



Keeping Secrets

Kiru Taye

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Have you ever loved someone and didn't even know it?

That's the dilemma facing Felix Essien when he wakes from a coma to find he is married to the most beautiful and sensual woman he's ever known. He cannot remember her or their wedding. He who had sworn never to get married or to give his heart to another. Yet he feels an intense bond with her that he intends to explore fully.

Ebony can't believe her good fortune when her paper husband wakes not remembering the temporary marriage arrangement with no intimacies he'd proposed but is now the adoring husband she's always dreamt of. She plans to make the most of the passion blossoming between them.

However would he still feel that way when he regains his memory and realises she's been keeping secrets and their marriage is not what he thinks it is.

Keeping Secrets Details

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From Reader Review Keeping Secrets for online ebook

Henza R. says

I was intrigued from the moment I started reading this story. I loved the main characters, Felix and Ebony. There was so much about them that makes me wish I was them.

It is a well-written book. I can't stop myself from re-reading it and get caught up in it again and again. It's a great read.

Bethany-Kris says

Felix Essien and Ebony's marriage is nothing more than an arrangement on paper. Or at least, that's what it was supposed to be. No sex. No children. After the allotted time, they both go their separate ways having gained what they needed from the deal. Simple, right? Not really. After tragedy strikes the newly married couple, Felix is left without his memories, and Ebony can't help but take advantage of the new man who not only wants to share her bed, but her heart, too. Problem is, she's got secrets, and they could very well destroy everything.

Keeping Secrets is by far my favorite Kiru Taye book so far. Hands down, no questions asked. The characters are lively, beautiful in their flaws, and so passionate. In fact, you can feel that heat popping off the pages. You can't blame Ebony for the route she takes when her husband wakes up out of his coma, frankly, because the caring, attentive, good man who comes out of it is exactly the kind of man any woman would be proud to have. He's passionate, loving ... or trying to be. But he knows something is off.

I think what I liked most about this book is how well Ms. Taye keeps even her characters from giving away the twist. A simple slip of a sentence or thought, and that would have done it, honestly. But she wrote it in such a way that those secrets stayed in the dark until the very end, making me rhetorically rip every little thing apart to try and figure out what happened to these two before the accident. I love it when an author can keep me engaged from start to finish like that. Really, it's a feat. And she should be proud of accomplishing that.

There's one secret at the end that kind of gets left hanging, a who done it, sort of thing. Thank you to the author for giving the little snippet of the next in the series and answering that question. That was a great way to do it.

Well done. I look forward to the next in the series!

Oluwakemi Babalola says

I consider myself quite privileged to be part of the team that saw the fruition of this book. Felix and Ebony's story is quite dear to a few select people and i'm sure they'll all agree that our babies have finally come of age with the release of this book. It's a story of coming full circle through betrayals, heartaches, pride, loss,

manipulations and ultimately finding acceptance and forgiveness through love. Kiru expertly crafted a well plotted and cleverly woven story-line full of suspense and intrigue at each turn; I was on the edge of my seat trying to decipher what secrets were being concealed and she kept up the suspense quite well. The Essien Trilogy is the launch of another great series from a great author and this book is a true testament to her abilities; her ability to make her characters come alive and you lose yourself for a few hours in their world, sharing their experiences with them.

Thumbs up girl

Nina ~ Meleth Bookaddicted ~ says

KEEPING SECRETS was an enjoyable feel-good read for me. It shows why some secrets should not be kept.

Felix and Ebony are married – on paper only that is. However, Felix doesn't know anymore that it is only a fake. Awakening from a coma he cannot remember what happened the last few months which includes him meeting and marrying Ebony. Suddenly he is literally laying the world to her feet – he wants to take care of her, adores and desires her and wants to be the best husband he can for her. Ebony is savoring all this and cannot bring herself to tell Felix the truth.

But what will happen when Felix' memory finally comes back? When both their secrets get revealed? Does their now blossoming relationship have a chance?

This story was so refreshing; firstly it was set in Lagos, a location I haven't read much about yet – and then there is the fact that the story unfolds reversely. They already have – some kind of – a relationship and the revelation how it became the way it is is revealed backwards – down memory lane. The suspense and intrigue is maintained very well until the end.

I liked Felix... a lot! He is a sexy yet caring alpha male that determined to do anything to show Ebony he can be the attentive husband she deserves.

Although Felix surely is a domineering alpha, Ebony knows exactly how to get what she wants. She is strong and independent. I loved that about her!

A story about secrets, betrayals, manipulation – and finally forgiveness and love. It is well plotted, well written and has likeable and believable characters. 4 secret stars from me!

Abimbola Odusote says

This book was fast read and I could not put it down until I finished reading.

A very refreshing love and feel good story set in contemporary Lagos.

Felix got my attention and Ebony is the girl who knows what she wants and got it too. I love the way the story was told, as it happens and down memory lane.

Kiru sure knows how to spin a good tale, it was as if I actually lived the story with Ebony and Felix.

I Highly Recommend

My Secret Book Spot says

Keeping Secrets (The Essien Trilogy #1) by Kiru Taye

4 1/2 of 5 stars

When Felix awakens from a coma without his memory he finds he is married to Ebony, a beautiful woman that he cannot remember. Ebony, the beautiful woman who has sat at her husband's side while he was in a coma for weeks after their wedding night, hopes he will continue to forget just long enough to fall in love. When the couple leaves the hospital, Felix returns to what he assumes is their home and his life before the accident. He works for his family's company and restarts building the relationship with his wife. Ebony doesn't tell him of their arrangement; their marriage is on paper only. While she's keeping her secret, so is he.

I enjoyed the layout of this book; it started almost at the end and worked backwards. The chemistry between the two was hot and the supporting characters were interesting as well.

I would recommend this book and plan to read the rest of the trilogy.

A complimentary copy was given in exchange for an honest review

Susan, My Secret Book Spot

Nana Prah says

I'll admit that I'm a huge fan of Kiru Taye's work. And once again she did not disappoint as she left me intrigued throughout the book, up until the revelation of the last secret.

The amnesia added a nice twist. To be honest, there was so much drama (a good thing) in the story that if Felix had his full memory it would've still been great. Yet I liked that he couldn't remember her and yet knew he loved her (there's a secret with it that made me giddy). What I couldn't understand was how he was able to return to work so easily without the memories of the things he'd done for the past few months.

Yes, Ebony was protecting herself and their love by not exposing the truth, and yet she didn't lie about it. I could understand why she hid so much from Felix. It added to the depth and humanity of the story.

If I talk about the passion between Felix and Ebony I'll have to start fanning myself. It was intense.

I'm looking forward to book two in the series. It should be a great one.

Laura says

Excellent! This shows why keeping secrets is not a good idea. Ebony and Felix had kept secrets from each

other that complicated their relationship. Even though they were attracted to each other they weren't sure if they could trust their love. Only when they were honest with each other could they resolve their differences. I look forward to the next book in this trilogy. If it is as good as this one I know I will enjoy it!

*** I was given this book as a gift in exchange for my honest review. ***

Texas Diva says

Never keep secrets

Felix and Ebony are in a marriage of convenience...They are both keeping secrets from one another...making an already difficult situation worse. This story has all the elements-love, drama, alpha males, suspense and my standard HEA. Cannot wait to read about the brothers.

A recommend read.

United Indie Book Blog says

Felix was so sexy, attentive, dominating the list goes on and on I LOVED that this story started out the opposite and as the story went on it unfolded and gave you a better understanding as to how they're relationship became what it was! I'm so excited to read the next book!

Reviewed by Yalitza

Jeanette says

This is my first read from Kiru Taye and I can say I really enjoyed it. I love her writing, the way she describes each character, how they feel or are thinking. This is a first of many, I really enjoyed reading about Africa's elite in Keeping Secrets. This will not be the last of her books I will read, I have them lined up now. But do tell, when is the second part coming out??? I see no date anywhere (not rushing you or anything, LOL).

Nazarene Static says

The Levels of irritation I felt reading this book were real. The full extent of my venting can be found here: [my link text](#)

So this book follows Felix and Ebony as they attempt to maneuver their fake relationship (only one person remembers that it is not real) and make it a real one, they are faced with the obstacles of reality and truth. After waking up out of a coma, Felix faces a wife and a marriage he did not remember having. His wife Ebony, is excited at having the chance to make their paper agreement into a true marriage, if only she could divulge the secrets of their past. (Trust me I only said that to make it sound super intriguing).

When I wasn't rolling my eyes and sighing heavily, I was being entertained by the adult scenes and the fact

that these things were occurring in Nigeria.

Romance Novels in Color says

Keeping Secrets is the first release in the “Essien Trilogy” by Kiru Taye, which kept me intrigued with the hero Felix Essien and the heroine Ebony Duru. Throughout the story hidden truths are exposed as the author takes the reader on a journey from the present to the past.

Ebony contemplated Felix’s reaction when he awakened from a coma since the night of their wedding. What she didn’t anticipate was for him to suffer from amnesia; Felix had no recollection of his new bride or what landed him in the hospital. However, he could recall he vowed to never get married. After his father assured him that Ebony was indeed his wife, Felix made one declaration that begun the journey of unspoken truths “tell me how I proposed to you”. As Felix made progress in his recovery, his curiosity about marrying Ebony grew until his brother, Mark revealed the details. Unfortunately, Felix viewed Ebony’s omission as deceiving and self-rewarding, especially when her pregnancy was shared. As Ebony voiced her plans regarding their unborn child, Felix spoke his “no Essien child has ever been brought up outside our family. I’m not about to change a family tradition”; even though he had his own doubts.

As every good story has one character that is considered a thorn, this one isn’t any different. Helen Douglas is the daughter of one of Felix’s biggest clients; who paints a portrait for Ebony that she is fit to become Mrs. Felix Essien by her proposition.

I was surprised when Lord Essien, Felix’s father, opened up about his own indiscretions during the marriage to his true love, Felix’s mother, and left him with a DVD. The true masterminds were made known acknowledging a parent’s foresight is greater than a son or daughter’s understanding.

There’s one unresolved matter that will continue into book two that has my curiosity piqued and that’s why are the Essien men being blackmailed and this situation is far from being over. Readers you will not be disappointed with Keeping Secrets, plus there’s an added bonus; the author provided a few pages from the second installment “Making Scandal,” Mark Essien and Faith Brown’s story.

-Reviewed by LaMona

Felicia says

Maaaaan! There were so many secrets floating around this story I lost count! Just when I thought "all had been revealed", someone shows up with MORE information! Whew!

On the night of his marriage to Ebony, Felix Essien is critically injured and lies in a coma for months. When he awakens, he has no memory of how he came to be hospitalized, and no memory of his wedding or his wife...or the conditions of their marriage. He can recall something about a marriage and his board giving him an ultimatum, but little else. Ebony is immediately on edge. Once she and his family members assure Felix that he is indeed married to Ebony, and his father intimates that Felix has "something to atone for", he seems bound and determined to get close to his wife. He can tell she's hiding something, but giving him too much

information can hinder his recovery, so most choose to instead to let his memory return on its own gradually.

His memory does slowly return...with good and bad consequences. As they do, secrets are revealed, and good lord! Everyone has them! The reader is blindsided more than once...and there's nothing you can do about it! LOL!

My favorite part of the story is that even though Felix and Ebony are on shaky ground, even though there are secrets and unspoken words; even though there is hesitancy, they do not turn away from each other. Despite the pain and anger, there is still communication. And, when you have that, you have hope.

Kudos to Kiru Taye for including a glimpse of book 2 at the end of the story. While it opens up another door, the scene itself is very satisfying! (D@mn Dele!)

Anxiously awaiting "Making Scandal".

Tbird London says

Keeping Secrets is a short book, under 200 pages, full of twists and secrets that will keep the reader interested till the end. The author does a wonderful job at balancing current day with flashbacks, so the reader can follow along with the story and have the plot slowly unravel before your eyes. The problem with writing a review for this book stems from the fact I can't give too much information or I will spoil the experience of the story.

Ebony is called back home to Nigeria and comes face to face with Felix at the airport. Not understanding why he is there offering a ride to her mother's home, she reluctantly accepts the offer and their story picks up from there. She is dealing with the loss of her brother and father from years ago and holds a great amount of guilt for that. After spending ten years with a man and close to marrying him, that has fallen apart so she is really trying to find her way and pick up the pieces of her life.

Felix still reeling from his childhood and the relationship between his mother and father has focused on the banking business of his family. He is successful and an important figure to the society of Lagos, but the board members feel he needs to be married and soon. Reluctant to submit to their demands he finds that maybe he could make something work, even for two years with Ebony, that was until he stumbled across something and ran, leading him to be involved in an accident and in a coma for six weeks. When he comes out of the coma, he finds he can't remember Ebony or anything about their past. This is where the story gets good.

The amount of blackmailing, secrets lies and manipulation muddied the water for Ebony and Felix; they are going to have to sort out all of the issues to come to the truth. The problem is Felix has a temper with a very short fuse. Ebony finds she is more in an apologetic position and has a hard time figuring out what she is really guilty of. Once they both come across a piece of evidence that shows they were brought together by fate and not manipulation, they decide to come clean with everything and see if they have what it will take to make this work.

I enjoyed this book and all of the twist and turns that came with it. It captivated my attention quickly. Although I did question a few things such as how he could be getting back to normal routine so quickly while still in casts and injured and lacking memory, everything else was pretty smooth reading. I would say this would be a great afternoon read if you like a bit of suspense and mystery with your romance.

