



Dreamology

Lucy Keating

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Vibrantly offbeat and utterly original, Lucy Keating's debut novel combines the unconventional romance of *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* with the sweetness and heart of Jenny Han.

For as long as Alice can remember, she has dreamed of Max. Together, they have traveled the world and fallen deliriously, hopelessly in love. Max is the boy of her dreams—and only her dreams. Because he doesn't exist.

But when Alice walks into class on her first day at a new school, there he is. Real Max is nothing like Dream Max. He's stubborn and complicated. And he has a whole life Alice isn't a part of. Getting to know each other in reality isn't as perfect as Alice always hoped.

Alarmingly, when their dreams start to bleed into their waking hours, the pair realize that they might have to put an end to a lifetime of dreaming about each other. But when you fall in love in your dreams, can reality ever be enough?

Dreamology Details

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Author : Lucy Keating

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From Reader Review Dreamology for online ebook

Kyla Harris (ourbookworlds) says

Plot - 5/20

Characters - 10/20

Creativity - 18/20

Writing - 15/20

Pace - 7/10

Ending - 3/10

58/100 = C

3/5 stars

I expected a lot more from this story with all the raving reviews I saw coming from it. But sadly this book just wasn't for me.

(On another note this book's vibe is crazy similar to Rebel Belle so if you've read that and enjoyed it, I'd highly recommend you giving this one a go!)

A lot of things didn't make sense and weren't explained well. Plot problems were solved in a page or two and just happened like it could have been solved a hundred pages before.

The main charaters, Max and Alice, drove me mad. Max could be really rude at times and he 'couldn't control his feelings' Dude. Get a grip! You can't be pulling that ish on people.

As for Alice I felt embarrassed for her half of the time. She and max we both so indecisive and making things so much more complicated them it needed to be! Almost through out the whole book she was basically just throwing herself at him!

Sophie was my favorite character. She is so full of smiles and sassy comments. they made my laugh each time I read them!

Oliver, oh that poor guy. Alice didn't treat him fairly! He was her friend from the start when she had NONE always there to save her from awkward situations, even became in love with her which helped Max be jealous.. all that? He deserves more thanks.

Beatrice (beatriceinbookland) says

wtf did I just read

Joshua Gabriel (???) says

*I was thinking 'bout her, thinking 'bout me
Thinking 'bout us, what we gon' be
Open my eyes yeah, it was only just a dream. -Nelly*

Gleaning upon the aforementioned lyrics, *Dreamology* was exceptionally **dreamlike**. It's the love story of Alice and Max, two lonely teenagers who have been dreaming about each other nearly every night since they were kids. On one fated day, they finally meet in real life, and they are forced to question the authenticity of their feelings, as well as their own sanity. After all, everything that had passed between them was *only just a dream*. I had never encountered a book with this kind of premise, so I did not hesitate to get my hands on it; when I went to my local bookstore, I was delighted to find the very last copy in stock, as if it were meant for me.

I had a very euphoric time reading this standalone novel, and it was most probably because of how it occasionally tugged at my heartstrings. Although I have yet to experience the blessing of falling in love, I was moved by Alice and Max's tumultuous relationship. They were genuinely attached to one another, but their connection was plagued by uncertainty nonetheless. When I come to think of it, I myself would be flabbergasted to meet the literal girl of my dreams, the epitome of all my *unrealistic* expectations. As I read (devoured) this book, I was struck by the sad realization that people nowadays are just too *rational* to believe that even the most ridiculous of dreams can come true. Yes, I acknowledge the fact that *Dreamology* is indeed a work of fiction, but I am grateful because it has filled my heart with this blissful feeling called hope. I'm sorry if that makes me seem like a hopeless romantic. Trust me, I am definitely not. Hahaha.

Another enjoyable element of this book was Alice and Max's dream life, which was adorably quirky. Since both of them had a very powerful imagination, their shared dreams were about fantastical experiences like attending balls at the Museum of Modern Art, "playing" on top of clouds, and riding Cheerios on rivers of fresh milk. It was amazing to witness them have so much fun in an almost stoned condition. Ultimately, I guess Alice and Max were "high" on love, if there is such a thing.

In retrospect, the only problem I had with this book was that it did not fully explain why Alice and Max dreamed of each other. I initially perceived their connection as magical, but it turned out to be psychological instead. Many scientific reasons were given to enlighten readers, and although they were quite informative, they were unfortunately insufficient. To be honest, many of my questions remain unanswered, so am I quite confused until now. However, it is possible that the ambiguity was intentionally done to make the story last longer in our bookish minds. Nevertheless, the following truth remains: unsatisfied curiosity sucks.

All things considered, I definitely loved *Dreamology*. It featured a story unlike anything I've read before, as well as characters whom I never expected to be so authentic and heartwarming. This novel had a perfect balance of humor and drama, and I am more than willing to add it to my shelf of favorite books.

Cait • A Page with a View says

I'm still sort of sitting here like "whaaat did I just read." That was weird...

Alice has been dreaming about a guy named Max for a long time, but she's like *really* in love with him. To the point where her best friend knows details about this guy. Awkward. So anyways she moves from NYC to Boston and on her first day at her new school runs into... Max. In real life. This girl is just all sorts of awkward because she asks him if he remembers her. He says no, but throughout the next week Alice keeps

asking him if he's been to Brazil or Thailand on an elephant or any of her other dreams. Real Max has a really great girlfriend and is confused about whyyyy this Alice girl is on his case.

Meanwhile a nice guy named Oliver keeps trying to get Alice's attention but she's too obsessed with Max to notice. THEN IT GETS WEIRD because Max pulls Alice aside and says he remembers her and she's the girl in his dreams and he's in love with her... turns out they both went to some dream center as kids and people did experiments on them (to the point where they could somehow pick up later information on each other's lives like allergies and soda preferences?? Just roll with it).

I was kind of just going with the story with a raised eyebrow until the ending. Not a fan. I really liked how there wasn't any girl hate with Max's girlfriend! Alice recognized she was a nice person and started to be her friend, but then Alice went and (view spoiler)

Lala Books and Lala says

video review: <https://youtu.be/kPHbOT2fo58>

Brittany (Brittany's Book Rambles) says

Dreamology is one of the most epic love stories I have ever read. And by epic, I mean:

And this:

AND this:

Seriously guys, I was fangirling the ENTIRE time that I was reading this book. It was amazing, beautiful, hilarious, and relatable. It's a contemporary romance with a sci-fi twist that will make you want to read it over and over again. Once I picked it up, I couldn't put it down. The characters are fantastic, the writing is witty and funny, and the development of the plot is extremely well-executed. I highly recommend that ALL of you add this book to your TBR if you haven't done so already. *Dreamology* is already on my list of best books of 2016.

You can read my full review [HERE](#).

Kelly (and the Book Boar) says

Find all of my reviews at: <http://52bookminimum.blogspot.com/>

Ever since Alice was a little girl she's been accompanied by Max in her dreams. Whether scuba diving around an old pirate ship or floating down a milk river on Cinnamon Toast Crunch rafts, Max has always been by her side. As much as Alice wishes Max was a part her real life, each morning when she wakes

That is until she starts a new school and Max walks into her classroom. Strange things begin to happen the more Alice gets to know the real life Max making her question is this the real life or is it just fantasy????

Sadly my reaction to this story was pretty much

I appreciated the attempt at a fresh spin on a love story, and the "knowing each other in dreams" made Alice's instalove not quite so barfable, but it still wasn't great. And the love interest himself????? Ugh. Super Douche Cheatie McCheater Pants who deserved a big fat kick in the nutsack for being so effing wishy-washy. Get your shit together!

I realize I'm soooooo not the right demographic for this one and for any of you parents who may be wondering it's (in my opinion, which let's face it is pretty warped and disturbing so you might not want to listen) perfectly benign and fine for the teenie bopper set to read if they are looking for fluffy good times with a happily-ever-after tied up in a pretty red bow. However, since I'm a geezer I was hoping Alice would have a miraculous wake-up call and see

I wanted her true love to be discovered with Oliver instead. Oh Oliver

"It's a little too soon to tell, but I'm pretty sure she is going to be my first wife."

One of these days someone will figure out that this guy should be the one who gets the girl

Sarah says

(Source: I received a digital copy of this book for free on a read-to-review basis. Thanks to HarperCollins)

and Edelweiss.)

“Standing in the doorway of the classroom, looking directly at me, is Max.

My Max.

My Max of my dreams.”

This was a bit of a weird story, and I didn't really enjoy it.

Alice just whined way too much for me, from Max not recognising her, to her name being dull, it just seemed like she never stopped moaning! She came across as quite immature, and she just irritated me.

The storyline in this was about Alice trying to work out why she dreamed of Max, and trying to get him to like her more than his girlfriend, and I just didn't appreciate it. It looks like I'm in the minority, but this book just didn't do it for me, and I lost interest pretty early on unfortunately. The storyline with Max and Alice also irritated me as he had a girlfriend!

The ending to this was happy enough, but again, I didn't really enjoy this book.

5 out of 10

Stacee says

I loved the premise of this {and hello gorgeous cover}, so I was quite eager to start reading.

I loved Alice right from the beginning. She's a little quirky, but I think that was one of my favorite parts to her personality. She loves being in her dreams and who can blame her. Max is sweet and maybe a little confused at what's happening. He catches up quickly and I liked him so much even his push and pull with Alice didn't annoy me. There are some other great characters {Oliver and Alice's BFF, S

Quick review: I just couldn't give this book anything BUT 5 stars. But let me say, I can see how this story

might not be for everyone. Personally, I have a huge imagination, and I have CRAZY dreams, that are sometimes very very realistic. That's the reason this story seemed so interesting to me. This book is quirky, fun, silly, dreamy, and just entertaining. I started this at 2pm, and finished at 9pm, yes it's a quick read! But I didn't really want it to end... Kind of like a really good dream! I loved the characters, they were actually real, not so one dimensional. That's a huge plus for a book like this. Basically, if you're thinking of reading this one... Just give it a try with an OPEN MIND.

Laura Lovely says

4.5- booktalk to come! :)

Maggie says

“It surprises me, how a gesture so small can feel so very big. How sometimes you don't realize the nervousness or sadness you were holding deep inside until the touch of someone you love lets it all out of you, like your entire body is exhilarating.”

I think it was only the beginning that was pretty slow and boring but until 100 pages or so, everything was making a step forward and getting better and better. Everything was quick and easy to understand, it just started off boring, not really getting my attention and not wanting to give it. As I kept turning the page, there were new things happening and new dreams and everything was changing. Nothing was really the same and not every dream was a happy, romantic one. *Dreamology* was pretty cute, quick and had the kind of romance many of us like where there isn't much drama, arguments, and where the 2 characters instantly fell in love with each other only ending up breaking up and getting back together. I know that doesn't happen in all YA novels, but at least the dramatic arguments do.

Dreamology is about a girl named Alice. She's always had dreams about her and her dream boy, Max, where they are a couple and they are both happy, being together, going on small dates, and interesting ones as well. Either they're visiting a museum, eating ice-cream, or going to the beach, or they're riding pink elephant, flying up to the sky in a balloon, or visiting Thailand and going to their favorite places living life as if it was always a vacation. Of course they were always happy dreams, dreams Alice wished they were true.

When Alice moves to a different class, she is actually surprised and shocked at what she sees. She actually sees her dream boy, Max. Except this Max isn't her Dream Max. This Max doesn't have the same taste, attitude, personality, and he even is in a soccer team and has a girlfriend. What Alice didn't expect was what she got, and now she can't help but compare both Max's and see what really is going on. Maybe joining this dream community and making up a fake boyfriend where she thought didn't exist and would never know who she is was a bad idea, now that it hurts her seeing this Max that doesn't act the same and acts like he isn't the Max she knows at all.

But when Max and Alice get to know each other more, Max has also been having dreams about Alice since he was young, and now that he has made some steps forward, he's stepped into reality, doing things out of his past inner circle and been the boy he didn't think he would be. And now that he remembered everything

and knows who this Alice is, he only has to tell her the truth and let her know that he isn't the same Max she knows.

As soon as they both start having bad dreams and start seeing things from their dreams, they need to find a way to stop this and see if they could put an end to the dream things happening in reality. Maybe pink elephants, talking Italian peacocks and imaginary colored shooting stars where wishes can be made into reality isn't really all worth it, and maybe putting an end to their dream lives might be better. But sometimes, even if it's a dream, reality can't help but change both lives and can't be helped.

I actually had problems with this until everything got interesting and kept me reading and turning the page. Like I said, the beginning had nothing interesting and was pretty boring, but after more things started popping, appearing and happening, more things came by and happened and even though this is a contemporary, there's much more elements to it including fantasy and sci-fi. It's a mix between all including romance, since there are talking animals and a dream community and dreams becoming reality when the person is awake.

None of the characters were boring. Oliver is definitely my favorite, being a side *main* character. I couldn't see him and Alice together, but he was definitely cute and nice and his attitude with her was cute to read about. He sounded happy around her and sounded like the kind of guy who would change for her but even with that, being the trouble maker he is, I was able to see him with someone *else*. Other than the romance, Alice and Max are similar but different characters. Either they were pretending or couldn't remember, in Alice's dreams they had common things and were able to relate to the same things, liking the same things and trying to ones out. In reality, they had to hide some things because they didn't want to make it obvious that they knew each other before they actually met at school and had their differences including life outside their homes and food. Other than that, they communicated differently to hide everything as well and would sometimes have awkward conversations but I think that was something else I liked, how their relationship didn't work out for reasons but they tried finding ways to fix it and see how everything could work out. In reality and while being awake, they were both awkward around each other even when nobody was around but mainly it was because they were scared, or Max was since he has a girlfriend and has a different reality where it is completely different than his dream, and doesn't want to *live* his dream.

The writing was like other YA novels, but not contemporaries one, and that was another thing I liked. It wasn't fluffy and cute all the time and there weren't eyes-rolling and cheesy moments. The only problem I had was with Alice wanting to take everything to the other step and making everything up fast as well. When she met Max, she wanted to tell him everything and make sure he knew as well what was going on. She also didn't want to become friends with his girlfriend even when she was really friendly and nice, and there isn't an excuse. Reality and dreams aren't the same, so why would Alice expect to just jump into Max's life like she did in her dreams when in reality, she didn't do anything? I didn't have any problems with Max since he actually took this serious and wanted to fix everything, stay on his real life and not go back to the fantasy one.

Luckily, insta love was not involved but at the same time it kind of was since Alice was already in love with Max. Real Max wasn't the Max she loves in her dreams and she never admitted she loved this Max, and a love triangle really wasn't involved. Celeste was Max's girlfriend but she took everything in a mature way and was able to deal with it all, and Oliver was the kind of guy friend I wished to have. He was funny and a trouble maker and found Alice in love but with all that, he seemed like the nice kind of guy that if he was given a chance to show others who he is, he'd be the kind of guy a girl could actually trust because of who he really is.

There weren't any swoon-worthy moments or characters since everything was a problem and was getting solved any time. Dreamology was not the perfect **summer read** since it wasn't a Contemporary that is similar to the rest I've read. It was filled with cute moments, and even though there really was no adventure in it, I was actually glad I gave it a shot since most of the reviews for this differ from 3 star rating and down. Even with the plot starting boring through the beginning, I'm glad it picked up enough to see where the relationship would be taken and how everything would soon start to work out.

Chelsey the crazy cat lady says

Another book I've fallen completely in love with. I wish this was how I meet my husband! It is such a unique story that will leave you feeling so warm and happy. loved every bit of it!!!

Rachel (APCB Reviews) says

This book reminds me of the joys of having an active imagination. I felt like I was floating on a euphoria-filled cloud the entire time I spent reading this book.

Keating's writing is bubbly and cheery, and there's a flair of sophistication and pure happiness infused in her words. I could feel it from page one to the very end. Although this book deals with grief and abandonment and childhood problems, this book really picks up your spirits with its humor and touching scenes. I found myself smiling and chuckling throughout the book, and it was really such a pleasure to read Dreamology.

The voice in the novel was outstanding. Alice's whimsical sense of humor and overall outlook on life is fresh and fun! She's such an easy character to like. Max is basically the perfect guy, both driven and sweet, talented and smart, and thoughtful and reliable. I want a Max!! The romance is a bit of a twist in this book. Max and Alice have known each other since they started appearing in each other's childhood dreams. They've grown up with each other and gone on crazy journeys in their dreams, so when they meet in person, it's a bit of a reality shock for Alice to see that Max isn't exactly the same, carefree person as he is in their dreams. Their romance is more about getting to know each other in reality and learning to live in the here and now as opposed to in their dreams. The romance is saccharine sweet and about as beautiful as it could possibly get.

The dreams aspect rivals with the romance as my favorite part of the novel. My interest was especially piqued whenever Alice and Max embarked on one of their wild dreams; it was so innovative and awe-inducing! Keating has such a vivid and active imagination, it was so fun seeing what these two did next. My one complaint is that I still don't fully understand the explanation of dreams and how Alice and Max ended up appearing in each others' dreams.

I loved every character dearly, even the secondary characters. Everyone had such a vibrant personality, something that endeared them to me. Keating manages to take an idea that's been used before and makes it unique and fascinating. She pumps some vitality and joy into the dreams and packs emotions and heart into the story. As light and cheery as this book is, it also deals with embracing reality and moving on and connecting with others.

I absolutely loved this debut novel, and even if you aren't a contemporary reader, I want you to read this

book!!

Kate (GirlReading) says

Dreamology was a cute, fun and easy read, mixing contemporary with sci-fi but ultimately, for me, it was nothing special. I didn't find myself entirely connected or attached to either the characters or the plot, although I did appreciate the concept. However, it was cute and fun and it's definitely made me intrigued to read more from Lucy Keating in the future.
