



## The Thousand Tiny Miracles Giveaway Edition

*Katarina West*

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## **The Thousand Tiny Miracles Giveaway Edition** Katarina West

A middle-aged saleswoman becomes a Hollywood star.

A spoilt celebrity becomes a suburban housewife.

An angel becomes a human being.

Meet Irene Nylander, a frumpy housewife from Finland ... and a yo-yo dieter. She feels trapped in an unhappy marriage, looking after her domineering mother-in-law and living vicariously through romantic movies.

Meanwhile, in Florence, Mimi Kavanagh's star is rising. She has the body of a Barbie princess, the iron will of an army sergeant – and Hollywood in her sights.

On her fiftieth birthday, Irene discovers her husband is having an affair. Devastated, she prays for a way out: she wants to die.

In heaven, a mischievous angel called Aaron hears her prayers. He decides to make Irene and Mimi swap bodies.

How will the two women cope with their unexpected, and very different, second lives? And will Aaron's meddling get him evicted from heaven? What will happen if he has to transform into a human being and live on Earth?

## **The Thousand Tiny Miracles Giveaway Edition Details**

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Author : Katarina West

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## From Reader Review The Thousand Tiny Miracles Giveaway Edition for online ebook

### Tony Riches says

How would you cope if you had to live someone else's life? Once you've started this book you can't put it down, as the first novel in Katarina West's Angel Aid series has a special magic that holds you on its spell.

With brilliantly observed characters in wonderful locations, this heartwarming fantasy keeps you guessing. Funny and poignant, the lives of two very different women become intertwined in an innovative twist on a familiar plot.

I enjoyed Katarina's previous novel Absolute Truth, For Beginners and look forward to the next book in this series. Highly recommended.

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### Evelina | AvalinahsBooks says

This book was great. It's just one of those *cozy, sweet girlish reads* that you want to grab when you're curled up on your sofa, holding a warm cocoa mug and trying *to let the fluffy feeling warm up your heart.* (*I mean, just look at that adorable cover.*)

I rarely do those kinds of reads. *Oh nooo, Evelina likes to stick to the dark, the weird, the disturbing, sometimes the even the baffling literary.* Or at the very least, a backstabbing fantasy or sci-fi. But you know, maybe I should do this more often? Because books like this make your life more bearable, instead of plunging you further into the abyss? I know you'll understand. Us bookworms are among the worst masochists there are, really. (*If you're in doubt, just remember Illuminae, Gemina, Red Rising or maybe They Both Die At The End.*)

**So what is The Thousand Tiny Miracles of Living Twice about?** Irene Nylander, a middle-age Finnish woman, has quite a few problems. Aside being unhappy with her body and constantly turning to comfort food, being ignored by her best (*or rather, only*) friend, bullied by her elderly mother-in-law and altogether ignored by her husband, her biggest problem still is that *she's given up on challenges, passions and mostly just the whole of life.* A painful event plunges Irene into a state where she profoundly wants to just die and nothing more. And she puts herself in danger.

**Enter Aaron, the prankster angel!** This is where it gets fun. Although Aaron really *does* want to help, he's like Dobby, right?

Aaron is such a fun character. Without him, this story would have never come to be! He comes up with *a great solution.* Which is? *To swap the bodies of Irene and a celebrity movie star!* Badum tsss. *Hilarity*

*ensues.*

I don't really need to tell you more about the book. This is the part where you read it! But the thing is.. It's not just a funny or cozy book. What I loved about it the most is how many different social problems it at least touches upon, if it doesn't simply go into them. *I loved the way the refugee problem was shown, although it seems unrelated to the premise – it is still dealt with. Poverty versus having privilege as well!* But it's not just that. *Respect to one another, not taking a person and their efforts or love for granted, never judging, always trying to understand. Not keeping any animosity. Not bottling it in.* It's not every day that you'll be reading something that could be categorized as chick-lit, and yet explore deep values. I feel like essentially this book is trying to make the world a better place.

*Aside from that, the book is just... well-written.* You won't struggle while reading it, or connecting with the characters. All the characters are so likeable as well! Even the prissy movie star – you will love her! And you'll feel like the lessons life both Irene and Mimi (*the starlet*) learn are something so touchable that it might benefit you too. *In fact, I think this is what makes the book so satisfying – it's just so close to home, while being as far away from it as possible* (wait... Does that make sense..?)

*I thank Katarina West for providing me with a review copy in exchange to my honest opinion. I know for sure that I'll want to read the sequel to this! I'm super curious about what happens to Irene, Mimi and Aaron.*

Visit the post on my blog to see some Bookstagram photos especially for this book.

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### **Shelly Mateer says**

This is a beautiful book written by one of my favorite authors. Ms. West writes the kind of books I want to buy hard copies of with which to stock my future library. My library in my beautiful oceanfront house in the Florida Keys.

This is not just a fanciful story about two women switching bodies and lives - it has such meaningful messages of hope, of doing good, of changing your life for the better.

It makes me think of how it seems that none of us are ever happy with what we have. We are always looking for what we don't have. The woman who never got married dreams of finding someone and having kids, or perhaps adopting. The woman who is married with children wishes she could have some time to herself. Thumbing through her social media feeds she envies her single friends living seemingly indulgent lives. The woman who has nothing but time to herself wishes to find a man to spend her time with. She dreams of traveling to exotic countries with this perfect man who is somehow also very wealthy. The woman who has curly hair wishes it were straight. The woman with brown hair wants to have blonde locks... We are never happy with what we have. But what would happen if we were? What would happen if we could just accept what is?

Thank you Ms. West for an inspirational, thought-provoking and fun book.

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## **Joy Corkery says**

First published on <https://joyfulantidotes.com/2017/06/1...>

The Thousand Tiny Miracles of Living Twice tells the story of Irene Nylander, a frumpy Finnish woman who is ignored by her husband and constantly undermined by her mother-in-law, who she has given up everything to take care of. On her 50th birthday, Irene finds out her husband is having an affair and, absolutely distraught, she decides she wants to die. Prank-loving angel Aaron hears these thoughts and decides that Irene will swap bodies with Hollywood superstar, Mimi Kavanough.

Ok, I know what you are thinking. The body swap story has been overdone and yes, I would agree. But I think West takes a new angle in this book with the intervention of angels. So, the book tells the story of three people instead of two: Irene, Mimi and Aaron. And that makes it all the more interesting.

Aaron is the instigator of the body swap and so the story needs him, even if he wasn't my favourite character. It was Irene who was my favourite character and I was cheering her on from the very first page. Immediately, I felt sympathy for her and I knew almost instantly I was going to like her. She brought an intense start to the book but that didn't turn me off. I liked that she made me feel emotional, and, later on, she also brings some very warm moments to the story.

Mimi, on the other hand, is not likeable at all, staying true to the role of celebrity spoiled brat throughout. But she was needed to balance Irene and I think West used this relationship of sorts to come to a good conclusion for both characters (although there will be a second book, so the story is not finished yet!).

Overall, I liked this book. I was eager to find out what was going to happen next, just as eager as I am to read the next book. Even more so, I like West as a writer and I am happy to be on her creative journey as each book is better than the last. Pick this up for your next weekend read – it will leave you with a smile on your face.

I was sent a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Leila Tualla says**

We've all wished we lived someone else's life at least a few times throughout our lifetime. For me, I'd love to trade a quiet evening with someone who didn't have children. But someone else who wishes they had the chaos, would want to trade places with me. I think it is only in seeing, and living in another person's shoes that we maybe appreciate our dysfunctional life. I'm also a firm believer in guardian angels but to have a different picture of Heaven being bureaucratic and business like was a little too much for me. Then again, I'm not sure I like the idea of all singing, all praises that someone else imagines it to be. These angelic creatures Katarina West have imagined have their own rules, their own thoughts, fears and justifications of following said rules. I love love Aaron. If I could have a guardian angel, it would be him. I'd want someone in my corner that looks at life a little different, and would find humor in just about anything.

I've never read any of West's books but this may not be the last. Her words painted the setting so beautifully for me and switching thoughts between Aaron, Irene and Mimi without getting lost in the shuffle was a

wonderful relief. But overall, I enjoyed this book! It's not everyday you have the opportunity to read 'A Thousand Tiny Miracles of Living Twice,' with some Angel Aid, of course!

\*I received this book in exchange for an honest review. However, these thoughts and opinions are my own. I'm not required to write a positive review.\*\*\*

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### **Kristine Hall says**

#### **“The Thursday when Irene Nylander’s first life comes to an end is sunny.”**

What a great opening line to a story that kept me reading, entertained, and fully engaged from start to finish! In her latest book, author Katarina West has won me over again. *The Thousand Tiny Miracles of Living Twice* takes readers on a journey (several, actually!) that explores themes familiar to most of us at one point or another in life, and it is in making those connections between reader and character where West's writing really shines.

Whether in the same season of life as main characters Irene or Mimi -- or somewhere else entirely -- readers can see glimpses of themselves in West's brilliantly written characters. The issues and emotions her characters are confronting are heavy, but the book is infused with plenty of humor to off-set those times. Often, it was in the little one-liners that I giggled and related. (Like when a famished Irene says that a chunk of bread is “so tasty that she feels like crying.” Yeah. Been there, done that, felt that.)

The ideas of angels among us and people switching bodies aren't new, but West takes her premise in an interesting and unexpected direction that is truly memorable. Heaven is possibly as messy and complicated as Earth, and angels like Aaron are as flawed as humans. Readers will never be confused as to who is who once Irene and Mimi switch bodies because West focuses on the mind of the occupant, not the body occupied. Admittedly, some of the hilarious parts of the book are in each discovering her new body.

What is beautiful about Aaron, Irene, and Mimi is that each grows over the course of the story. It is in that growth that I became attached to the characters despite my not initially liking certain aspects of them. Since this is the first book in the Angel Aid series, I look forward to seeing how they continue to evolve -- especially Irene since even at fifty, she is reinventing herself.

Katarina West has a distinct writing style, and in *The Thousand Tiny Miracles of Living Twice*, it's a little chummier with the reader than in her other books (*Witchcraft Couture, Absolute Truth, for Beginners*) This casual tone is fun, but don't think for a minute that it's not well done. The Helsinki and Little Heaven settings are wonderfully detailed and easy to imagine, but it's not just in her descriptions of place where readers will revel; some of her sentences where readers are quietly observing really pack a punch.

“His desperate murmur mixes with the chanting. . . and together they form the most beautiful symphony, a rhapsody of hope and change.”

West mentions current celebrities and products which places the story in the here and now, but I am undecided as to whether I like that or not. On the one hand, there is no question about the time frame, but on the other hand, it dates the book and may make it less relevant later. (I suppose since it works for me today, I won't worry about other peoples' tomorrows!) Kudos also go out to West for a cleanly edited book that allowed me to read and enjoy the story without distraction.

*The Thousand Tiny Miracles of Living Twice* feels real, even with a fantastical element to it. It left me feeling good. Thoughtful. Optimistic. Hopeful. . . and forgiving. Through the characters' travails, I realized I need to be more forgiving and accepting of myself and others. We are all in this life together, after all.

Thank you to Katarina West for inviting me to be a beta reader on this book and then providing me an eBook copy of the finished product in exchange for my honest opinion – the only kind I give. This full review and other features on Hall Ways Blog <http://kristinehallways.blogspot.com/...>

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## **Chitra Iyer says**

The synopsis of the book is enough to get a reader going. The author, Katarina West, has left no stone unturned to give us a heart touching and a surreal (quite literally!) experience. I can't wait to talk about this book, so let's get started, shall we?

Irene Nylander is a Finnish woman who lives with a husband who ignores her and a mother-in-law who despises her. Always wanting to help people, Irene leaves her job to take care of her mother-in-law and joins the rut of a domesticated life. She is fifty, over weight and is crazy about movies and no matter how much she tries, she never is able to stick to her diet. On the other hand, Mimi Kavanagh, a Hollywood celebrity is chilling on a yacht in Florence, Italy. She has it all. A beautiful face and body, fan following, money and, as if that wasn't enough, she is also the next Bond girl. But little does Mimi know that her life is about to do a nasty u-turn. Both Mimi and Irene are watched by Aaron, the mischievous angel, up in the heavens above and he decides to play a prank, that later, would cost him dearly. He switches the women's bodies. When Mimi wakes up with Irene's body, she is furious. Of course, the same cannot be said about Irene who cannot believe her eyes when she looks in the mirror and finds Mimi staring back at her! The book is about the journey of these two women in each others bodies and each other's situations. It is about how they discover their short comings which changes their lives completely. The book is also about Aaron, whose impishness has caused utter disarray up above.

Whoa! What a great story! I simply loved the fact that you wake up one day to find yourself in a completely different body and situation. It is exciting enough. But the author has gone one step further and shown us how we can actually enjoy what we have and begin living, really living. We take so many things for granted each day but without kindness or love, it is all meaningless. The book is a beautiful weave of the stories of the two characters and also of Aaron's. The angel was portrayed just as a human and hence it was relatively simple to relate to. There is a place in the story when Aaron travels through all of the different heavens. Such delightful heaven names! Simplicity in the story, simplicity in the narration. I think this is what makes this book such a fantastic read!

The narrative is smooth and engaging. Nowhere does the story encounter any slack. There is depth in the description of characters, especially with that of Irene and Mimi. Absolutely commendable! The author has tried to put forward a thought - that we always have angels around us, to help and support us. And she does that with total conviction through this book, I must say! I mean, who wouldn't want to have an angel for themselves, right? The thought of having a guardian looking out for you is in itself, quite liberating I believe.

In short, the book gives us enough food for thought and encourages us to enjoy what we love doing. Everyone has priorities but we must never forget to do what we love, and truly live. *The Thousand Tiny Miracles of Living Twice* is a warm, beautiful story that should not be missed. It is unlike any book that I

have read so far.

Need I say more? Definitely recommended!

\*\*\* This book was sent to me by the author in exchange for an honest review. \*\*\*

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## **books are love says**

This is quite a leap for Katarina West. And what a great leap she made. Katarina took a risk with changing her writing concept and it paid off in leaps and bounds. This book is more introspective and light than her others. We have the body swap but with such a different way of seeing it. Here Aaron (the angel from Little Heaven and the prankster there), Mimi and Irene have a body change that has them all change in a positive way.

Irene is the one who precipitates this when she has Aaron really feel her despair and desire to be someone else. Her life is lost in so many ways. She has become resigned to life as it is but inside there is still fight she just needs a experience outside the norm to realize this. She needs to see from the outside that she is worth it. She has goals and dreams and isn't one to let go even though in a way she did over time. Her husband is one that angers you. He treats her with indifference until she is no longer around. Her best friend is a selfish person and I love how she gets taught a lesson and has the tables turned and feels the loss and helplessness Irene feels. So for her the change of body gives Irene a chance to be someone she thought she wanted to be. Only she realizes that it isn't all it's cracked up to be. But does learn that she is alive and still has fight in her. She gains confidence and accepts who she is. Irene learns to like herself again and want to do something other than let life pass her by. Irene learns to grab life by the horns.

Mimi starts this out as a very selfish and rude person. She lets go of who she once was so she can become famous. In essence she loses the core of her being. So this swap helps her regain that person. She sees what it is like for someone over fifty. How they are treated with indifference. And when you are overweight it is worse. Mimi learns though to live again. To be free of the constraints of fame and see that what is on the outside doesn't matter as much as what you feel inside. Mimi learns to like Irene look at her life in different eyes. She sees what she became and sees who she wants to be. Mimi comes to find herself and what is important.

Aaron has the most amazing introspective journey. When in human form he learns the consequences of pranks and how much compassion and desire to help humans he has. He learns to do something without wanting anything but to help. Aaron learns what an angel really is. So for me seeing the actions of Nemiel on Aaron was good and bad. Aaron does as well. He sees that although Nemiel is using him for nefarious purposes it is also a blessing in disguise and he can do more good.

The story is one that transforms the idea of seeing things through other's eyes. Each character gets a lesson in loving themselves, finding themselves and what they wish to be and do. We see them learn about themselves-the good, bad and ugly. They face it head on and take a journey that is awe inspiring.

Katarina has once again given us inspiration and beauty through her writing-showing us lessons to be learned not only by her characters but by us as well. We are taken into the story and this world as while reading. It is as if you are one of the characters and you gain strength as Irene does, compassion and the desire to help no

matter what like Aaron does and see the value of others that aren't famous or thin or young as Mimi does. You get the experiences of the characters through Katarina's words and it is so memorable and wonderful you won't be able to put it down. There are fun moments, tender moments and sad moments but no matter what each one has you feel and learn and go on a amazing journey. So look forward to the next to see where Mimi, Irene and Aaron go from here and where the next chapter brings them.

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### **Cheryl says**

I wasn't sure what to expect when I read the blurb on the back of the book, so it was a pleasant surprise to find an engaging, humorous and soul-stirring romp of a feel-good read, with surprisingly believable, if caricatural, characters. This is the first book of the Angel Aid series, and I'm intrigued to follow the further adventures of the hapless trio, to see how successful they can be in orchestrating happy endings, including their own.

full review on my blog : <http://madhousefamilyreviews.blogspot...>

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