



Falling

E.K. Blair

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Sometimes it takes someone else to show us what we are truly capable of becoming.

Suffering from years of violent abuse, Ryan Campbell has learned how to keep people from getting too close. But when you shut yourself off, people get hurt along the way. Never caring much about others, Ryan creates a world in which he doesn't have to feel.

When Ryan meets Candace Parker, all of his walls slowly begin to crumble. Not sure of the truth of who she is, he feels his mind is playing tricks on him. Unable to force out the thoughts that consume him, Ryan is haunted by visions that torment him every time he looks at her. He finds himself swallowed by guilt and blame, but he's unwilling to turn his back on the one person that could possibly save him.

You've heard Candace's story in Fading, now hear Ryan's.

Falling Details

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From Reader Review Falling for online ebook

P-the book nerd says

This series was really annoying, the author had written about three topics that would draw your attention "rape, abuse, and coming out", I think she has only used those topics to get more readers, there is nothing that stands out in her novels, they are full of unrealistic, boring details, and All three books are telling the same freaking story with the same dialogues!!! From three views...

Fanny says

" Me provocas mariposas.

Que se jodian las mariposas. Lo siento todo cuando estoy contigo. "

Falling es el tercer y ultimo libro de la trilogia Fading creada por la autora E. K. Blair y vuelve a tener como protagonistas a Candace y Ryan.

Inicialmente me propuse esperar un par de semanas para leer este libro, ya que al tener bastante reciente la lectura de Fading pense que esta novela me resultaria repetitiva al ser el primer libro desde el punto de vista del protagonista masculino pero lo cierto es que no podia aguantar mas sin leer los pensamientos de Ryan, por lo que decidí lanzarme y comenzarlo.

Sorprendentemente en ningun momento se me hizo repetitivo o denso, la historia esta tan bien narrada y desarrollada que es como leer un libro diferente, ademas estar en la cabeza de Ryan fue muy interesante, no solo porque nos da una nueva perspectiva de lo que le sucede a Candace sino tambien porque en esta novela llegamos a conocerlo realmente, ya que en mi opinion no llegamos a conocerlo demasiado en Fading.

Algunas personas pensaran que este libro era innecesario pero la verdad es que creo que hace mucho mas completa la trilogia, aunque es cierto que desde esta perspectiva me molestaron determinadas acciones de Candace, las cuales no vi mal en el primer libro.

Lectura totalmente recomendada! sobre todo si quieres una historia que realmente te llegue al corazon.

3.75 Estrellas!

Melinda says

This one was included in the SILK anthology and as I read it, I kept thinking "Why does this story sound so familiar" and I realized it's simply a regurgitation of Fading except from Ryan's point of view. The book is LABORIOUSLY long - as the author literally regurgitates every.single.scene from Candace's book and puts them into this one. And, I'm pretty sure that the two don't line up. I'm not going back to reread Fading, but

the time line of their relationship and how things occur is slightly off in this one.

I'm giving this a two instead of a one like the first one mainly because once the author FINALLY got past the play-by-play ALL TELLING instances of Candace's story, the last few chapters of Ryan only were actually kind of decent. But it took almost 350 pages to get to that.

Ashley says

It is truly daunting to write this review. I feel like it may be one of the toughest & yet most important one I've ever written. It is very intimidating to follow up this story with letters, that create words, that create sentences, that depict my thoughts. It's tough because I'm doing it in response to letters that create words, that create sentences, that depict this author's ability to put pen to a page and knock your world off its axis. This author weaves a literary miracle that has blessed my heart & soul.

The first time I read Fading earlier in the summer I finished with satisfaction. I knew I adored Ryan & Candace, Jase & Mark but it wasn't until a few weeks later after reading a string of forgettable books in the genre that I decided to read it again. I noticed countless small moments of significance that I missed in my first read. I read very fast and sometimes regret that wishing I had more will power to savor the books that are etched on my soul. With Fading it took more than one read to realize it was permanently burned in my heart. When Freeing was released I was beyond excited but also nervous. Nervous for the author having to deal with any backlash from publishing a love story with the main characters being gay. I was nervous that the sequel or follow up couldn't hold a candle to the debut. I devoured their story & was over the moon to have all my fears obliterated.

Next came the uninhibited anguish while waiting for Falling. Ryan Campbell is the absolute essence of perfection to me. Every "book boyfriend" I have is a tortured soul with a damaged past who does NOT want to fall in love but does so against his will. I think when you peel back the intricate fabric of Ryan's heart you see clearly that though he has that same broken spirit from his harrowing past that he NEVER hesitated to love her. He chose to do so from the first moment of their time together. He viewed loving her not just as his privilege, but as his salvation. Even when she refused to acknowledge what his presence in her life meant to her. That is when I understood Ryan couldn't casually be compared to my other "Book Boyfriends". He is my "Book Soul Mate".

This is the ultimate story of The Giving Tree, but it isn't until you read Falling that you realize Ryan isn't the only Tree. Candace gives Ryan every ounce of love, happiness & a life to begin living just as much as he saves her from herself. They aren't the only characters that become The Giving Tree. Grace- Jesus, there are no words for her importance and kindness. She is the perfect counterpoint to Ryan to pull Candace back to the land of the living. Jase- honestly, who wouldn't donate their vital organs happily to have him as a constant in their lives?! Mark- his importance is the happiness & acceptance he brings Jase. Which in turn brings that happiness to both Candace & the readers.

I've anxiously awaited several sequels of late to be heartbroken with the results and not only with the newest release, but also because it tainted its predecessor for me as well. I was a bit terrified to read Falling and be let down, but most afraid of it altering the way I feel about Fading & Freeing. I can not express how grateful & blissfully happy I am that Falling surpassed both its companions for me.

The start of the book is slow- ...Mostly because of your anticipation of him meeting Candace. Yet, I felt

strongly that I needed to devour every word and relish it to be in the full moment of the story. At 37% I wanted to punch Ryan for being so blind. At 50% I was doing the full fledged ugly cry. From that point the story boldly picks up pace. There is plenty of retelling of events of Fading & Freeing, but I was gratified immensely by how much new information, back stories we never knew or suspected and "behind the scenes" drama taking place. I previously thought Fading ended at the perfect point. While reading Falling & I surpassed the part where fading ended I was mentally chastising myself. How could I have ever thought that was where the story should end? This history is paramount to the whole story, yet the previous was written so well (WITHOUT A VILE CLIFFHANGER) that the reader was just left with their HEA. Who knew there could be so much more to their HEA than where it left off. Yet without feeling like convoluted filler.

I am forever indebted to the master of this masterpiece for her inspiration and courage to tell these stories. The only thing I would disagree with her on is where she says in her acknowledgements that though Candace, Ryan, Jase & Mark aren't real people she loves them.... Here's where I disagree. They are real & will forever have a part of my heart. 5 stars seems like a bit of an insult because I have rated other books with 5 stars before (not many but a few). This one deserves a whole new ranking system to honor it my opinion.

Just FYI- to any skeptics. I do NOT know this author. I purchased my own copy. There was no exchange for an honest review. It just is a totally honest review. =)

Today's read makes 7 times now.

Donna ~ The Romance Cover says

Falling (Fading #2) by EK Blair
5 stars!!!

"cause that's what's happening here – I'm falling., I never wanted to before, but with her, all I want to do is fall. Fall into her. Fall so deep inside of her heart so that I never have to be without her."

This journey was an unexpected one, it started with the cover of Fading, a cover so dark that it drew me in...I was captivated by the simple lone figure and immediately bought the book, this was a cover that held an even greater meaning once the book had been read. Now I have just read the third book in this series and once again the COVER...EK Blair knows how to pick them, knowing the premise behind them I knew I was in for one emotional ride.

Once again this ride was emotional, powerful, poignant, insightful, passionate, sensitive and thought provoking. This whole series has been one emotional roller coaster. I can't even say one particular instalment is a favourite as they have all been amazing pieces of work, each one bringing us a different perspective on one young girls life. EK Blair has a knack of drawing you in and once she has those claws in she never lets you go until the very end and Ryan's story was no different.

I have said before that EK Blair's writing style is addictive, once you start reading you cannot stop, your emotions are raw, they are toyed with, your heart aches and breaks and then slowly you are pieced back together again. I loved Ryan in Fading, but one thing you never really truly understood or got to know was just how broken Ryan was too. It seems fitting that these two broken souls found each other and ended up healing together. It was as if fate somehow had intervened and made something so brutal and ugly turn into

something so beautiful.

“That’s the thing about love...it’s a pretty powerful force that can show a side of you that you never knew existed. Show you that you’re capable of becoming someone you never thought you could be, and you do it for the other person because you love them, because you want to put them before you.”

Reading this story from Ryan’s perspective was heart breaking, truly heart breaking. He was so conflicted and his head was totally at war with his heart. He wanted to be honest but he knew that it could only result in heart break and it was a heart break that he didn’t think he could survive. He had really put himself “out there” with Candace and you never truly appreciated how “all in” he actually was. He loved her with everything he had and his conversations with his mum were so heart felt they often reduced me to tears. The extremely close relationship he had with his mum was beautiful and so endearing; these two really were confidantes, friends as well as mother and son.

“Just a piece of advice,” she adds, “Don’t ever lie to her about who you are. If she ever asks, be honest.”

I really connected with Ryan in this book, I loved him in Fading and now totally adore him. I just wanted to give him big hugs and tell him it was all going to be OK as I had read the end of Fading and he gets the girl! Alas, his childhood was painful, he had such a hard time as did his mother and he had to grow up really quick, but he was selfless, always putting his mother and family first and everyone else too. It was painful reading about his past through memories and you felt like you were living through it with him, they were ugly and had left permanent scars in more ways than one. His inability to have a relationship were all borne from his past and that was why he was so shocked how strong his feelings were for Candace. He couldn’t comprehend how so suddenly this girl had waltzed into his life and completely changed him. He had to put his own problems and insecurities aside as he lived through Candace’s, he wanted to take her pain away and absorb it himself. His father had physically and mentally abused him and his mother. In order to try and “forget” he buried himself with self-destructive behaviour as a means of coping, drink, drugs, meaningless hook-ups with women and anger. He didn’t like the person he had become and felt that he was his fathers’ son and was more like him than he cared to think.

“Because for most of life I’ve been lost...I dealt with a lot of shit growing up and I used women as my way to escape...you’re nothing like those women. Nothing. I’ve never looked at them or wanted them the way I do you.”

We know how the story goes and I will not go into the finer details but it is through this story that you finally see how affected Ryan was by what he witnessed. We also see first-hand the slow build up in their friendship until they eventually become more and you see the family side of Ryan, how dedicated and close all his family are. The hardest part to face was when the truth was revealed, I cried a lot...Ryan was decimated, heartbroken, inconsolable and on a path to self-destruction. He always said that when he gave his heart it was forever and it was. I was devastated all over again.

“You’re not gonna lose me, babe. I love you too much to let you go.”

“Candace has long fallen asleep in my arms when I feel the first of many tears roll down my cheeks and into her hair.”

I am a sucker for a good epilogue and this does not disappoint. All I can say is that this is one AMAZING series and should not be missed, it is a must read. I highlighted so much of this book, so many poignant lines

that stab straight through your heart. The same story from three different perspectives, but even though you know the story the other two books carry their own weight. It is so novel to get three sides to one story, how one mindless piece of violence can affect so many people, not just the victim. This whole series is intense, emotional and truly memorable and one that has left a permanent imprint. I cannot recommend this series highly enough. Once again EK Blair, you have blown me away. I cannot wait to see what this author delivers next.

“You are the only reason there’s light in my life. Before you, there was nothing but darkness.”

“You will never have to doubt your place in this world again because I swear I will spend forever making sure you’re right where you belong.”

“I see you in colours that don’t exist.”

www.theromancecover.com

Mary says

5 stars!!!! Love me some Ryan Campbell!!!

First, it is highly advised that readers read Fading first only to understand the story. I actually enjoyed Falling more than Fading but that is just me. Falling is told in Ryan's POV. It focuses on events which occurred in Fading. In Falling, we learn about Ryan's past, secrets, and the burden of his guilt that he, himself, suffers with. Ryan goes through the motions of trying to numb out the pain and emptiness with random sex with women. He never felt worthy of love and didn't want to become like his father. He kept his heart closed till he meets Candace Parker. I don't want to re-hash the whole story but Ryan's outlook on love changes when he starts to fall for Candace. He is drawn to her and there is something in Candace that he can't explain why he feels such a connection to her. Ryan was such a sweetheart in both books but in this one...I was floored! I loved him! He was patient, understanding, and supportive of her. He was her shoulder to lean on and her savior. Candace's nightmares and fears may not fully go away, but Ryan was always there to show her the light. He showed her happiness, love and surrounded her with his family that truly cared for her. As for Ryan, Candace was his light out of the darkness as well. She showed him that his heart was capable of love and that he is nothing like his father. They both are what they needed for each other...they truly are soul mates.

The ending and Epilogue of Falling was the BEST!!! I loved this book told from Ryan's POV....I would actually say that I liked this book a little better than Fading.

Priya says

After reading FADING, reading FALLING from Ryan's POV was a bonus. It was good to see Ryan's side of story as he was fighting too from his demons.

The ending i though would be same as FADING but from Ryan's POV, but E.K.Blair extended the ending in

this book and its awesome.

I really really loved this ending.

Natasha is a Book Junkie says

“I’m sure she can hear my heart pounding, but I need her to hear me. I need her to feel it as it thuds in my chest because I need her to hear me falling for her, ‘cause that’s what’s happening here – I’m falling. I never wanted to before, but with her, all I want to do is fall. Fall into her. Fall so deep inside of her heart so that I never have to be without her.”

Revisiting an ‘old friend’ is always an exercise of apprehensive excitement for me, *Fading* being one of those perfect books in my eyes that very few stories have managed to match in intensity or overall impact on me as a reader. But while Ryan played a crucial role in that storyline, only ever hearing Candace’s voice made it a very unilateral account of a young woman’s battle to overcome a trauma. As much as I loved Candace as a heroine and felt every painful bit of her brave struggle to reclaim her life and herself in the process, hearing Ryan’s voice has been like a dream come true. This book follows the same timeline as *Fading*, even takes it a few steps ahead, but it is in no way a re-telling of those events. This is very much Ryan’s story, beginning to end, and while having read Candace’s story is a definite advantage as that knowledge fills the gaps that this book does not linger on, this is a unique account of a man falling in love for the first time in his life.

“All I know how to do is care for myself. I’m selfish just like he was. I’m not a provider the way a man should be; I’m a taker. I stay disconnected – and take.”

Ryan has lived an emotionally detached existence for most of his adult life, never really paying too much attention to the string of nameless faces that he bedded and never saw again. His history of abuse at the hand of his father have made him apprehensive of getting too close to a woman, always fearing that his father’s legacy of violence would run through his veins as well, given the right circumstances. His conquests stay short-lived, superficial and always free from expectations. Until one face is all he can think about – the shattered body of a young woman, beaten, raped and abandoned naked in the alleyway behind his bar. Her helplessness and the violence of what was done to her torment him day and night, those images etched in his mind, unable to escape them, and taking him back to his childhood through flashbacks of watching his mother being viciously beaten by his father.

“I’m him. He’s part of me. He runs through my blood. I hate him. I don’t want to be him, but I am.”

When Ryan first meets Candace, he immediately suspects she might be the same woman whose life he most probably saved that fated night, but the more he gets to know her and develops feelings for her, the more his mind refuses to believe it is her. Everything about her indicates that she has survived a life changing ordeal, but not having known her as the vibrant and cheerful young woman she once was, he explains her behavior to himself as shy and reserved. As you would carefully approach a wounded animal, he patiently waits for

her to lower her defenses and let him into her life, following her lead as to how close he gets to her.

“She’s broken. I see it clearly, but whatever it is that’s haunting her, I wanna make it fade. I wanna make it fade and make her fall too – with me.”

As Candace slowly starts trusting Ryan and their mutual feelings for one another take centre stage, we watch them fall in love, one step at a time, cautiously but irreversibly. While in Candace’s book we watched a broken young woman learning to trust a man again and re-discovering and re-accepting her sexuality again, this time around, we stand witness to a man learning to love for the first time, discovering the selflessness and overwhelming helplessness that comes with those feelings, and finding a new purpose in life in the guarded but compassionate eyes of the woman before him.

“You’re everything I never thought I wanted, but when I met you, you were everything I needed.”

We might think we know this story, but the more we read it, the more we realise we never knew Ryan at all. I found myself enjoying being in his head a lot more than in Candace’s, his journey being one of inner change and discovering his own capacity to love, rather than one of recovery. He is a character I loved from the get-go, and while this book was a lot more narrative-driven rather than focused on the inner turmoil of a broken young woman, even his actions spoke volumes about the kind of man he is and how far he is willing to go for the woman he loves.

“I love this girl beyond anything. Love her from a place in my heart I never knew I had.”

A splendid conclusion to a stellar series, one that makes me want to stand up and applaud Ms Blair’s ability to tackle difficult themes with unquestionable skill and sensitivity. I give this book and the series as a whole my Six Stars of Excellence for consistently giving us stories that engage both our minds as well as our hearts, and for bravely paving her own way as an author who follows no one’s lead.

“When I met you, I found me.”

[6 STARS OF EXCELLENCE]

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-C- says

It was very good. I liked it even more than in the previous books.
Although I knew that the story of this book. It was still interesting and good.

“You will never have to doubt your place in this world again because I swear I will spend forever making sure you’re right where you belong.”

majo says

Unnecessarily long and slow at some parts, but over all, enjoyable.

Ryan is amazing and I love him.

My favorite couple remain being Jase and Mark. They're P E R F E C T.

Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

Ryan's story in his POV.

I didn't finish this one. Absolutely no one is at fault but me. I'm impatient, hot-tempered, and snarky, and Ms. Blair's books are known to build up intensity, little by little. Again, this is an excellent book, but based on my personality I couldn't help but feel annoyance. I do want to applaud Ms. Blair for writing about a very delicate subject matter. Twice, in fact, and in a male POV. She absolutely nailed that part. I encourage all fans of the first two books to definitely check this one out! It's just that it's not suited for **me**.

Elizabeth (Liz) says

It can't be any secret by this point that E.K. Blair's Fading Series is my favorite of the year! Each story has a remarkable depth and richness of character, emotion, and a perfect sense of place and time. I always feel as if I can step into the story and become a part of it, and Falling was no exception.

Falling is Fading told from Ryan's point of view, but don't worry that you'll be reading the same story over again. Falling truly told Ryan's story and his perspective. It's a completely different book from Fading and Freeing, and it's a book that absolutely needed to be written.

Ryan's background, his personal history...well, he had his own story to tell. After Fading, I knew that Ryan Campbell was my book soul mate. After reading Falling? I couldn't possibly love him any more than I do! I had the opportunity to get to know him so thoroughly, the real Ryan. It's funny, because when I read Fading, I thought of him one way. With Falling, I saw a whole different side of Ryan, and I realized what a multi-dimensional character he actually was. His motives, his feelings, his desires – they all became clear. Falling gave me everything I needed—exactly what I needed—to end this series. It was all I could have hoped for and more!

Seriously, author E.K. Blair has a gift of storytelling which speaks to every part of me – heart, mind and

soul. Her talent is unquestionable, and, as I've said so many times before, she makes me unbelievably gleeful to be a reader! To anyone who has yet to try this author, you are missing so much. At the first opportunity, please fix that by running to your favorite online bookseller and purchasing the Fading Series – Fading, Freeing and Falling!

Honestly, Falling, like Fading, at times, left me in emotional turmoil of the very best kind. It made me cry. It made me melt. It made my heart sing. Five-star read? Without a doubt. Truthfully, ten stars wouldn't be enough for this series or this book! E.K. Blair, please write faster!!

★★Infinity Stars★★

Michelle says

ARC provided by author in exchange of honest review

First and foremost, it is highly advised that readers must read Fading first. Falling is told in Ryan Campbell POV. It mainly focuses on events which have occurred in Fading and deals with the traumatic event that Candace Parker experienced. In Falling, we learn of Ryan's past, secrets, and the burden of his guilt that he shoulders. Ryan's past is not pretty. He has lived his whole life feeling like nothing in the eyes of his drunken and abusive father. When his father died, Ryan goes through the motions of trying to numb out the pain and emptiness with alcohol and random sex with women. He never felt worthy of love and didn't want to become like his father. He kept his heart closed till he meets Candace Parker.

Without having to go re-telling the whole story, Ryan outlook on love changes when he starts to fall for Candace. Although, he knows something traumatic has happened to her, he is drawn to her. There is something in Candace that he can't explain why he feels such a connection to her. Ryan was the epitome of an absolute sweetheart. He was patient, understanding, and supportive of her. He was her shoulder to lean on and her savior. Candace's nightmares and fears may not fully go away, but Ryan was always there to show her the light. He showed her happiness, love and surrounded her with his family that truly cared for her. As for Ryan, Candace was his light out of the darkness. She showed him that his heart was capable of love and that he is nothing like his father.

The ending and Epilogue of Falling was beautiful. It showed two broken individual who were haunted by their past and demons that they can lessen the burden by leaning on each other. In the words of Karl Menniger, " Love cures people-both the ones who give it and the ones who receive it." Love, indeed, was the driving force of Ryan and Candace recovery of overcoming their past, fears, and demons.

Rebecca says

THIS BOOK IS NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART!!

"I'm sure she can hear my heart pounding, but I need her to hear it. I need her to feel it as it thuds in my chest because I need her to hear me falling for her, 'cause that's what's happening here-I'm falling."

This may be a love story but it is full of heartache and broken pieces. Ryan and Candace have a long rough path to go down before they meet and mend each others souls.

I want to connect, I want everything that I've been afraid of...

Oh Ryan. The dear tortured soul. Ryan has lived a hellish life with a very abusive father and has brought that package into his adult life. He has never really dealt with it and harbors guilt and fear that he will turn into his father one day. So he has kept women out of his "emotion" box and never keeps them around longer than a quickie.

"He's a part of me. He runs through my blood. I hate him. I don't want to be him, but I am."

Ryan owns a busy and popular bar near campus. While it pretty much runs itself, he tends to stay there late doing work and sometimes to find his next "quickie." It is one of those late nights when he encounters one of the worst things a person could. He hears sounds down in the alley but just assumes that it is some drunk people leaving the bar. He ignores it until he hears a woman screaming. He runs down to find a woman being raped. He beats the guy up but he ends up running off. Ryan calls the police but can't identify the girl because she is so badly beat.

"She is so small, and when I look at her tiny hands, her nails are shredded. Shit. She fought. She had to have fought hard. The thought nearly makes me vomit, and when I shift my eyes away from her hands, I notice a little tattoo of a heart."

Ryan has a hard time forgetting about the incident and finds himself not wanting to partake in his regular ways with women. He keeps replaying the scene in his head over and over again and can't get past the guilt that he feels for not going down there sooner. He hates that he didn't follow her to the hospital and make she was ok or find out who she was.

"The whole time I knew there was someone back there, and I ignored it. I sat in my office while that girl fought so hard she had no nails left."

Talk about walls crumbling! Ryan's walls didn't just crumble, they came crashing down when he met Candace!!! Ryan meets Candace Parker at a nearby coffee shop. When he first sees her working there he feels like he has seen her before but can't figure out where. She is not his type of girl that he would regularly pick up so he is stumped.

"I think I know this girl 'cause something about her seems familiar. I stare, trying to pinpoint who she is, but she's so different from any girl I would ever go for, so I'm confused."

Ryan keeps seeing her every now then at the coffee shop and soon learns that she is a mutual friend of his friends Jace and Mark. The more he sees of Candace, the more he can't get her out of his head. He likes to be around her but she is very standoffish and he is confused by her. He's never had to work for a girl's attention and this one isn't even giving him a second of her time!

"Damn, I feel like a deprived puppy, smitten over details of a chick I don't even know."

After helping her out with her parents and taking her to his mom's for Christmas, Ryan starts to have some real feelings for Candace. Ones he has never felt for another woman. He isn't sure how to deal with them, but he knows that he can't live without her in his life. He also knows that she has been through something terrible in the recent past and that he will have to tread lightly with her or risk scaring her away. But he can't get rid of the feeling that he somehow knows her.

"She has a depth to her. A depth I've never seen with the girls I've been with. She's different than the chicks I normally go for." "In what way?" I turn back to my mom and respond, "In every way."

It isn't until after Ryan has finally broken through Candace's barriers that he figures out who she is. An incident with her behind his bar triggers the thought but it isn't until he sees her tattoo that is exactly like the one from the girl he saved from behind his bar, that he realizes who she is. But Ryan, too afraid that she would run if she knew it was him that saved her, says nothing to her and strives to make himself the one and only that she wants to lean on. Hoping that he will be able to tell her one day and she won't hate him for keeping it from her. But all good intentions fall wrong somewhere. Can Ryan keep Candace in his life or are they destined to fail? Can Candace move past her fears and love Ryan the way she wants to or will her past ruin it all? Will Ryan break her barriers and become the man he wants to be for her.

GOD!!! This book was so heartbreakingly sad and I loved it even more than *Fading*. This is one of the first books that I actually liked that was told again but from the other point of view. I was very hesitant to read it because I haven't liked any of the others, because I felt it was just retelling the story again. But not with *Falling*!! Ryan's side of the story was just as heartbreakingly sad and Candace's and I loved reading his thoughts and finding out more about his life before Candace. So many questions were answered for me about what he was thinking after her rape and how he dealt with it. This book gave Ryan more depth and soul and really made you fall in love with him! I hope everyone enjoys Ryan's story as much as I did!!

Crista says

Review posted at: Swept Away By Romance

5 Stars (and I wish I could give more!)

Sometimes a book reaches inside, grabs ahold of your heart, and will not let go. For me, this perfectly describes my experience with *Fading*, *Freeing*, and now *Falling*. Now that we are truly coming to the end of 2013, I will say without hesitation that this series of books gets my vote for favorite of the year. Nothing has touched, inspired, or impacted me more than these books and the characters that I came to care about so very much.

To be honest, I am getting tired books that give the hero's point of view. It started with *Walking Disaster* by

Jamie McGuire, and now it's as if most New Adult fiction is jumping aboard this train. In my experience, I'm usually disappointed after reading the companion novel because I feel that I've wasted my time reading the same story (and it's usually a poor man's version of the original). Readers, I am here to tell you that *Falling* is an exception to this rule.

While I was reading *Falling*, it was as if I was having a completely new experience, and to be honest.... I was. This is Ryan's story: his life, his pain, and his process of walking the difficult road towards healing, recovery, and acceptance. Ultimately, this book describes and shows Ryan's own personal awakening of hope, love and new beginnings. I cannot describe the beautiful experience of getting to read as Ryan's character morphs from an emotionally scarred and stunted individual into a man in love, and the wonder and excitement that stems from that experience. It is amazing.

Ryan's childhood experience growing up with an alcoholic father is tangible as E.K. Blair again dares to shed light on a horrific reality that so many experience. I love that this author unapologetically blows the door open and sheds light on such touchy and real experiences. Her skill at being real, yet respectful, in how she handles such delicate subject matters astounds me.

I wish I could say more. Please, if you'd like to do something nice for yourself, take some time to read these books. I will say that although reading *Falling* was a completely unique experience, I would not say that it is a stand-alone book. You really need to read *Fading* prior to *Falling*. Jace's book, *Freeing*, is not necessary to read in order to appreciate *Falling*, but I do recommend that book as well.

I guess this is why I love to read. Every once in awhile a book catches you by surprise as you realize something special is happening: you're being transported into another place, meeting characters who make you feel, and are engaging you emotionally. Ryan triggered all of these buttons, and I am not the same. His character is worth every penny and every minute you spend with him.

I can't recommend a book any higher than I recommend this one.
