



Meant to Be

Tiffany King

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Krista Miller feels like she has lived her entire life in a glass box with her every emotion on display. She can't help feeling like a defect as her sensitivities have made her socially inept and without any real friends; the one exception being the boy that visits her each night in her dreams.

Krista's emotions are put to the test when a move to California triggers a devastating change to her fantasy world. The nightly comfort that the boy provides has now become a recurring nightmare as he is taken from her by an unseen force.

Struggling to appear normal, Krista enrolls in a new school and finds it to be nothing like she thought. Her new life is sent spiraling out of control from a strange connection with a boy, Mark, who claims to know all her secrets.

As Krista begins to explore the emotions that Mark evokes in her, secrets about their mysterious past and their predestined purpose threatens to separate them just when they have found each other.

Meant to Be Details

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From Reader Review Meant to Be for online ebook

Silvia says

I just finished reading Meant to Be this morning... I am gonna *try* to write a review without giving anything away, but I am a bit nervous about my reviewing skills... but *deep breath* here it goes!

Okay, so I picked up this book as per an amazing review one of my friends did on this novel. It was the first book in a long time that I was really really excited about reading. I view myself as a bit of a cover-ho, and I feel in love with the cover, only adding to my desire to read this book! The cover is absolutely beautiful, and I love the fact that it is a drawn cover, and not just a picture depicting something or someone in the book.

This cover, once you have read the book, completely conveys the story on a whole other level.

Can I tell you how much I love how Tiffany brought this story to life? It was absolutely amazing. I was completely and utterly drawn into the story from page 1. I could not put my Nook away, until finally turning it off to go to bed. When I woke up this morning, all I could think about was finding out what was going to happen to Krista, Mark, Sam and Shane. And while I told my husband that I wanted to "savor" the book, and not read it quickly, I simply could not help myself.

This book was amazingly refreshing, and truly unlike any story I have read. The concept was fresh and inspired, the story drew you in farther and farther, ... the imagery...forget about it, breathtaking.... I could have sworn that I felt sand beneath my feet as I was reading this morning!

So, instead of giving you a summary of what the book is about, just take my word, I don't give out 5 star ratings easily... go, drop what your doing, click out of this review, go to smashword.com (thats where I bought this book), and buy it... I PROMISE you, you won't regret it!

Jaime (Two Chicks on Books) says

Krista has always been different her intense emotions have set her apart from everyone even her parents. The only time she feels at peace is when shes sleeping because, in her dreams he's there. The same boy that has always been in her dreams, she can't see his face but she loves him and feels his love for her. When her father dies Krista and her mom move to Santa Cruz, California a place that Krista has always felt drawn to. When they arrive Krista feels completely at home even at her new school where she finally has a friend Sam they share a bond like no one could imagine. Then Krista finally meets the boy from her dreams and their connection is instant and intense. Now they have to figure out why they're connected and what it means.

First off let me say I have an intense love for Santa Cruz and I love to read about places I've been. I can picture the beach and the rides so vividly. I spent many a spring break there when I was younger.

What I loved about this book was it was a completely original take on a subject that most of us already know. I won't say more as there would spoilery involved. All I can say is when you think you've got things figured Tiffany throws you for a loop and you end thinking no way! I loved the connection between the characters and their individuality as well. I could have devoured this book in one setting if I hadn't started it so late. Also Tiffany left the ending open for a sequel I would love to read more about Krista, Sam and the rest of the group. Fingers crossed for more. So go get this book it's a wonderful read.

Thank you Tiffany for choosing me as one of the lucky bloggers to get this for early review.

Carrie says

Let me preface this review by saying that I think a lot of things go into deciding how you feel about a book. Things like your life's perspective, your current mood, etc. I found this book very hard to get into. I didn't feel a connection to the characters and was only mildly drawn into the storyline. The whole time I was reading, I felt like the author was giving a laundry list of events and characteristics, instead of painting a picture where I could feel things and experience emotion and really get involved in the story. I didn't feel any emotion towards the characters. I don't mean to make any personal attacks, but in my opinion, this author just doesn't have a way with words. The story was OK, but the telling of it left so much to be desired. And like I said...maybe it's just me.

Nana says

Meant to Be presents two of the most common and addictive elements in this YA Literature market: Fantasy and Romance. The story's centered around Krista Miller's character after moving to California with her mother when her father passed away. It is there where she'll meet face to face with Mark; the guy haunting her dreams since she was a little girl. The events narrated in Meant to Be begin with Krista's city transfer along with her mom. Once there, Krista has the possibility of fulfilling the wish of studying at some private scholastic service. On her first day at school she meets a girl named Sam, to whom she'll feel an instant connection and then hours later she'll be face to face with Mark. Krista will soon know that she shares a lot of stuff in common with Sam; and for Sam that element was Shawn. Once reunited, these four characters will try to find the answer to their singular connection. The biggest credit I can give King is that the story keeps you intrigued until the end since the reader wants to know which each character's singularities are. However, there are some details that seem to be sloppily worked, and I explain:

Disclaimer: There could be some spoilers

Character Development: As a reader, I didn't feel for a moment these characters growing or transcending to another level. This could be represented when the reader is NEVER connected with Krista's loss. There's not a single scene where you can see her suffering for the recent loss of her father or even more where you can see her recovering from it (E-Book / Page: 2) she lets the reader know about this, but I felt it was too much telling and not showing. With this example I thought the narrator was a little selfish, like it didn't matter her father dying since she was going to live at this place she ever dreamed of and fulfill her wish to study at some private school with the money her father left on an insurance policy. As a reader, the characters I enjoy the most are those made real and deal with real situations. This was not the case with Krista, Sam, Mark and Shawn. Nevertheless each and one of them had a potential background which could have been used for their growth as characters, but it only stands summarized between lines and the author wasted this opportunity.

Story Pace: The balance was kind of off; the events were taking place way too fast or extremely slow, as if the harmony was gone. For example: in just 19 pages (E-Book / Pages: 16-35), these characters connect, discover there is a singularity that unites them and that they are meant to be. I'm sorry, but I need character development as a reader; I need to see how the puzzle comes together piece by piece, not tossing 99% of these pieces in 19 pages. Then after the events that took place on those 19 pages, there's only one question to

be answered: What they are? During The rest of the novel, the four main characters try to solve such enigma without any success, and not so much credit can be given to the effort they put trying to find the answers. The question is answered in only 13 pages (E-Book / Pages: /122-135)

World Building: Basically, the story's World Building premise is that our four main characters are angel descendants better known as Guardians and Protectors. They feel linked to Santa Monica since it is "Holy Ground". This kind of essence is that they are paired as "Soul Mates", guaranteeing their kind will never vanish. The reader will know that the Guardian and Protectors cannot be separated under any circumstances under long time periods (hours), or else they die. Let's call the villain on the story Mr. X, who is experimenting with the species by trying to break the "soulmate" tradition. It's with this element where relies my main problem with the story; co-dependent relationships.

WHERE is the capability of choosing?

So these couples are meant to be and under any circumstance they can be separated because then the girl gets sick and the boy, aggressive. I'm sorry, but it's a fatal combination. As a reader, I don't care how pretty the analogy is, the excuse still has the same meaning. It sounds cute, but it's still a co-dependent relationship. None of the characters has the capability to choose once they find each other because at the end it's meant to be.

Finally, the story's general concept is interesting, but from MY point of view it needs some work done in the previous mentioned aspects. I would really like this cycle of female protagonists in YA Literature that don't have the capability of choosing to just disappear, because is beautiful to choose. For those who say the past doesn't apply because it's a fictional story, it is said the essence of good writing is the one closer to reality.

At first I didn't want to do a full review of the story because in some cases with self publishing material I feel the author doesn't have the same resources that publishing authors have. At the end I decided to do the full review in honor to the user (who already deleted the account that was created) to let me know in elegant words I didn't know how to read because clearly I missed something. Now I think it's obvious that I read the story cautiously. What needs to be clear is because a reader doesn't like something from the story, that doesn't mean the reader didn't understand the concept or missed something. It's as simple as that and the beautiful thing about literature is; someone can hate a book and others completely love it.

Teacher's Notes:

"Attending to private school had been a lifelong dream of mine. Not because I was vain and wanted to surround myself with other smart kids, but because I felt if I attended a school there other kids with high IQ'S, I could get lost in the crowd."

(E-Book / Page: 4)

The past quote is so WRONG in many ways. As an educator and someone who was forged in the public system, it really bothers me. Anyone could be in the fanciest private college in the world but if they don't have intelligence they will not be successful. I graduated with honors from college I can read and speak 3 languages and two of those I learned by myself; not too bad for a girl from a public school.

Colette says

This story overall was pretty good, the characters okay, but the writing in general was artificially stilted, formal and sometimes a little stuffy (it felt like someone trying to pretend to be smart??).

And I was so distracted by very un-teenage-like dialogue/internal thinking that it drove me crazy.

Also, I was laughing out loud at the beginning of book when the author randomly included two (maybe more) product placement blurbs that read like advertisements (particularly one about Roxy tees versus the comparable Target brand...oh, brother! Please save the plugs for somewhere else; I see enough advertising around me as is.

There were also lots of editing errors, which I'm coming to expect from these kindle cheapies especially. To sum it all up, this book just needs a strong editor to guide this story to better presentation. The idea is there, but sadly, execution was lacking. I probably will not read the next book.

Kristi-The Book Faery says

MEANT TO BE by TIFFANY KING was one of those books that I read in one day. It was one of 'those' books! If you are an avid reader then you know what I mean! When you pick up a book and the very first paragraph grabs you immediately and you whisper to yourself "I'm not letting go until the very last word!" That's what debut author Tiffany King's new novel MEANT TO BE did to me!

The main character, Krista is incredibly intelligent, a model teenager with loving adoptive parents. Krista's never had friends and keeps to herself, not out of preference but out of necessity. Krista is severely empathetic, unable to get to close to anyone without becoming overwhelmed by their emotions. She doesn't just feel one emotion; she feels them all, sometimes to the point of making her physically ill. The only thing that has kept her sane are her nightly visits with an unknown boy she meets on a twilight beach in her dreams. He has the power to soothe her during these dreams so that she can go on to face another day. She's had these dreams all her life yet she never sees his face but he is as familiar to her as her own self.

After a tragedy, Krista and her mother move to Santa Cruz, a place that Krista has always felt drawn to. It's a special place where she immediately feels at home. The ocean and the beach soothe her but her dreams take a drastic turn the day she arrives in Santa Cruz. Despite Krista's inner turmoil, she vows to make her life there as best as she can for her mother's sake. Krista's enrolled in a prestigious private school where she meets Samantha (Sam) and for the first time in her life she feels connected to a real person and has a true friend who not only understands her but also has the exact same empathy as Krista only she's learned to control it. She also meets Mark, the boy in her dreams and the connection is instantaneous and powerful. It

isn't long before another joins their group. Questions start arising about how they all feel so connected. Things start to get seriously awry for the group and danger lurks around every corner. Supernatural/paranormal forces seem to be at work but will they find out the answers before something tears them apart?

There are a lot of things I liked about MEANT TO BE, I felt an instant connection with Krista when she said "Chocolate talked to my soul" (Location 294) and "There was nothing like the smell of books, both new and old. If someone ever bottled the smell, I would be all over it." (Location 233) Now, here's a girl I could hang with! She loves chocolate and the smell of books and reading! Aside from that, I liked how well developed all the characters were. They were 'step off the page' realistic and I fell in love with all of them and found myself rooting for them, crying with them and laughing out loud with them.

I do wish that I had gotten to know one of the characters a bit better and also would love to see this group continue their search and also research into their history. There are still a lot of unanswered questions which leads me to believe there will be a sequel. This would be most welcome to this reader.

In Summary, MEANT TO BE is a combination of all the things I love: paranormal romance, mystery, suspense, humor and intrigue plus some unforeseen plot twists and turns. It is an amazing book with exceptional characters, amazing plot and a great twist away from the usual fare of the genre.

Sasha says

THIS REVIEW IS BRUTALLY HONEST AND NOT FAVORABLE. YOU'VE BEEN WARNED.

One of the magical things about love is finding it in a place that does not seem to encourage it. It follows then that if the setting or character is perfect, then the love isn't as magical. What I mean by this, is if you have everything going for you, looks, brains, body, etc..., it's no wonder some guy fell for you. What's much more interesting, and much more difficult to write, is a guy falling for someone who isn't perfect in every way. That being said...

This book inspired me to create a new shelf, one that was a long time in coming and has finally been brought into existence by its poster child, Meant to Be. That shelf is Wish Fulfillment.

If I sat down as a thirteen year old and daydreamed about a perfect life and a perfect boyfriend, I probably would've come up with something like Meant to Be. It was boring, unimaginative in the extreme, and everything, EVERYTHING, was unrealistically perfect.

Abandoned when she was small (good riddance, if you ask me), Krista is a beautiful (though she doesn't know it, of course) and emotionally sensitive girl living with her adoptive parents in Montana. Her dad dies suddenly and she and her mom move to Santa Cruz, a place she is inexplicably drawn to. Could it be that those dreams she has every night of meeting a faceless boy on a beach are set in Santa Cruz? Yes, yes it could. Sure enough, when she arrives in Santa Cruz, she finds the location in her dreams, and shortly thereafter, meets her "dream guy" (yes, she actually calls him that). She has a ridiculously high IQ which induces her to attend a private school so that she will fit in, and there she finds her super hot, super smart dream guy, who henceforth shall be dubbed "the DG", and who is an eighteen year old guy with a masters degree in physics and who interns as a history teacher so that he can write his thesis for his PH.D. Yes, you

read that right. 18, interning at a high school, thesis, PH.D. (And did I mention that he is supernaturally strong, too?) Not only is it beyond improbable, but it also doesn't make sense. How does interning at a high school as a history teacher help him get a physics PH.D? This is just one example of the logical absurdities that come with wish fulfillment.

Krista also meets a beautiful, extremely smart girl whose parents abandoned her when she was small, just like Krista's, and with whom Krista has an instant connection. This girl, Sam, is emotionally sensitive, has dreams about a guy (who is now her perfect boyfriend), and was drawn to Santa Cruz just like Krista. Oh boy. What a coincidence. (It should be noted that against all odds, everyone else at the private school is mean and/or shallow.)

For the entire first half of the book, Krista, the DG, Sam, and Sam's DG, walk around doing boring things which are described in minute detail and try to figure out how they are all connected.

51% of the way through is where I finally decided to stop wasting my time and call it bad. I know this because I kept checking how far in I was on my kindle. I admit, I can't judge the book fairly because I did not finish it. Maybe it gets better in the second half or something actually happens. I doubt it though. If I had to guess what happens, I'd say that Krista and her gang find out that they are all angels or some shit, they learn that their parents were killed which is why they were abandoned, and a villain or coalition of villains crop up to give the book something resembling an actual plot. (By the way, one of the DG's real parents is still present in his life. Now, this parent would clearly have all the answers, but instead of asking him sometime during the gang's musings in the first half, they just sit around and try to guess. Clearly these geniuses need some work in the Common Sense department.) With wish fulfillment, I don't feel like I need the author to help finish the book.

So. If you like to read the sort of thing you might cook up yourself with ease, then by all means, give Meant to Be a try. If not, then save yourself some time better spent doing anything else-polishing the bottoms of your shoes, spinning in circles until you fall over-and skip it.

Something to consider: If you are going to write a character with a high IQ, you might want to give them thoughts that a person with a high IQ would actually have. Krista was supposedly extremely smart, yet her thoughts were entirely banal. Brilliant people don't have mundane consciousnesses. An apt analogy for this is an author telling readers that a place is beautiful, but describing it as a dump. It just doesn't work.

Shelly Crane says

I loved this book. Loved. I am all about the love and soul mates and angels. It was a fascinating and lovely mix for me.

Krista wasn't annoying as so many female leads are these days. She had her moments as any teenage girl does, but it was believable and real. The way she handled things was inspiring.

And Mark. Oh Mark. I think every one should have one! He was awesome. Protective, sweet, thoughtful and careful. The love that developed between the two was so endearing. And the fact that they fell in love in dreams had me swooning!

There was plenty going on to keep you interested all the way to the last page. I've already read book two as

well and you will be equally enthralled. The characters are moral and sweet with just enough mischief to make you know there's going to be more to the story. I suggest you buy this book as Tiffany is a master of sweetness and relationships.

Trisha Wolfe says

Okay, let me start off by saying that I live to read romance in YA novels. Besides awesome plot lines, and the twists that I DON'T want to see coming, it's what I relish about losing myself in a book. And Meant To Be has it. The relationship between Krista and Mark is so breathtakingly beautiful and full of passion; I held my breath with their every encounter. King's description throughout the novel is wonderful. I was able to envision everything the MC saw, felt, or heard. And Krista was a very likable character. Although I tend to have issues with weakness in protagonists, Krista's weakness was also part of her strength, and she overcomes her fears in record time. I loved this girl. I admit that a tad of editing is needed, but the author wrote so fiercely that I quickly lost myself in the story and grammatical errors were easily overlooked. There are no spoilers in my reviews, but I will tell you this. If you're a lover of the plot twist, and you think you can figure out what's going to happen at the end, think again! I'm the queen of knowing how a book is going to end, and even I didn't see this one coming. So if you're looking for a read to lose yourself in, with lots of romance and paranormal twists, I recommend Meant To Be.

Abbie says

This was a bit of a boring one.

There was no action at all until the 70% mark, and when it did come, I was too bored for it to make much of an impact.

The romance in this annoyed me a bit. It was like the majority of YA books where the main character can't live without her crush, but in this one, it took it to the extreme.

They literally **couldn't** live without each other, and at times it really did wear thin.

The characters were pretty average. I didn't dislike them, but I didn't love them either.

I liked Sam the best, but she still wasn't a character I really connected with.

Anna says

totally intrigued! moving on to book 2. My thoughts are running a mile a minute!!

Courtney Cole says

Tiffany King's debut novel, Meant to Be, deserves to be where it is... at the top of the Kindle bestseller lists. It is unique, detailed and the narrative sings. I was sucked in by the unique storyline and held captive by the compelling characters.

I lost my own father a few years ago, so I was quickly able to relate to the main character on that level. And I love stories about soul mates. The romance of it all gets me every time.

Meant to Be is a well-written, moving debut novel. I look forward to future works from this author. Well done!

Jen Wylie says

Was very excited to read this book after reading the blurb for it. It didn't disappoint!

Though there were a few editing errors (as an editor I'm more likely to note these however) they did not detract from the story itself.

Meant to Be is a fabulous story with excellent, well developed characters.

I COULD NOT STOP READING! Yes, I actually stayed up hours past my bedtime just to finish. I needed to see what happened next. This is why it gets 5 stars from me! I definitely recommend this lovely romantic tale! I can't wait to read more from this new author!

Missy (Two Readers Reviews) says

Krista is not your average teenage girl. She is exceptionally intelligent and can feel the emotions of those around her. The ability to feel these emotions make everyday life very difficult for her. She is unable to even read a sad story with out the emotion consuming her for days at a time. At times these feelings are so intense they make her become extremely ill. On top of that every night for her whole life she has dreamt of the same boy, on the same beach. She feels so connected to him and has yet to see his face. She feels a strong pull to Santa Cruz and, after her father dies, her mother decides that they will move there to start over after losing him.

Here she finally meets people she can relate to and be friends with. This is something that she has never had the capability of doing. Her life feels like it's making a turn for the better, especially when she finds out that these new friends seem to be able to relate to her more than she could have ever dreamed. These four friends will need each other more than they could ever have imagined.

This is a fantastic debut novel. The story line was amazing and very original. The detail was superb. I was easily able to picture every scene that I was in. I have never read anything quite like it. It was an extremely quick and enjoyable read. I also love that she left it open for a sequel! Yay! I love sequels! I highly recommend that you pick this one up!

Abby Blom says

I was lucky enough to get a pre-release copy of this!! Grabs you right from the first page! It was easy to pass time getting lost in this book. Tiffany King is great at using just the right descriptions in each scene to really place you right there next to the characters. Looking forward to the continuation already!

