped me connect to Alec's pain. Because Alec is just freaking

awesome, and I love Alec.

Oh, and one of the biggies that really made me like this book is that they *actually* have sex! It wasn't descriptive, though, Grey just tells you through Tessa that they did, but that's a hell of a lot better than many authors I've seen. I really just don't get it. What's so wrong with sex, authors? Most kids in this day and age have heard about it by sixth grade, if not earlier, from TV or some other source. Hell, some kids *are fucking selling pot to their peers at the ripe 'ol age of six*. I guess what I'm trying to say is *get over sex, authors!* America at least and most people that read YA these days are practically desensitized to that touchy (he he I'm punny) subject, so either write about it, or make your MC a nun. Or make them a nun, have sex with the priest, and get kicked out or something, dammit!

Here's some of the things I didn't like, however. I really didn't like Tessa's family that she served, and not the hate dislike, I didn't like them because they weren't developed well by Gray. I felt like a lot of scenes with them were just re-recycled and just used over and over again. Tessa walks in. Tessa helps Irene. Lady Regina/Layton walks in and says mean things to Irene or Tessa. Tessa is frustrated. Tessa leaves. Tessa finds Alec. And it just goes on, and on, and on in the never-ending loop of boring repetitiveness to where I basically knew the nuts-and-bolts of what was going to happen before she even walks in.

Bo-ring!

And the ending was kind of.....weird. I felt like that she just threw how Alec was able to survive because she needed to figure out somehow for him to come back. It didn't feel natural and the solution was basically thrown at me out of left field. I mean, the ending was cute that they could be together and all blah blah blah, but I feel like it should have happened *differently* than it did.

In the end this book is a nice, light read, with a freaking adorably smexy love interest and an interesting enough premise that just slightly fell through. The writing was never stellar, but it was good enough for me to give it 3.5 stars, so if you're looking for an easy read that's not a series, pick this one up *and buy the freaking book so that you can pet it!!!*

Ahem....I um... I mean..

Happy reading!

~~Yeah....that's what I meant.~~

Meli says

Fue predecible de principio a fin, incluso los pequeños detalles que no hacen mucho a la historia fueron cantados, pero -aunque por momentos me aburria- es una lectura más bien rápida y entretenida y aunque cae en mil tópicos es bastante distinto por el contexto en el que se desarrolla.

Al acontecer en el Titanic, hay un aura de tragedia envolviendo la historia desde el comienzo que hace que la tensión sea constante, indiferentemente de si la historia es buena o mala. De hecho, creo que sin el Titanic no me hubiera gustado, ya que la trama en sí no es nada que ya no hayamos leído otras miles de veces. Pero esto

le da otra perspectiva. Los capítulos que más me gustaron fueron los últimos. Las escenas del naufragio y todo lo que le sigue son muy angustiantes y están muy bien logradas.

En fin, se supone que es un libro autocunclusivo, pero por cómo acaba no me sorprendería que apareciera una continuación algún día.

Kristi-The Book Faery says

THE FAERY'S VIEW

Fateful was so much better than I thought it was going to be. Truthfully, I wasn't expecting it to be as thrilling or captivating as it was.

Just goes to show that you can't always 'judge a book by the ship it's about! My original thought was: "Okay, Faery Chica-here's how it's probably going to go---Doomed Titanic + Lovely yet Helpless Servant Girl + Tortured yet Good-hearted Werewolf = Tragedy on the lower decks that only the werewolf can save the poor servant girl from".

I envisioned scenes from the movie Titanic only Jack's a bit furrier, Rose is demure and trades in her silk dresses for homespun cotton and an apron all while Celine is singing her heart out in the background [Faery's humming/singing/whistling 'The Heart Must Go On....] FAERY FARTS!!! I'm STILL singing it- Dangnabbit! For the love of FAE, get that song outta me head! Ahem...I digress.... on to the review part...

I couldn't have been more wrong! Fateful was so much more and so different from my original and I admit, close-minded first thoughts. The synopsis doesn't do the book justice; I can only hope that the reviews do.

Tess is a ladies maid for a prevalent family that is leaving London for America via the Titanic. The Lisle family, aside from Irene-the daughter and Tess's responsibility, is arrogant and horrid to those they see as beneath them, which is all but the finest nobility. Tess is a fantastic character, she's had to fight her way through life and at her young age she has decided to start over in America. Tess is compassionate and kind but she also has a stubborn side that combined with her street smarts will make leaving the Lisle's and starting over a challenge she feels confident in making. She's tired of being walked on and knows in her heart that better things await her. It's a dream that she's had since hearing of their trip and one that she is determined to make a reality.

When Tess meets Alec aboard the Titanic, they quickly form a bond. Alec is the son of a wealthy business man and it soon becomes apparent that Alec and his father are not only hiding a very big secret but there is one very nasty Mr. Marlowe who can help Alec with this very big secret but only at a very steep price. Mr. Marlowe also has his eye on Tess and will stop at nothing to have her. The characters in Fateful are all wonderfully described; I enjoyed the secondary story's going on amid Tess and Alec's story along with the description of the Titanic. That era is fascinating to me, it's sort of a turning point in so many different ways and Ms. Gray captures that beautifully.

Fateful is truly captivating and a page turner! Ms. Gray weaves a tale around the tragic loss of those aboard the Titanic with a spellbinding story of love, loss and betrayal. The ending is absolutely perfect and this is a book that I would recommend to all friends of all ages. It's just that good!

Lea says

Hands down, this book was absolutely incredible.

Fateful was a retelling of *Titanic*'s story combined with a unique paranormal twist-- it had my heart racing and left me speechless by the end. I burst into tears at multiple parts of the story, because it was *that* good at drawing me in and making me feel emotionally invested in the characters-- even the minor ones. The writing was both beautiful and powerful, and the story, despite being paranormal, was very true-to-life and accurately followed historic accounts of *Titanic*'s fate. Altogether, *Fateful* was one amazing book!

The romance between Tess and Alec was done so well. Their love was genuine and not superficial, and I loved reading along to see their relationship develop, despite the fact that there were so many barriers between them. Not only is Tess a third-class servant and Alec a first-class heir to a major fortune, but Alec also happens to be a werewolf who has no control over changing into a monster every night. These two things work against Tess and Alec being together, but Claudia Gray had me totally convinced that their love was strong enough to overcome all odds. By the end, like I said, I was crying so hard I could barely read, I kid you not! It was just a very touching and beautiful story.

The historical account of the doomed voyage of the *Titanic* was done perfectly-- you really felt like you were actually there on board. The whole time I was reading, I knew that the inevitable was going to happen eventually, and I was on the edge of my seat the entire time, wondering when it was coming. Just like when watching the movie *Titanic*, (which, by the way, I LOVE, so this review *might* be a little biased!) every character and every relationship became that much more important and special, because you know in the back of your head what they're all about to go through...

Claudia Gray notes at the end of the story that all of her characters, except a few famous ones who make "cameo appearances," were fictional, because she didn't want to be disrespectful towards those who went through the unforgettable disaster. I loved that she did this. Even though it is an alternate history with a paranormal twist, I thought that nothing was ridiculous or took lightly the actual story. And the account she tells of how the *Titanic* sunk, and what those people went through? Once again, I was bawling.

Finally, the ending was spectacular. Crying aside, I actually gasped out loud at one point, I was so freaked out-- I won't give it away and tell you, but I will just say, the ending was totally unexpected and I could not put the book down for the last 100 pages or so. I stayed up until almost 2am to finish!

***Because I am a big history nerd, I DO have to state however, that if Tess had been on board *Titanic* as a servant to a first-class family in real life, she would have had a cabin close to the first class rooms, and not have stayed in Third Class-- *Titanic* was simply too big for servants to be stowed in Third Class, since it was too far away from First, so rooms were reserved for them near the families they served for convenience sake. But I can understand why Claudia changed this factual detail, since it gives us a look at all parts of the ship and all aspects of life on board for the different classes!

I will just end this review by saying that this is one book I highly recommend to all my fellow book-lovers. If you love paranormal romance but want something different than vampires or fairies, or if you love historical fiction that is done really well-- get *Fateful* and make it your next read! It definitely was one of the best books I have read in a long time, and I'm so happy I discovered it!

Cait • A Page with a View says

guys, it's WEREWOLVES ON THE TITANIC.

The overall story wasn't quite my cup of tea, but I think someone who's more into the whole YA paranormal scene would have fun with it. I just loved the premise so much that I had to see what on earth the story would be about.

I DID love how the author was so careful to not fictionalize any real person's life. She invented any significant figure who needed to be in the story and the whole author's note was just really cool.

Colleen Houck says

The description of the ship and its sinking felt so real, it was like I was there. So curious about the dagger and what it could do. Love the idea of the Order of the Brotherhood. The heroine was so plucky and likable and love Alec too.

Tatiana says

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Rachel says

Now, in all fairness, I probably would've given this book four stars were it not for the Titanic setting. I rank it right at four stars story-wise, but the Titanic makes it solidly five. I've been fascinated with the story of the Titanic since I first saw the movie, which was at least ten years ago. Though James Cameron's movie incited my love, I went further and read several books on the ship. Needless to say, anything involving the Titanic catches my eye, though not always my fancy.

I liked the way Ms. Gray gave many real officers and passengers cameos without making them characters, with the exception of Thomas Andrews. She mentions this in the author's note and I definitely agreed with her reasoning. With the concept of the story being so based in fantasy, the reality of the sinking and the death of those poor souls would not have been a comfortable juxtaposition for most, and definitely not me.

As for the story, I can't complain. I didn't find the plot too stuffed with extras, just enough to make every scene interesting. The characters are developed and very likeable, and what girl could really resist Alec? While the story has a closing that could stand alone, I would be among the first in line for a sequel, even though it obviously won't be set on the Titanic, and that alone testifies to how much I enjoyed the book. :)

Esmeralda Verdú says

Aguas oscuras ha conseguido emocionarme, atraparme y fascinarme en todos y cada uno de los sentidos. La autora consigue mezclar fantasía (hombres lobo) y realidad (Titanic) y crea una historia totalmente original y bonita. Con unos personajes entrañables a los que a más de uno cogerás cariño y una protagonista genial, valiente y decidida. El ritmo de la lectura no decae en ningún momento y no querrás parar de leer.

Aventuras, hombres lobo, amor, amistad y un inevitable final. Si todavía no has leído esta novela, ¿a qué esperas? De verdad, merece muchísimo la pena. ¿Quieres otra razón más para leerlo? Es autoconclusivo.

Lee la reseña completa aquí: <http://fly-like-a-butterfly.blogspot....>

Rebecca says

For years, Tess Davies has worked as a maid for the Lisle family at their manor house in England. But she has always dreamed of a better life, and now that she has saved up enough money, she has decided leave her job. And she gets the perfect opportunity when she is chosen to accompany the Lisles on an ocean voyage to New York. A new country is the perfect place to start a new life. And they are sailing on the maiden voyage of the largest, most elegant ship ever built, the RMS Titanic.

Shortly before boarding the ship, Tess meets Alec Marlowe, a handsome first class passenger. He saves her life - then warns her to stay away. Alec clearly has a terrible secret, but Tess is drawn to him despite that. The two quickly find themselves falling in love, but the biggest obstacle to their relationship isn't their different social classes. An evil brotherhood of werewolves is stalking Alec, determined to force him to join them - and now they are after Tess, too. And as if that wasn't enough, they will face a far greater danger before the voyage is over.

I have been fascinated by the story of the Titanic for many years (even before the movie was released) so when I first heard about the plot of *Fateful*, I was a bit aghast at the idea of a novel about werewolves set on the Titanic. But I'll read just about anything set on the Titanic so I knew I had to read it, and I'm really glad I did, because this book turned out to be really good - it's one of my favorite books I've read recently, and probably my favorite paranormal romance ever. I loved the romance between Tess and Alec. They were adorable together and it was so sweet how protective and caring he was towards her, unlike in some paranormal romances where the guy acts like a jerk because of some supernatural curse that made his life miserable and the poor girl falls in love with him anyway for some reason. If you love historical romance, paranormal romance, or books about the Titanic, I highly recommend *Fateful*.

Disclosure: Review copy provided by publisher.

melissasbookworld says

3.5 stars for this wonderful titanic-retelling.

I really liked the characters in this book, even the 'nasty' ones, our 'villains', because they are all really well developed and they come across as realistic and believable, keeping into account that this all is happening in 1912. I came to care for Alec and Tess a lot and I really liked the added minor characters as well. Great characters are so important I think, and these characters already made sure I came to love this book a lot, despite knowing beforehand how the rest of the book would turn out. Gray has a talent for writing great main characters. Tessa, being a servant to a first class family on the ship, was a really interesting pov. And Alec, the first class passenger whom builds an intense relationship with Tessa, was soooo lovable! Grey really knows how to write lovable male characters *swooooon*

I liked the added paranormal twist into the story, but somehow it also felt - in hindsight - like it was completely unnecessary to write into this story-line as well. I get where the author's coming from; wanting to add a nice paranormal twist to it all since a lot of the story-line development would be predictable since it's historical facts being written about. But if the paranormal twist wouldn't have been in there, it would've been ok to me as well because I just really liked reading about the characters and the titanic-setting more than I liked the paranormal elements to be honest hihi.

I've been obsessed with the story of Titanic ever since I was a young girl and this has been my first titanic retelling to date, so I was really excited beforehand to find out how the author used original elements of the well-known disastrous story of the 'unsinkable' Titanic. I can't say I'm disappointed because Gray's been able to really 'transport' me into this world, this setting and experience it all alongside the characters and made me feel all the feels. The angst, especially in the last part of the book, felt so palpable and I felt so sad - as I always do thinking about the disaster of this majestic ship hitting that iceberg - because the way Gray wrote about all those people dying.. it was beautifully done. I can't imagine what it must've been like for the people back then who died or survived, who experienced the sinking of this ship, but I think Gray did a good job on portraying this scene.

The difference between first and third class was really palpable, as it was back in the days as well. Great writing! I loved coming across different characters, residing from the different classes present on the ship. From first-class passengers to third-class passengers and the crew of the ship. Gray wrote a great diversity of characters into the story-line, as you would expect with this story, set in 1912.

Taking into account that this is a stand-alone, I really think, overall, Gray did a great job with this YA historical fiction. Given the number of pages used for this story, everything is developed really well I think. The added paranormal elements were okay to me, but I think it's just really personal as to how you experience the added paranormal elements. It was a nice way to add some 'spice' to a young adult historical fiction though. Overall, I really enjoyed this read and picked it up anytime I was able to. I loved the Titanic elements; the fictional ones and the real facts/characters she wrote about - the author explains about it all a bit more in the acknowledgement, which was really great I think; her telling more about how this book came to be and what was and what wasn't real and/or fiction and why she chose to write it that way.

If you like knowing this book contains historical fiction, a great setting, some added paranormal elements, great characters, angst and a really likable romance, this is definitely a book you should give a try! I really liked this stand-a-lone novel regarding one of the most interesting historical happenings to date - in my opinion.

Leah (Jane Speare) says

As soon as that first sentence is read, you're unable to put down this book. It's a very unique genre. One would try to classify it as historical fiction, tantalizingly laced with paranormal aspects. While the story is being told, in present tense, reading it I sometimes forgot that the ship they were on was actually the Titanic, until some critical moments, and then suddenly you remember the big, almost silent part of the plot; the doomed voyage. My hands were literally so sweaty with anticipation by the last 20 pages that i had a hard time keeping a grip on the book. I love the flow of Fateful, how the details of everything, the characters seem so real. Claudia's really outdone herself this time.
