



Never to Sleep

Rachel Vincent

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Don't Close Your Eyes.

Sophie Cavanaugh is not going to let her freak of a cousin's strange psychiatric condition ruin high school for them both. Not after all the work she's put into cultivating the right look, and friends, and reputation. But then, Sophie sees something so frightening she lets out a blood-curdling scream--and finds herself stuck in a bizarre parallel world where nothing is safe and deadly creatures lurk just out of sight, waiting for her to close her eyes and sleep...forever.

Could this world be real? Or does insanity run in the family...?

Never to Sleep Details

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From Reader Review Never to Sleep for online ebook

Lisa Howe says

I'm not going to lie – I really do not like Sophie. She's spoilt, arrogant and down-right irritating. But that's okay, because that's the point: we aren't *supposed* to like her! Sophie's always blaming her cousin Kaylee for the things that go wrong in her life, and is sure she's just faking crazy for attention.

It was really interesting to see what Sophie was thinking for once, and I was actually starting to like her just a teensy bit... until she said this:

“People called Kaylee special, but what they really meant was “special.” In that straitjackets and padded walls kind of way. She wasn’t special like Luca thought I was special. She could never handle what I’d just seen and done. She wasn’t stable enough.”

I seriously felt like screaming “She’s handled far worse than what you have!” but then I realized that Sophie is a fictional character.

And that she wouldn’t hear me.

I cannot wait to see how Sophie talks to Kaylee in the next book after she learns all about what she’s been through. I hope she feels extremely embarrassed and gives Kaylee a really heartfelt apology (but knowing Sophie, she probably won’t).

I love how since this story takes place in the middle of “If I Die”, the events tie up so nicely together. It’s a really awesome feeling when know what the narrator’s seeing, even when she doesn’t.

I especially like that scene where Sophie sees you-know-who and OH-MY-GOD-HE-IS-GORGEOUS together... *hint hint. ;)

Jessica Johnson says

Ok, so I've been wanting to read this since one of my twitter friends, Fiktshun, teased about it back in October. I have to be honest and say that I was totally jealous that she got to read it before ANYBODY else. But I have to say that the wait was so very worth it.

There was a little contest going on on Rachel Vincent's site as who can guess the POV. Sophie was not the one I would have picked. Sophie is known in the Soul Screamers series as being a person that every one kind of.....dislikes. She's horribly mean to Kaylee and is selfish.

This book was a nice look into Sophie's mind.

If you are new to my site and don't really know who I am, let me tell you that Rachel Vincent is my all time favorite author so I might be a little bit biased in this review. Although I'll try not to be.

As I mentioned earlier, Sophie wasn't my first choice for the POV of this novella but I'm glad she was. Even though I don't particularly like her, persay, this gave me a new perspective on her in the series.

This novella is totally action-packed and I could not stop reading. RV always has such a great way with words to make you feel like you're in the story. I don't want to put spoilers in my review in the off chance that someone reading this hasn't read If I Die yet.

****DO NOT READ NEVER TO SLEEP IF YOU HAVE NOT READ IF I DIE!!!!****

I liked seeing a different side to Sophie. It was really refreshing. You think she's selfish when you read about her in the series but she's more than a pretty face and (sometimes) snotty attitude. ;-)

She pulls herself through a horrible experience and she does it by herself. It's great that she found a new strength in herself that she never thought she had. It was a great feeling to be able to share with her. It made me understand her in a way I never did.

Now....to one of the high points of the story....Luca. Can I just say...Yum? ;-) He sounds absolutely divine and I can't wait to see more of him in Before I Wake. He seems like the perfect fit for Sophie.

This short novella will hold me until Before I Wake....just barely though...just barely.

The whole Soul Screamers series is one of my favorite series and it's almost painful enduring the wait between each book. ;-) Even though it seems like forever between each release, the wait is always worth it. Always.

I'm not going to venture too much into the details in this review since some haven't read If I Die. Just trust me when I say that this is a must read! But only after If I Die ;-)

Now for some quotes from the book (non-spoilery of course):

I laughed out loud. "Does it usually take blunt-force trauma for you to score a phone number?"

"I don't even like regular plants. Except for corsages and long-stemmed roses." And those only hurt when they don't show up.

I stared at them for a second, while the angel and devil on my shoulders debated. If I gave him the gloves, he's put his shirt back on. If I didn't, he might get pricked if a thorn went through the material. In the end, my conscious won, but only because letting Luca die in the Netherworld would be an unacceptable waste of a perfectly good six-pack.

That was one of my favs ;-)

Happy reading!

Rachel says

Originally read October 6, 2011.

Re-read 6/13/12. Review to come.

Dichotomy Girl says

3rd Read: 6/9/2016

2nd Read: 10/30/2014

Original Read: 10/20/2012

It doesn't matter how many times I read this, I still hate Sophie.

Maybe if Sophie got Amnesia, and completely changed her personality and became a decent human being, then maybe I would....but I'm not even sure that would do it...

Wendy Darling says

Sales Alert: this short story in the Souls Screamers series is only \$1.29 for KIndle and Nook right now and all proceeds benefit St. Jude's Children's Hospital for the first six months. If you're planning on reading this, please consider purchasing it sooner rather than later.

More ebook freebies and deals here!

Asia says

To be honest, I don't care about Sophie.

She's egoistic and selfish. I'd love to see her face when she finds out about her heritage, that she isn't special and that Kaylee isn't crazy :P

Jannat Bhat says

Eastlake High was full of pretty people who acted like total freaks. I blame the local water supply. Which was why I drank bottled water.

Never to Sleep is a novella set during the events of If I Die - but completely separate to everything that happens in that book - well, except for Kaylee and Tod's public display of affection, which we see from the outside this time. Never to Sleep follows Sophie, Kaylee's spoilt, self-centered, entitled younger cousin, as a chance meeting with a new student and the sudden appearance of a soulless reaper bring about Sophie's first visit the Netherworld, and opens her eyes to all things evil.

Sophie may be a right cow and too shallow for words, but in this story, I could only admire her. With hardly any information about what's happened, why it happened, and how, Sophie manages to keep her head despite being completely terrified. Because of how shallow and bitchy Sophie is in all the previous books, it is to

assume that Sophie is all surface and no depth, that she's actually stupid - but she's not. She might despair over being related to Kaylee, but the fact that they are is clear throughout the story through how alike they are when in trouble. She actually has a head on her shoulders, and is capable of thinking clearly and logically even under huge stress. Her ability to think on her feet and able to get herself out of the tightest of scrapes is just brilliant!

Of course, it's also filled with laugh out loud moments. Some of my favorites are -

"I don't even like regular plants. Except for corsages and long-stemmed roses." And those only hurt when they don't show up.

*"Oh, shit, are you okay?" A guy knelt at my side, and I blinked, stunned, trying to draw reality back into focus as my vision doubled, then threatened to multiply. "That depends. Are you triplets?"
He laughed. "No, there's only one of me."*

"Good. I think you're okay, Sophie, but just to be sure—and this is for purely medical purposes—what's your phone number?"

I laughed out loud. "Does it usually take blunt-force trauma for you to score a phone number?"

Being a short story, it's a little hard for me to say much more without spoiling things. It's awesome to be introduced to new characters and to revisit old ones. It's even better to have questions that need answers, that will hopefully be answered in the next book, along with all the left over questions from If I Die.

Bec says

kind of half-spoilers below

I wasn't sure what I was expecting when I started this today. Told from the POV of Sophie, Kaylee's popular cousin, this novella takes place during If I Die (right after one of the BIG scenes, actually). Sophie has never really gotten along with her cousin; she is one of the more... innocent people in the series, with no idea about the Netherworld and all the other awesome (though not always good) paranormal things that happen in the series. In this novella the dark side of the world is revealed to her as she spies something creepy and screams--which, being half bean-sidhe, probably wasn't the best course of action. She manages to cross over into the Netherworld, bringing a newly introduced character, Luca, with her.

Luca is... intriguing. His description certainly makes him sound nice ;D but... I really am unsure about his intentions for being there at the school and after his trip into the Netherworld with Sophie. I am really suspicious, and I want to believe he's good. I guess I can hope. I really want to learn more about this whole Necromancer business and how Luca is 'useful' to that hellion (whose name I know starts with 'A' but I just can't remember right now), which I'm sure will be revealed in Before I Wake (BIW).

I really enjoyed this novella. I actually found myself wishing for more at the end. As always, Vincent's writing was wonderful. It was humourous. I found myself smiling at all the little fiction/pop culture references, especially the Alice in Wonderland ones. A few characters that have not been seen in a while made appearances here, which was nice but also sad because of the state they were in.

My point of view about Sophie managed to change almost completely after reading this. Her relationship with Kaylee is not the best one and, having read all other accounts from Kaylee's POV, my opinion of Sophie wasn't that great. But now after reading this, I really do like her. She's actually kind of nice on the inside, and surprisingly smart. I hope this little stunt in the Netherworld (I actually feel proud of her and the actions she performed there) has woken her up to the world enough for her to realise that popularity isn't everything, which, from the sounds of things at the end, she has. I can't wait to see how she and Luca develop further in BIW.

Jennifer says

I love the Soul Screamers novellas. They give such great insight into the other characters. I am not a Sophie fan but I'm not supposed to be! She is vain, selfish, and totally stuck in her own bubble. But her bubble is burst in this novella! She sees a soulless reaper appear in the school hallway and screams, taking her into the netherworld with the cute new guy, Luca, she just met.

Sophie freaks out and wonders if she is going crazy like her cousin. We get to see her perspective of the netherworld. She fights through some crazy obstacles and runs into some old characters. She is very snarky and witty. I enjoyed a bunch of her lines and had a lot of laugh out loud moments. Luca was hot and interesting too. I can't wait to see what he is up to in Before I Wake. A must read for all Soul Screamers fans but make sure to read it after If I Die, or you will be spoiled.

Susi says

Ma questa è la stessa ragazza dei cinque libri precedenti?

Piacevolmente sorpresa di incontrare una Sophie divertente, ironica, spoiled (certe cose non possono cambiare), ma con la testa sulle spalle, coraggiosa e caparbia.

Luca, W O W !! Bisogna dirlo i ragazzi di Soul Screamers sono tutti speciali, ed anche quest'ultimo non è da meno: bello, misterioso, divertente e innamorato della nostra Sophie.

Curiosissima di leggere di più di questi personaggi nei prossimi libri.

blackplume says

Originally Posted in a Blackplume

After hearing Kaylee and Tod from the other two novellas of Soul Screamers series Rachel Vincent now offer the voice of Sophie in Never To Sleep. From this novella readers will get the chance to know more of Sophie as a character as she goes with her first deadly adventure to the Netherworld with the handsome new guy, Luca.

I have to admit before reading this novella I don't really care much about Sophie. She doesn't really grow in me as a character from all the previous books of Soul Screamers series. I don't hate her but I don't love her either. I thought she is just one of those secondary characters needed by the plot but never really developed until now.

Sophie from the previous book is sarcastic, annoying and spoiled. We never really get the chance to know her because the narrator, Kaylee doesn't really got the chance either. With so many unsettled issues between Kaylee and Sophie we only got the glimpse of Sophie's character.

In this novella we got the chance to know Sophie a little more. Reading from her point of view gives more of her character. Though I really believe that she is a tough person being the sarcastic and bitch she is from the previous books I never imagined her as the sweet and funny type. So I am surprised and delighted to see that side of her from here. But don't get me wrong I'm still not a fan of her though this novella really help me to understand her more. Maybe a little more development and turn I may like her eventually, after all I enjoy hearing her thoughts and lines in here.

And I am still looking forward seeing the changes of her character after her experience to Netherworld. I want to see how her relationship with her cousin Kaylee will develop after this and how well will she handle the rest of the Netherworld information that she needs to know, especially the past events that were directly related to her.

The plot is really simple and quick since it is just a novella but inspite of that this book is loaded with so many hilarious and sweet moments. The moment Luca enter to the stories every words Sophie said is a treat. I smile and laugh so many times reading this novella. Speaking of Luca, this guy is an interesting addition to the Soul Screamers world. I'm curious what impact he will bring to the series and what twist he will add to the more exciting world of Soul Screamers. I can't wait to see more of him in the next book of the series.

Just like the two novellas of the series Never To Sleep is fully loaded with its own plot to tell. A nice glimpse to know the other side of another character and the Soul Screamers world. This quick, fun and action-packed novella is a perfect read while waiting for the next book, Before I Wake.

Adriana Rios de Biedermann says

OK... This MINI SHOT STORY ROCK... Very nice Sopkie POV.... I really love Lucas right now! And I enjoy him really really shortly.... before a Wake promese to much... and this waiting it really really KILLING ME

TarynXO says

I never liked Sophie, ever. I will admit even in this nice little novella I still don't like her. But what I did really like was that she had a taste of her own medicine and finally she had to experience exactly what Kaylee has been through, although Kaylee's experiences were worse and more times then she had too. What really pissed me off? How at the end she insisted that she was now badass and the Queen like the selfish little snot she always has been. For that alone I only wanted to give it 2 stars. Then there was Luca. I love him and hate him all at the same time! Why on earth would he be so attracted to Sophie in literally 5 minutes? I am dieing to figure out what he is and what the hell Sophie is and for that it deserved its 4 stars.

I should have saved this till I was able to jump right into Before I Wake.

Oh well! :)

Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says

Still don't like Sophie but I am definitely intrigued by Luca! Can't wait to get more of him in the next book.

A. says

Three stars because Sophie has few redeeming qualities . . .

Now, I hate Sabine, but her line of thought is basically "NASH NASH NASH NASH oooh BAD DREAMS HA NASH NASH." Sophie is basically, "ME! ME! ME! ME! ME! ME! ME!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" I wanted to hit her. And there is a new character, a necromancer, and at first he's all, "oh Sophie is HOTNESS" and later gets irritated with her but sticks with it cause she's still "the HOTNESS." And Sophie gets stuck in the Netherworld, and screams herself there, and STILL DOESN'T MAKE THE CONNECTION ABOUT KAYLEE'S SCREAMING TENDENCIES AND BITCHES ABOUT HOW SHE'S CRAZY STILL. STILL. Come on, you self-obsessed moron, you screamed yourself into a bizarre situation, but you still don't think, 'hey wait . . . maybe my cousin who SCREAMS like I just did has something to do with this!'

Sure, Sophie has a lot of determination, but she's still a bitch.
