



Unspoken

Lauren Hawkeye

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Once, Ellie Kendrick was the only thing that Dominic Gabriel wanted, until five years ago when she left abruptly. Now she's back and her version of what happened between them so long ago makes him question everything he knows about himself as a man... and since he is now a lawman who lives by a strict moral code, he finds himself challenged to make things right.

He knows that they might have to look back in order to move forward... but can their rediscovered attraction survive the darkness of the past?

This is a category length story of 30 000 words. It is a prequel to the upcoming Untouched, but stands alone- no cliffhangers.

Unspoken Details

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Author : Lauren Hawkeye

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Genre : Romance, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, Novella

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From Reader Review *Unspoken* for online ebook

Jen says

Unspoken is a prequel novella in the *Florence, Arizona* series by bestselling author Lauren Hawkeye. It's a pretty quick read and introduces readers to the town of Florence and some of its residents. The focus is on Eleanor "Ellie" Kendrick and Dominic "Gabe" Gabriel, two individuals who were once very much in love but whose love story was cut short by forces beyond their control and Ellie leaves Florence.

Ten years pass before Ellie returns to the small town, needing to deal with the flower shop her late grandmother left her. What she doesn't want to deal with is the past she left behind, including her ex-boyfriend Gabe. She simply wants to make the proper arrangements to sell the flower shop and return to the life she's created for herself in Colorado.

Gabe has never forgotten the rebellious teenager who made him dream of a life different from the one that was being created for him by his father. When she suddenly left town, he was told one thing and he believed it for a decade. Gabe learns several truths that he never imagined were being kept from him and now that he knows, he wants to make things right between him and Ellie.

The book basically has the main characters uncovering secrets and how those secrets affect them now. Ten years ago, the people who were supposed to look out for them took matters into their own hands and made a decision that would affect both Ellie and Gabe, though I felt that it was a case of "ignorance is bliss" on Gabe's end. He seemed like a nice guy but a tad clueless.

While Ellie and Gabe's relationship was resolved by the end of the book, there were other issues that were left up in the air. Gabe's father and Ellie's grandmother had no redeeming qualities and that implied twist in the end about the two of them had me thinking they deserved each other. Of course, that could be the reason why they made the choices that they did regarding Ellie and Gabe but I'm just guessing.

All in all, *Unspoken* my interest in wanting to learn what else happens in the town of Florence, Arizona. The fact that the series is set in an area that houses a high number of prisons makes it all the more interesting. There were a number of editing issues in the book and the unresolved issues did bother me a bit but the series seems promising so I'm giving this prequel 3.5 stars, rounded off to four stars for Goodreads. ♥

Gloria Herrera for As You Wish Reviews says

From the first moment I started to read this book I knew there was a very painful undercurrent to this story that went beyond the death of a family member. Obviously our main character Ellie is very angry and reluctant to return to the small town where her grandmother raised her. Her grandmother is dead - no loss there since Ellie felt her grandmother never cared for her. She must make a final determination with the property that was left in the will to her. The hardest thing though is coming back to face all the people from her past and their biased judgement.

This story takes us back to Ellie's rebellious teenage years and we come to understand her wildness and lack of regard for rules and the law. But can we blame her? There is no love or nurturing in her life. She has been abandoned by both her father and her mother and then dumped on the lap of her aging grandmother who is

not willing to raise another child.

Toughest of all is facing "Gabe" her high school boyfriend. Promises were made back then and yet, Ellie was abandoned by him - or so she thought.

This story will grip your heart and will not let go. The losses Ellie experienced will bring tears to your eyes and you will understand the burden she has carried inside for the last ten years. Amazing first story in this series. The secrets yet uncovered have me wanting to read the next installment Untouched, due to release soon.

Lauren Hawkeye, you have stolen my heart again!

Lita says

Such an emotional trip!.

This reminded me of *13 Reason's Why* by Jay Asher, but better. The whole making sense of the past and the major hardships the characters' went through, the people that kept secrets and told lies and all that crud. Ahh this book, you stress me. I was hit with strong emotions that the characters felt throughout their lives so greatly that I could not cry; too overwhelming. The turmoil they were drowning in was portrayed to the extreme; felt very repugnant and thick. I believe this story was told perfectly. Completely soul-sucking, even for a short story. Well done.

Judy C says

This is an emotional story so have some tissues handy. I love Lauren's books and this was no exception. The only thing Ellie wanted was Dominic but she left him out of nowhere five years ago shattering him. When she returns to settle her grandmothers affairs after she dies. He wants to know why and she wants to go out of town fast. Her life wasn't easy while she lived there and she doesn't want to relive it. She knows Dominic won't forgive her when he finds out the truth.

Doris says

Some questions remain unanswered yes, but nonetheless a highly emotional novella.

Cheryl Graham-Petit says

I was lucky enough to receive this book as an ARC for an honest review and quite honestly, Lauren Hawkeye has written another amazing book. I was sucked in from the very first page and was kept on a roller coaster of emotions until the very end. Lauren Hawkeye has the ability to let her readers experience the journey of her characters right along with them.

Unspoken is a beautiful, emotional, and captivating story of love and healing, second chances, and moving on. It is a story of love and pain, fate and circumstances, forgiveness and hope. It is a story about love with no limitations and that somethings in life are worth fighting for.

Tracy Buttles says

Unspoken tells the story of Ellie and Gabe, teenage lovers who are ripped apart and then how they meet up again years latter. You can't help but be drawn in emotionally as Ellie and Gabe try to sort through past misunderstandings and learn what had transpired in the years they were apart. This was an emotional read which even brought me to tears a few times. Truly an outstanding work by Ms. Hawkeye!

Received an ARC of Unspoken in exchange for an honest review

Anita Byars says

This is about second chances but with deep emotional issues that are handled so superbly by this author it will touch your soul. Ellie Kendrick is on a mission she is headed back to Florence Arizona to her grandmothers florist shop that was left to her with her grandmothers passing. Ellie has been gone from Florence for ten, long, hard years. The quicker she can get the store ready to sell and get back to her job the better. Dominic Gabriel "Gabe" is the sheriff in town and he has been called about someone sneaking around Estelle's Blooms. The very person she was hoping not to run into. Ellie and Gabe have a history they were each other's everything. Although it has been ten years these two have a lot to work through and will intense feelings of the past help mend Ellie and Gabe's hearts or will it leave them more broken. You have got to read this story. Your heart will go out to both of them as plots of deception are uncovered and soar when things turn around for these two lost souls. Loved this heart touching story.

Nicole says

Book provided in exchange for honest review.

This is a quick read and a good introduction to this series, I only wish it was longer so we could really get a chance to know Ellie and Gabe more, both through the flashbacks of when they were teens as well as now that they're adults.

Ellie definitely didn't have it easy growing up, and yes she did rebel as a teen, but I couldn't help but feel her heartbreak when she told Gabe the entire story of what really happened all those years ago. You also can't help but to feel anger on Gabe's behalf when he learned of his father's involvement all those years ago; but the shocker is what Ellie discovered in her grandmother's attic, I can't wait to see how that situation will play out.

Romance and Fantasy for Cosmopolitan Girls says

Romance and Fantasy for Cosmopolitan Girls

Unspoken è stato un libro gradevole da leggere anche se mi ha dato un pò quella sensazione di qualcosa di già letto. Classico cliché: i protagonisti si sono amati in gioventù, qualcosa di misterioso li separa, anni dopo si ritrovano, i segreti vengono svelati e il lieto fine è pronto da servire.

Con questo non voglio dire che abbia perso del tempo a leggere questo romanzo, direi anzi tutt'altro. Lo stile con cui è stato scritto il libro è molto particolare e ricercato, visto che non c'è molta originalità nella trama, posso dire che invece la scrittura è tutt'altro che banale. Piccolo avvertimento, se non siete fluent in inglese, è meglio passare a qualcosa di più semplice, dire che è difficile è dire poco, questo non vale per i dialoghi., è un peccato che ce ne siano pochini...

Ellie, torna a casa - Florence in Arizona - dopo otto anni di assenza per sistemare il negozio di fiori e tutte le cose che riguardano la nonna mancata da poco.

Estelle, l'ha praticamente cresciuta, siccome i genitori hanno dato forfait. A causa di questo, il loro rapporto è sempre stato conflittuale e Ellie, in età da teenager, sentiva una costante rabbia interiore che la portava a essere una ribelle, vestendosi in modo dark e stravagante e esprimendosi con modi piuttosto volgari e irrispettosi.

Si pensa sempre che, gli adolescenti che si comportano così, lo facciamo solo per un bisogno di attenzione. Ma per Ellie il suo era solo un bisogno di affetto. Considerata la ragazza pazza e pericolosa della cittadina, viene evitata praticamente da tutti. Ma non da Gabe, il figlio dello sceriffo, stella della squadra di football, il ragazzo più popolare e bello della scuola.

Lui, che rappresenta l'antitesi di Ellie, la nota e ne rimane incuriosito. Vuole sapere di più su di lei e l'avvicina. La ragazza, attonita d'aver attirato l'attenzione del ragazzo per bene, non riesce a resistergli e trasferisce su di lui tutto il suo bisogno di contatto e affetto. Lasciandosi andare, è semplicemente se stessa con Gabe ed è quello che a lui più piace della ragazza. Pressato dagli obbiettivi che il padre si aspetta che raggiunga, cerca solo un pò di spontaneità ed evasione. Paradossalmente, ognuno sogna la vita dell'altro. Questo li porta ad essere sempre più uniti ed ad innamorarsi. I ragazzi sono molto giovani, 15, lei e 18, lui....forse un pò presto per pensare seriamente al futuro, per questo i genitori di Gabe e la nonna di Ellie sono preoccupati.

La nonna e la nipote hanno sempre litigato molto spesso con toni accesissimi, una sera la misura è colma per entrambi.

Ellie se n'è va e Gabe rimane da solo a Florence, ignaro delle ragioni che hanno portato la ragazza a lasciarlo senza nemmeno una parola d'addio.

Gabe era sinceramente innamorato della ragazza dark, ma rivederla dopo otto anni, non lo fa rimanere subito entusiasta e pieno di gioia. c'è risentimento e rancore per essere stato abbandonato, vuole delle spiegazioni e delle risposte per il suo comportamento.

Ellie pensava di fare una cosa veloce nel sistemare le cose della nonna, ma rimane bloccata a Florence più del dovuto. In questo modo gli incontri con il suo ex sono frequenti e le sue domande sempre più insistenti. Lei sa che prima o poi dovrà dirgli perché quella sera se n'è andata, ma sarà giusto sconvolgergli la vita in questo modo? Non sarebbe meglio dimenticare tutto e andare avanti? Sembra di no, perché nonostante siano passati anni, l'attrazione reciproca non si è affievolita e la speranza di riprovarci sembra un sogno che si potrebbe coronare solo se saranno in grado di perdonarsi a vicenda.

Come avevo premesso, è una storia già letta e una trama rivista e rivisitata in un milione di modi diversi. Ciò nonostante, posso confermare che è un libro che rileggerei. Raccontato da entrambi i punti di vista, troviamo

un'alternanza scorrevole di flash back, necessari per consentirci di comprendere il loro passato. Pur sapendo che il lieto fine ci sarebbe stato, sono rimasta con il fiato sospeso fino alla fine. Ritengo che se si è ottenuta questa reazione da parte di una lettrice, allora lo scopo dello scrittore è stato raggiunto.

Amy says

Unspoken is a quick, but emotional read. This book might only be a novella, but it packs one heck of a punch. It's a story about how one simple misunderstanding and lie had the power to destroy two people. It will take you on a roller-coaster ride of emotions and will leave you feeling as though the emotions the characters are experiencing are you own.

I thought that Unspoken was well written and captivating. It is a story of love, forgiveness and second chances. You will find yourself rooting for the characters, hoping that they are able to forgive and that the love that they have is worth fighting for.

I received an ARC copy of this book in exchange for an honest review

Carly says

An emotional must read!

Ellie Kendrick left Florence Arizona over a decade ago, determined to never return. Brought back to town after the death of her Grandmother, Ellie is forced to face the pain of her past if she hopes to move past it and claim her future.

A heart wrenching and emotional story of love and loss, Unspoken is an exceptionally well written story that broke my heart and then rebuilt it in a whole new way. The start of what promises to be an amazing new series, this is a novella length book is a must read for anyone who enjoys complex characters and thought provoking storylines.

Caution: Unspoken's storyline addresses pregnancy loss (miscarriage) and may be an emotional trigger for some readers.

A copy of Unspoken was provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Gemma Weir says

Check out more of my reviews on my blog <http://gemmareadstoomuchforittomenorm...>

Unspoken by Lauren Hawkeye is book #0.5 in the Florence, Arizona Series, I've been lucky enough to have been gifted a copy so here's my honest review....

This book is as super short prequel to Untouched book #1 in this series.

This story has us meeting Ellie a reformed bad girl returning to her hometown following the death of her grandmother.

I kinda liked Ellie she's trying so hard to prove to everyone including herself that's she no longer the same person she was when she last lived in the town.

Poor Ellie has had a tough life and the things she has to explain to Gabe were just heartbreaking. I loved her smart mouth and abrasive attitude it's refreshing for a female lead to be the aggressive angry one lol.

I'm not sure how I feel about Gabe, I appreciate that a lot of the circumstances were completely out of his control. But he is such a yes man and I prefer my men a lot more alpha and take charge!!!

God I wanted to slap Ed that bloke needs a reminder that he's an asshole!!! His attitude to Ellie even ten years down the line is atrocious!!!

This is a cute novella and the perfect intro to Untouched which I will be reading once I finish this review. But as far as I can see it left far too many questions wide open and unanswered!!

I needed to have some resolution!! Hopefully it will come in the next book!

3 stars from me.

Monica *can't read fast enough*** says**

Solid story, a few editing hiccups, but a very quick read. Full review to come...

Carolyn Injoy says

I received a free kindle copy of Unspoken (Florence, Arizona) by Lauren Hawkeye, published by Calluna Vulgaris Books in an Amazon promotion in exchange for a fair review.

I gave this romantic novel almost four stars. Ellie & Gabe were star-crossed lovers. They were separated by their families & after Ellie's grandmother died, she returned to take care of the floral shop & outdated apartment. They had both been deceived. Can they rekindle their lost relationship? Or will Ellie leave again, never to return?

Link to purchase: <http://www.amazon.com/Unspoken-Floren...>
