



See Through Me

Sera Bright

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There's only one person Katie Flynn wants to see when she returns home. But she knows he won't be waiting for her. It's the reason she feels safe enough to finally come back.

She's wrong.

Ash Townsend isn't the same quiet boy from next door. He's tall, dark and demanding answers. He wants her, but he doesn't trust her. Who can blame him? When his own family tried to break him down, he still sheltered her in a town full of liars. And she repaid it by leaving him behind without a word.

Because she'll do anything to protect him. She has the scars on her wrist to prove it.

Contains strong language, explicit sexual situations, and mature themes. This novel is not intended for readers under the age of 18. First in a 2-part series.

See Through Me Details

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Author : Sera Bright

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From Reader Review See Through Me for online ebook

Theresa Jarosick says

...

An emotionally charged story, about soulmates forever and the things that try to keep them apart, it's only fault being was leaving me wanting more and more.

ARC kindly provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review

Theresa Jarosick says

****4 Stars***

I was given a copy of this title for an honest review

See Through Me by Sera Bright tells the story of two lifelong friends, Katie and Ash. You never forget your first love, especially when it's your childhood best friend you grew up with over the years. Katie and Ash both had horrible childhoods, for different reasons. Katie's mother passed away and her father leaves her for prolonged periods of time. Ash is the victim of child abuse, afraid to bring to light the true nature of his parents; who are prominent figures in the community. Katie and Ash instantly bond when they are kids, and remain best friends through their teens. They're obviously attracted to one another and are each other's first loves. The summer before college their relationship grows. Unknown of what the future holds they decide to take each day as it is and see what happens. Katie decides to take a year off after graduating to travel the country and Ash plans on attending art school. Unexpectedly Katie decides to leave it all behind...her life and Ash, without any warning or even a goodbye.

Fast forward one year.

Katie returns to her hometown to help her father settle up a few things with their home. She is hesitant to return and is not looking forward to seeing Ash, knowing he will have questions about what exactly happened a year ago to make her leave out of the blue. They meet in town and the connection and attraction between them is as strong as every. With the truth come out about what exactly happened in the past? Well, I don't want to share any spoilers so you'll have to read to find out :)

The novel was extremely well written and I enjoyed the story as a whole. I really enjoyed way the story was told in both the past and present. I did feel at times though the plot moved a little slower than I'd like. Don't get me wrong, the plot was intriguing and I was wondering how things were going to develop right up until the end. I finished the book questioning a few things – Where's Katie's father? And why do I get the impression Ash knew more about things then he was letting on? The fact that he let Katie go so easily at the end had me wondering. I closed my Kindle case and immediately wanted more!

I look forward to more of the series and want to thank Sera Bright for the chance to read and review her

book.

Rosa Sharon (iScream Books Blog) says

Rough & quick...slow & sweet...

This is my first Sera Bright read and I was impressed. I enjoyed her writing style, the friendships and relationships were very well written. She had the ability to make me feel strongly, I seriously wanted to hurt a few of them. I found myself loving Ash and frustrated with Katie for constantly running away. I wanted to yell at her through my Kindle. I am drawn to broken, damaged characters and both of these have so much to overcome. I really want to see them get their HEA after all they've been through. It's so heartwarming that they lived next door to each other and have been best friends since they were toddlers. They share so much history, so many memories, good and bad. The story is told in multiple POV and alternating past/present so it gradually unfolds. You get a glimpse into the head of both of them, so that means you are privy to things that they haven't shared with each other. It's a real page turner...but no matter how fast I turned them...I got to the end without getting all my answers...to be continued.

preppea says

3.5 Broken, Skittish Stars

Ash is Katie's first memory and her best friend. She vowed to protect him since the first time he crawled through her window bloodied and bruised. But what happens when the best way to protect someone is to let them go? Ten months ago, Katie ran from Ash; breaking his heart to ensure he'd walk away and move on. She returns to her hometown to help out her dad, never expecting Ash to return to a town that brought him so much misery. But Ash never let Katie go and he couldn't stay away from the only place he might find her again.

Reading SEE THROUGH ME is a bit like trying to read through smoke. Katie doesn't say what made her leave Ash or what happened that left her with scars. Chapters alternate between present time and the past, with the past highlighting some of the most meaningful moments of Ash and Katie's relationship. Through the flashbacks, the reader finds out about the abuse Ash suffered and the neglect Katie endured. Neither had a happy childhood, but they are each other's best hope for a promising future. If only Katie can stop the lies and the running. But the same forces that separated Katie and Ash before seem to be at work again, only this time even Katie can't be sure of who is to blame. The story is left on a cliffhanger and I believe the sequel will be told from Ash's perspective.

I flew through SEE THROUGH ME and enjoyed it despite its dark undertone. Katie is very broken and scared and you can feel her turmoil throughout the book. I loved getting to know Katie and Ash through the flashbacks; it allowed me to see just how much love they had invested in each other. It was especially helpful since Katie has a habit of lying or cracking jokes to diffuse situations so it's hard to really get to know the real her in present time. I think without the flashbacks I would have thought their relationship was all sex, no communication, but the flashbacks show that Ash sees right through Katie's defense mechanisms. I myself couldn't quite get a read on her since she was constantly hot and cold so it was good to know Ash got it. In some ways the entire book is like that, Katie isn't very forthcoming and so the reader is left in the dark until

almost the end as to why Katie really left. I do think if Katie had spent a little more time being honest with Ash in present time it would make it more compelling to the reader to read the sequel; it was almost too long to be left wondering. I also found some of the suspense aspects of the story a bit unbelievable and farfetched at times and in particular at the end, but that could also be because it hasn't been fully explained and we should find out a lot more in the sequel.

I would recommend SEE THROUGH ME to anyone who likes a little mystery and sadness mixed in with their new adult romance.

***Complimentary copy provided by the author/publisher for an honest review.*

***Reviewed by preppea on I ♥ Bookie Nookie Reviews.*

Farida says

This short read took me for a pleasant surprise. The short jist of this is that Katie comes home to take care another one of her father's messes, hoping to avoid Ash and the destruction she left behind. Little does she know, it's the one place where she can finally find truth.

What I liked

- The originality of the story. Although there are a few NA books out there that cover abuse, this one had a nice twist.
- The suspense! I was not expecting those twists [plural!] at the end.
- The undeniable connection between Ash and Katie. *"I wanted him always. He felt like how coming home should feel."*
- The sarcastic banter! *"Even if I wasn't dead tired, I wouldn't ever go to Trevor "Most Likely to be Acquitted of Date Rape" McCallum's house"* . Died.

What I didn't like

- Katie flip flopping. It really got irritating, especially since 40% of the book was done. I hated that both of them kept running away from each other; it seemed really childish. But then again, they are only 19.
- Plot Development. Even though I liked the originality of the story, I felt like it was lacking. I wanted *more*. I craved more, to be honest. A better plot development would help with the flow of the story as well. I didn't care for the side characters, such as Helen and Trevor's side thing whose name I cannot even recall.

With all that being said, where is the second book!!

Overall rating: 3.75/5 ☆

Steam rating: 3.75/5

Would I reread it? Probably Not. It being short, I remembered the majority of it.

Would I recommend to a friend? Maybe, if it fits their taste

[image error]

Anastasia ? says

Wow!!!! See Through Me is the first book in the Lose My Senses series by Sera Bright. It is a New Adult novel told in first person past/present POV's. I really enjoyed See Through Me thoroughly from start to finish. I loved the writing style, the characters were well thought out, it's well-written, it has a steady pace, and just overall a great read! :D

There are many twists and turns, which keeps you on the edge, wanting to find out more, and keep turning the pages. I am eager to read the next installment, as well as reading more from this author!

I highly recommend it!

Read more of this post here:[Blog Tour ~ See Through Me by Sera Bright](#)

Katie(babs) says

See Through Me is your typical cliché New Adult that throws so many things out there than makes no sense. The actions of the characters are confusing and it drags with no real solution to the problems the female protagonist has.

The heroine, Katie has major issues that will make you roll your eyes. She has a chip on her shoulder because her mother left her when she was five, and her father is barely around and may be involved in illegal jobs. Katie left her hometown that were told treated her poorly in order to travel, but made everyone believe she went away for her first year of college, including her best friend, Ash, who she can't be around any longer. Ash's parents are nut jobs who have abused him his entire life. His parents are apparently very powerful in the town they live in. Why they treat Ash so poorly, but throw money at him so he's well off and can work on his art, which he loves, makes no sense. Ash loves Katie so much, but she pushed him away because his mother threatened to destroy Ash because she sees that Ash loves Katie with everything inside of him. The reason why Ash's mother is out to get Katie is revealed at the end, and makes you scratch your head because again it's a very strange twist and not all that shocking.

We see Katie and Ash grow up together in flashbacks starting when they are eleven, up to when they are eighteen and the summer before college. Ash, we are told at eighteen has become a big man-whore who has slept through most of his high school class, which I really don't know why that was important because from the beginning Ash comes across as a great guy who doesn't like to be touched and is brooding and silent. But then as we go from flashbacks to present day, his personality changes to easy going and approachable. Katie, of course, was only intimate with Ash, but her reputation that was spread by rumors makes it appear she is a player like Ash, while he flirts with girls and apparently is a Don Juan, which is acceptable here for some reason. Ash can be a player, but Katie can't and is regarded as a slut because of it. Got to love that double standard.

Katie is stalked, molested and almost raped by her ex-classmate for no real reason explained. He lurks around and doesn't have any real purpose, even when it's fully revealed why he is so cruel to Katie.

The love scenes are more on the salacious side and ruins the tender love Ash and Katie have for one another. Katie's constant pushing Ash away, but then reeling him back in and having sex, just because sex with Ash heals her and makes her whole, feels like a cop out.

See Through Me will most likely appeal to fans of New Adult romance but there's no real depth to the plot and story. The characters lack that dimension to invoke a strong emotional attachment to the reader.

A ho hum read that could have been outstanding but failed on the overall execution.

Rachel says

Rating 3.5 stars.

See Through Me is a story about 2 people who have grown up together in the midst of many secrets and terrible parents. The story grabbed me from the beginning, and I was invested right away. I really loved Ash. His character really made this book shine.

However, it was not perfect. Mainly, Katie's character was a large flaw. She did the push him away to save him thing to the point of stupidity. It was tiring, and made me care less about her character.

I liked that there was no insta-love, but it didn't take forever either. The use of a personal history between the characters before the story began (them growing up together) was very nice. It allowed the romance to begin in early chapters without feeling forced or fake.

On the other side of things, this book is guilty of my biggest pet-peeve. It doesn't end. The romance arc ends, but the main conflict of the story is left unresolved. So, had I bought this, I would have bought half a story. It's not as terrible as some other books I've read. There is at least half a conclusion, but I still feel like this is just another way to suck money out of me.

Recommended for fans of New Adult Romance.

Jessi says

* copy in exchange for review *

I am left baffled by this book. I'm not sure I understand what happened, how it happened or what is going to happen? I believe the three stars could be higher when the next books come out because I am really thrown by the storyline. I didn't feel really connected to the characters, as much as I would have hoped. They could have been deeper and probably will be in the series.

The plot was enjoyable, but somewhat confusing. I was on the edge of my seat, waiting for the other shoe to drop, waiting, waiting, waiting. It didn't drop. Instead I lost my shoe in the course of the book and am walking around with no shoes with question marks over my head.

I would recommend this book, especially if you like suspense and new adult. I think that this review will

change when the other books are released but for now, I'm kinda lost.

Shelley says

ARC generously provided by publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.

My Ash Townsend

My Katie

Her mother left her, her father was always leaving her, never really being a father, and her best friend lived next door. He was the boy next door and she loved him. But she knew no matter how badly she had it, Ash had it worse. She was his haven, the place to escape when his parents abuse became too much. What Katie never expected was that in trying to save him she could end up hurting him. Now after disappearing for the last 10 months Katie has to go back to her small home town to help out her dad, a man who doesn't deserve it. There is only one person in that town Katie would ever want to see and he has moved on, or so she thought.

It only takes a day before Katie runs into Ash and she knows she has to try to stay away from him for his own good. She just never expected to still be in love with him after all this time. Ash was her first and her only and he still owns her heart even when she tries to deny it. Katie's only problem is deciding to stick with her plan to protect him or to let him back into her life and she what happens.

I was really surprised by this book. Katie has a screwed up life but her one constant was Ash and the same goes for him. Ash's parents are horrible, and Katie was the only place Ash could go for comfort. Katie knew him like no other and he always loved her, even when she didn't know. Ash is determined to find a way back into her life. Yes he is a damaged soul but he knows Katie is his mate. This is an story of two damaged people who become whole when they are together. But, can they survive the consequences of deciding to finally be together.

Warning this is not a stand alone and now I will be comping at the bit waiting for the second book in this series.

Emily♥ says

Running Up That Hill by Placebo.

“Unaware that I’m tearing you asunder”

That single lyric describes Katie and Ash’s relationship completely. They’re both hiding secrets from each other.

Katie and Ash have these horrible childhoods that happen way too often in the real world. I really just wanna hug them both!

Oh, Ash. With your rage issues and brooding, sweet hazel eyes.

I guess his past gives reasoning to his anger problems, but he's got severe issues. He's the spitting image of overly possessive.

Katie runs away from her issues and has a wishy-washy mind about what she wants. The girl is really never sure of anything.

Their relationship was sweet, sickeningly sweet, until it wasn't. Until Ash would overreact and chase Katie down the street, to her doorstep, restrain her, and take her inside. Which of course, leads to tableside entry sex? Whatever floats your boat, darling.

I suppose that if you've known someone that long, actions like this are nothing new. But it bothered me way too much. I think they're just looking for a normal life, but their past keeps getting in the way.

There are so many questions that I have pertaining to her dad! Hopefully they will be answered in the next book.

This was a quick read that I enjoyed getting lost in. I'll be on the lookout for the next installment of Katie and Ash's screwy relationship.

Cassandra says

I received a copy of this book from NetGalley and am providing an honest review.

Let me start off by saying that while the description of the book said that this was not a standalone, it also said that there were two sides to every story and that this was Katie's side. That led me to believe that there would be a conclusion, but that we would just get a separate book for Ash telling the exact same story but from his perspective, as so many authors have been doing lately. Not the case. There is still a lot left unresolved. The author warned us, but I misunderstood. Not a big deal, though.

Katie had to grow up fast because her mom walked out on her and her dad wasn't very good at being a parent. For this reason, Katie knew how to take care of herself which made her a pretty strong main character. She was pretty wishy-washy with Ash in the beginning about their relationship, but it wasn't because she didn't know what she wanted. She knew that she wanted him, but that there could be negative consequences to her actions, so she had to figure out if it was a risk worth taking. Indecisiveness about relationships usually bothers me, but I felt it was done really well here because there was a legitimate reason.

Ash suffered at the hands of his parents and often turned to Katie for support. It was part of the reason they were so close. She was the only one that knew his secret, so she was the only one he was completely comfortable being himself around. He really wanted things to work out with Katie, so he often fought dirty. By that I mean, he made her jealous with other women. I couldn't decide if it was adorable that he worked so hard for her or childish that he played the 'make her jealous' card. But hey, he's only 19, so I guess it's appropriate for his age.

I felt that there could have been a little more resolved in See Through Me. I understand that this is a series and some things have to wait but there was a lot left to wonder about. We found out how Katie got her scars towards the end but we had a pretty good idea of who gave them to her before that based on context clues. But I did spend the entirety of the book waiting for a meet-up between Katie and her father that I'm guessing will happen in book two, which is kind of a disappointment. I would have settled for him meeting her and dropping a bombshell. I don't mind a cliffhanger in a book meant to be a series (though I know most people do). If it's a good cliffhanger, it ensures that I'm anxious to read the next one. It also leaves me on a 'wow!' Even if we couldn't get the meet-up with the dad, I would have liked to have an appearance or direct message from Ash's mom.

For this reason, this book is more of a 3.5 star read for me. I do believe the author did an excellent job writing, but I just wanted a little more.

ETA: The author, in response to early reviews, added a little more to the ending and kindly shared it with me. While it didn't really answer much in the way of questions for me, it ended on a bang like I wanted. There's definitely a cliffhanger here and I'm anxious to see what's next!

Erika says

**ARC received from author via NetGalley for a fair and honest review.*

See Through Me did not live up to it's potential for me. There was enough there to make it an incredibly interesting story, but in the end, it just never fully formed as a story and ended all to abruptly. Yes, yes we get warned beforehand that there are two sides of the story, so to expect a cliffhanger. It wasn't a cliffhanger so much as screeching halt though.

This book tells us the story of Katie and Ash, in present time and through flashbacks from their tween years on. They both had a rough childhood, in different ways, but found a way to find peace in their friendship and eventual romance. This entire book focused on that, with a little side bit of stalker(ish) drama thrown in. It was that drama that messed up this book for me. It reached that grey area where it was not enough to brush aside, but yet not fleshed out enough to understand why it was there in the first place. I assume that was to draw you into the second book in the series, but it didn't work for me.

In the end, I just didn't have enough to go on, for anything really. So much happened, and yet none of it was fully formed for me. I wanted to like Katie and Ash, because I liked the idea of them together, but I never felt like I was able too. Maybe once we get Ash's story the everything will come together. Sometimes we really do need two sides of the story.

2.75 Stars--(because I feel like being difficult tonight)

Update

The author has decided to tweak the ending to give us more of a resolution at the end. Let me rephrase, not a resolution but ends the book at a different point so you have more of an understanding of what is going on. My biggest problem with the original book was that it came to a screeching halt. So much was thrown at you, but we had absolutely nothing to go on. The new ending changed some of that. It's still ends with a

massive cliffhanger, which you are warned about beforehand, but at least you still have SOME clue about what is going on, which does help the overall feel of the book and makes me actually want to know more. I still want to read the next book before I form a complete opinion, but now I'm more inclined to do that than I originally was.

On a unrelated note, I have a lot of respect for an author who was willing to take the initial criticism of the book so respectfully. Even more so that she is willing to use that criticism to put out a more finished product.

Angie **loves angst says**

****ARC kindly provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review****

Mari?ina says

This little gem, truly made my day, It was great. Easy to read, fast paced, smart, interesting, with the right amount of sentimentality and plot variety.

Much needed heartwarming romance and a dash of mystery.

I liked it from the first page. Ash and Katie are a compelling couple with many secrets and a lot of past. Yes, there is something darker lurking in the shadows and out to get them both, but the friendly banter between them, lessened the suspense factor significantly.

After a year apart the former best-friends-turn-to-couple are finally back in their hometown. This place holds so many bad memories for them but it's also the only place they can see each other.

Ash is livid with Katie. The only girl he ever loved left a year ago taking his heart with her. She never called, never visited, but she had some good reasons for that.

Katie, left the boy she always tried to protect. It wasn't her choice to leave back then neither is her choice to come back now. What will happen next? Ash is also in town and desperate to find her, will she give a chance to their romance this time around?

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE BOOK

- Flashbacks.
- Ash has been through so much..
- I don't know why i didn't read that one sooner.
- Trevor = what an asshole.

- Katie's struggle with Ash's parents was so heartwrenching..
- Full of emotions.
- I loved their friendship.
- I wonder why her father wanted her to stay.

ARC provided via Netgalley in exchange of an honest review. Thank you!
