



Breathe Again

Sydney Logan

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From the bestselling author of Songbird comes a story that will make you laugh, cry, and believe in the power of second chances.

Carrie Malone has seen enough heartbreak to last a lifetime.

Her family's demons gave Carrie the courage to move away from home and leave her past behind. Now a college senior, she stays busy with her classes and her job at the diner. It may sound boring to some, but to Carrie, the very best thing about her new life is that every day is calm and blissfully uneventful.

That all changes the night Josh Bennett walks into her diner.

With his dirty designer suit and mud-caked shoes, Carrie's not sure what to think about the broken man sitting at her counter. She's even more confused when he doesn't touch his coffee . . . and leaves his Rolex watch as a tip.

Josh Bennett has nothing to live for.

Starved for affection and deep in despair, he's looking for a tender touch. A kind word. A giving heart.

A shattered and broken Josh finds himself standing on a city bridge, looking down into the freezing river that will undoubtedly bring an end to his pain.

He's prepared to jump.

He's prepared to die.

He's not prepared for the pretty waitress who finds him there by the water's edge.

When two lost souls find each other in the dark of the night, can they give each other a reason to breathe again?

Breathe Again Details

Date : Published July 22nd 2016 by Enchanted Publications

ISBN :

Author : Sydney Logan

Format : Kindle Edition 150 pages

Genre : Romance, New Adult, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Breathe Again for online ebook

Jackie (Jackie's Book World) says

Review can also be found at Jackie's Book World. :)

Rating: 4.5/5

Breathe Again is a story about second chances at live and love....

Having read other works by the author before, I couldn't wait to read *Breathe Again*. At the beginning of the story we get to meet Carrie Malone, a college senior who has been keeping her life busy between her work at the diner and at school. When a handsome stranger walks into the diner one night, living her his Rolex as a tip, Carrie doesn't know what to do. Without giving it much of a thought, Carrie goes on with her only to stumble upon the stranger at a bridge, ready to take his own life. In that moment, nothing else mattered, but to save him, without thinking that her life was about to change forever.

Josh Bennett may be wealthy and young, he could get anything at his beck-and-call, but not even money can cure him from the tragedy that he just suffered. Losing someone can be difficult, and Josh is not sure how to move on. With the intention of losing his own life, he walks to the bridge, only to be saved by the girl from the diner. Having both suffered tremendously in the past, they turn to each other for comfort. But soon things start to escalate between them and they began to wonder whether their feelings for each other are real or if it's just the pain that has been pulling them closer.

I absolutely loved reading this book, it was sweet and a total page-turner. The characters have their pasts that they're trying to get past from, but neither imagined how difficult it was going to be. Luckily they were able to find each other, but their growing chemistry and lust for one another is pulling them closer each time they're near each other. As a college student, Carrie worries constantly about her college loans and bills. She has a tiny apartment that she is proud of, and while she is struggling to get by, she doesn't want to go back to the life that she had at home. She is determined to make a name for herself, and move on from her past. Meanwhile, Josh is a young and attractive guy whose life spirals out of control after he gets married to someone he thought he loved. Now that things have drastically changed for him, he doesn't want to continue on living, until he meets Carrie. Together they go through ups and downs, but at the end of the day they have each other to turn to. The story had a nice flow that kept me reading non-stop. There were times when the characters would get me a bit frustrated, but at the end of it all it really came together very well. The ending will definitely leave you wanting for more, though it ended on a really nice note. The story as a whole was sweet and steamy, so if you're looking for a nice story about second chances at love then I would highly recommend reading this book. It will not disappoint. :)

ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Jeanne McDonald says

As always, Sydney creates a story that pulls at your heartstrings and leaves you wanting more. That is exactly how I feel as I sit here and process this novella. Frankly, I want more. From the moment Carrie and Josh meet, there's instant chemistry. Both are struggling with grief and loss, but fate brings these two broken

souls together to heal and learn from each other.

Breathe Again is a quick read, though I wouldn't suggest reading it by the pool or at the beach. Sydney doesn't fail to bring on the water works with this one, highlighting that love and hope have a way of healing our pain. If you love a sweet romance with a message, I highly recommend this book.

Mackensey Lowe says

I was gifted a copy of this novella for an honest review.

Breathe Again is a beautifully written novella that touched my heart. It was a fast read that had me sitting up late into the night. As usual, I loved every single word, sentence, and paragraph constructed by Sydney Logan, and I highly recommend this novella to anyone who is a lover of books.

Chele says

Sydney Logan has delivered another wonderfully emotional story.

Strong Characters. It will have you crying, laughing, crying, smiling and believing in the power of forgiveness.

Grief can be crippling. A kind word and a gentle touch can be healing.

Join Carrie and Josh as they meet in a chance encounter brought on by grief and try to find their HEA.

5 Amazingly Emotional Stars for Sydney Logan's Breathe Again.

I was gifted a copy by the author in exchange for an honest review.

AnessaRenee Reviews says

I just consumed this book within a few short hours. I planned to read a few chapters and pick it up in the morning. That did not happen. I couldn't put it down for a second. This book was full of heart clenching moments. The entire time I felt like I was in the story not simply reading it. The moments felt so real. The grief, love, compassion and friendship all felt real the entire time. I can't describe how well this author makes you connect with the characters. The writing is so fluid and transparent. This was my first time reading Sydney Logan but it will not be the last. She got into my head and heart, she took me into the lives of Carrie and Josh and created a world that lets you feel the grief and how sometimes the most unexpected moments will change your life. The good and bad moments shape your future. I wish this story could go on forever. Grab this book now so that you can experience this amazing story. * Reviewed for Sweet Spot Sisterhood*

Jess Brown says

In Breathe Again, Carrie Malone and Josh Bennett meet as two lonely souls struggling to find worth. When Josh commits a rash act, Carrie gambles one of her own. The two become almost instantly attached. This is the story of how they work their way backward to find their way forward. From a time of desperation and isolation comes healing and emotional balance.

Reading a story by Sydney Logan is always a pleasure. Four stars.

katherine says

I was gifted a copy of this book by the author in exchange for an honest review. All Sydney Logan's stories are always so heartfelt and loving. This story is no different. She had me right from the start and never let go, in the end I wanted to read more. As the story starts we meet Carrie. She is a student who is working her way through college. End of shift and the place is empty until someone comes into the diner. Feeling tired and just wanted to get home she serves the man who looks like he has been living on the streets, they talk for a minute and when she comes back into the room he has gone. Leaving an empty cup and a rolex watch. Stunned she doesn't know what to think. As she is walking home she comes across a figure standing on the bridge. She walks closer and see the man putting his leg over the ledge, quickly she goes toward him saying no..stop. Little does she know this is the man from the diner. Well they talk and she gets him to get his leg back over onto the ground and she gets him to come to her place, much to the thoughts in her head that this isn't a good idea. We go on to read their stories, what their lives have been like and why. A short quick read but loved every minutes of it.

Karla says

4 stars

I'm totally impressed by this book, it's my first book by this author and I hope to check out more of her work. The story captivated me, it was a very emotional read considering it wasn't a long book.

The MC meet under devastating circumstances especially for the H, josh, but in his saddest moment Carrie the h was there to help him. After that chance encounter they share a connection and start a tentative relationship.

This was a really touching story of pain, loss, hate, forgiveness, and finding that one love that really does save you.

When I started reading this book I thought "no it's not going be long enough" but then I realized that it was perfect. Even though the story was fast paced the issues the MC were going through was well played out. The only thing I wasn't happy with was the relationship between Carrie and her mom IMO was forgiven too easily. I wanted to see them have a real talk even if they yelled, not just cried. Carrie had a right to be mad and hurt. But other than that I enjoyed this story and loved the epilogue it was a perfect ending!

Loved the author's personal note.

"Grief is universal. It's a personal journey and an emotional roller coaster that seemingly never ends. But somehow, life goes on, and you have to find your own path to peace"

1-Click Addict Support Group says

Reading a Sydney Logan book is like a giant bear hug for the soul. Seriously—talk about a balm for your heart. *Breathe Again* was basically the comfort food equivalent of books.

It's short, and it moves very quickly—but Carrie and Josh were so immediately likeable that it took literally no time for my heart to open to them. Their meeting was unorthodox and heartbreaking, but the relationship they managed to build with each other was incredibly touching and heartwarming. It's emotional, but it *felt* good, and my biggest complaint is that I wanted more. I would have liked to have dug deeper into the hearts of these wonderful characters—but then, they just might have stolen my heart away forever.

This was the perfect way to while away a Sunday afternoon—it was sweet and tender with flares of heat. It was respectful of Carrie and Josh's heartbreak while also allowing them to move forward and heal. It left my heart full and happy, if maybe hungry for a little more (but that's just because my heart is a greedy bastard). Read it—your heart will thank you later. ~ Shelly, 4 stars

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Oh, what a heart-wrenching, uplifting and sweet little read this was! I'm a big fan of Sydney Logan; she has a gift for telling stories in a way that makes you connect with her characters, and want to melt into them. And *Breathe Again* is no exception.

A very fast read, this was a charming morsel of storytelling. Carrie and Josh were adorable and a little heartbreaking—both dealing with some soul-deep pain, and in need of someone to understand. I really enjoyed how Ms. Logan introduced them, their meet-cute tinged with sadness AND a touch of humor. Surprising, really, given what Josh was about to do.

I'm certain that some will be turned off by the instalove of Carrie and Josh's romance, but not me. Definitely not me. Yes, they worked on a fast timeline, but I absolutely bought into it, and loved seeing them find their breath again, with the help of one another.

Another quick, cute, easy and lovely read from Ms. Logan, we may never have gotten *too* deep with this couple, but we got deep enough to fall for them—and to ensure that I'll be back for more from this author, ASAP. ~ Beth, 4 stars

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## Christy Hodge says

Really enjoyed this book, the character's well written

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## Melanie Moreland says

*Breathe Again* is a short, sweet read delivered only as Sydney Logan can. This is the perfect book to pick up and enjoy on a sunny afternoon. It will leave you with a smile on your face while it tugs on your heartstrings. It's a story of loss and rebirth, and allowing yourself the chance to find love again.

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### **Christine says**

I am not sure what it was but I could not connect with the story. I really enjoyed the first 15%, but then after the hero went to the see the psychologist, broke up with the heroine, and did not really grovel, it lost me. Grovelling to me is not saying "I am sorry" and all is forgiven. Yes, Carrie did not let him in right away, but it still felt weak to me.

I am not sure if I liked Carrie. Carrie appeared b\*\*\*\*y and then she is empathizing with the hero's ex-wife.

I think the hero had a lot of issues to work out. Maybe after he told Carrie that they could not see each other anymore, the heroine should have not accepted his "sorry", a year should have passed, and then they could reunite. I did not believe the "we could be friends" theme that they were trying to set up. Everyone seemed wishy-washy to me. It lost me after that. Maybe you will look at this story differently than me, but it is the way I perceived it. Reading is subjective.

The premise had everything I enjoy in my romance stories, but for whatever reason it just did not "click" for me. This is one of those "it was me, but it could work for you".

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### **M.M. m Clem says**

Nobody knows pain like someone who has been through it and Josh feels a sense of peace when he meets Carrie, a waitress, who has grief of her own. This story weaves a sweet tale of love and loss and it simultaneously breaks your heart (for the characters) and delicately pieces it all back together again. Despite what the doctor says, Carrie and Josh definitely NEED to be together!

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### **Sarah says**

It's very hard to capture a story in the length of a novella, but Logan does just that here. A touching story about grief, forgiveness, and second chances.

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### **Shannon Moore says**

With a story that's just over one hundred pages long, you need to use the time and space wisely, which is exactly what Sydney did. She hooks you immediately. She not only piques your interest and gives you questions but then introduces some likeable characters and one hell of a memorable twist right off the bat. I gasped, which quickly turned into surprised laughter and an "Oh girl, no he didn't!" Finger raised in the air. I was loving this story instantly. The best thing that Sydney could have done with these characters and this story was be precise and she nailed it. Her characters are to the point, they say what they want, when they want, and deal with issues head on. I FLOVED THIS! How often these days do you read stories where the characters talk in circles or take chapters upon chapters to work out their issues? All the time, that's how often. Carrie and Josh on the other hand are awesome. Just saying.



***“Let me take you to dinner.” I smirk. “We just ate.”***

***“Tomorrow night.”***

***“I have a night class.”***

***“Lunch? Breakfast? Mid-day snack? I don’t care. I just . . . I just want to see you.”***

While this story deals with some difficult issues, it doesn't have an overly heavy connotation which I appreciated. This will hit you right in the feels, but then it'll make you smile, make you laugh and make you comfortable. This is a feel good kind of story, like hot chocolate on a cold winter day.

The feels! Oh the FEELS! Ahhhhhhhh. So cute. Not only is there some major heartstring tugging, but the romantic feels too. I swoon for Josh and I'm not even sorry. He's adorable, he says the right things and does the right things and just generally makes my heart melt.

***I bow my head, but he refuses to let me hide. Instead, he places his finger beneath my chin and gently lifts my face toward his, tenderly kissing my tear-stained cheek. “Don’t, Josh.”***

***“Don’t what?”***

***“Don’t love me.”***

***He closes his eyes. When they open again, they burn with emotion. “Too late.”***

I loved the flirty and kind of fun encounters that these two had. Breathe Again has you experiencing those feelings that you get at the beginning of a new relationship; the giddiness, the butterflies, the warm fuzzies. Once you start it, you won't put it down.

***“I have a confession, too.”***

***“Oh?”***

***“I met your sister.”***

***He stops chewing. “You met Sonia?”***

***“She came to the diner.”***

***“I’m sorry, Carrie. I told her not to do that.”***

***“It’s okay. She’s really sweet. She wants to take me to dinner.”***

***“I’m going to be really pissed if my sister takes you out on a date before I do.”***

I'm a chapter reader. By that I mean that when I start a new chapter, it bothers me to no end if I'm not able to finish said chapter before having to put the book down. My biggest problem with this style is the fact that Sydney throws in twists, surprises or gasp worthy moments at the end of her chapters, leaving you guessing at what may happen next. Because of this little sorcery trick, if I needed to put it down to (heaven forbid) get back to work, I couldn't because I'd HAVE to start the next one NOW! I was obsessed, once I started, there was no way I could've stopped reading. Someone would've had to pry it out of my hands for me to even contemplate putting it down.

Did I mention this has all the feels?! The happy feels, the sad feels, the angry and confused and hurt feels, the 'What now' feels. Everything. This book gives you everything.

*It's the strangest thing. We aren't angry. We aren't fighting. Our voices are soft and quiet.  
Mutual sounds of sorrowful acceptance and unbelievable hurt.  
"Then why are you here, Josh?"  
"Because I can't stay away from you."  
"You need to try harder."  
"Why?"  
"Because you're gonna break my heart."*

Carrie quite literally changed the path of Josh's life, and in turn, he did the same for hers. I loved the theme of second chances that was worked into Breathe Again in a few different ways. Not only with the MC relationship, but other relationships, new outlooks, new chances. You can find a reason to fight in the most unexpected places and these two found it in each other, one winter evening while standing on a bridge.

*"Our circumstances couldn't have been more different, but that night, we'd been just the same. Two lost, heartbroken souls, desperate for salvation.  
It was one moment in time, and in that split second, our lives changed forever.  
I'm learning that life is full of those little moments. Joyful moments. Heartbreaking moments. Moments that are inconsequential. And others that take your breath away. Some moments you create. Others just find you.  
In a greasy diner.  
On a snowy bridge."*

Breathe Again is a short and fast paced story that deals with love, loss, grief and second chances. It shows you how to breathe new life into what seems like a hopeless situation and how one person is all it can take to change your life. If this sounds like something you'd be interested in, one click!! I dare you to try and put this book down once you've start it.

*"I love you because you've given me something to live for. You've given me a reason to wake up every morning. You've given me a reason to breathe again."*

\*An ARC was received in exchange for an honest review.

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