



Tap & Gown

Diana Peterfreund

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Fans of *Beautiful Disaster* will devour Diana Peterfreund's Ivy League novels--*Secret Society Girl*, *Under the Rose*, *Rites of Spring (Break)*, and *Tap & Gown*. At an elite university, Amy Haskel has been initiated into the country's most notorious secret society. But in this power-hungry world where new blood is at the mercy of old money, hooking up with the wrong people could be fatal.

The countdown to Amy's graduation has begun, and suddenly the perfect ending to a perfectly iconoclastic college career is slipping from her grasp. Her new boyfriend is considering an offer he can't refuse, while Amy hasn't even filed her fellowship applications. And the young woman she's chosen to take her place in Rose & Grave seems to come complete with a secret life already intact.

Lunging toward real life in the world beyond the hallowed halls of Eli University, Amy finds trouble around every corner, from society intrigues and unlikely stalkers to former flames and mandatory science credits. Surely it couldn't get worse . . . until Initiation Night explodes into a terrifying scene and into a final test of wits for a young woman just trying to make it out of the Ivy League in one piece.

Tap & Gown Details

Date : Published May 19th 2009 by Delta (first published January 1st 2009)

ISBN : 9780385341943

Author : Diana Peterfreund

Format : Paperback 352 pages

Genre : Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, New Adult, Fiction, Young Adult, Contemporary, Romance, Academic, College

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From Reader Review Tap & Gown for online ebook

Caitlin Wyatt says

I am so sad it is over but still so glad it happened. I can shamelessly admit I grew attached to each and every Digger. I ended up viewing Amy as a strong & brilliant girl who I would be happy to call a friend. I admired all the strong female relationships in this series & felt even more proud when the boys evolved into men who I could respect. I initially didn't know what I could gain from reading a book about Ivy League secret societies.. To answer that I gained a lot of insight into a world I knew nothing about, truthfully. Amy & her friends taught me people grow and change, college is a learning experience to be embraced. I found Amy to be normal & headstrong & willing to let a wonderful guy walk out of her life even though she wanted him to stay. She wanted him to be happy, she was realistic & dealt so well with each new catastrophe. I fully believe she worked hard & deserved all the happiness in the world. Poe grew so much as a character he just captivated me & I was simply itching to see his name pop up on a new page. I even love his creepy Voldemort snake. He was so misunderstood even by Amy for the longest time. I was completely frustrated by it, he had a slow but meaningful development. While reading he made me so mad, but I had to hold out hope & it paid off thank God. Lydia, Jenny, Demetria, Clarissa, Michelle & even Mara at times made the book more welcoming & warm. I felt like I was a part of their close bond. Friendship is such a cool thing & it played such a pivotal role in this series, it made me love the books more. The mystery & romance is all good but the strong long lasting bond among the girls & all the Digger's made me smile. We may not understand it at times, but it was a lovely thing to experience. They all made mistakes & grew into worthwhile people, no one in the books came across as perfect they all had flaws. The flaws made them better at least in my eyes, the character development was magical. I can look back on what I read and see where they evolved. I did miss Malcolm in this book, if I had to complain. The rain/robe/buyyoupizza scene totally made up for anything I could find to whine about, it was genius.. I am still grinning ear to ear thinking about it. I am going to push this series on a lot of people for the rest of the summer, I can see it happening.

Bárbara Morais says

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S OVER PLEASE I WANT MORE PLEAAAASE

Lulufrances says

Oh...ughhhhhh :(((

One of my favourite series is over! Cue sadness! Cue crying over the fact that Amy Haskel is a precious little cupcake and one of my fav ever characters and I won't get to read anything new about her!

(Unless I find a way to bribe Diana Peterfreund - ideas, anyone?)

Cue a possibly weird review that shouldn't have the audacity to call itself that.

Remember how in my review of book three I said I wouldn't read Tap & Gown for a while because I want to savour this world a bit longer?

Hah. That was last week. Monday or Tuesday.

Then Saturday came. (Or was it Friday? Whatever)

It was one of those days, where things are strange and there's this general notion of exasperated *what is life* in the air, so, naturally, I sought some comfort reading and Tap & Gown basically screamed at me from my nightstand to pick it up.

How could I refuse? So, please excuse me.

Anyway.

I'm still gushing over everything I mentioned in all three previous ramblings about this series.

Amy Haskel is gonna go down in NA history, my friends, at least in my books.

She's the best.

Diana Peterfreund had me giggling numerous times again, and I love how intelligently she writes and yet manages to keep a modern, young tone.

I'm feeling a bit nostalgic already for Eli and all things Rose and Grave, so I'll stop now before this turns into a sob-fest.

As always, for more similar musings, check out my other reviews for this series and **FRIKKIN READ IT ALREADY.**

Maggie says

This is what I needed to get through this book:

Lifesavers + a glass case of emotion.

Full review to come.

Jess says

My (very) minor complaint about this book is how quickly it goes by. Spring break to graduation feels like it takes a nanosecond, which is actually very true to life but terrible when you want to savor a ship.

tl;dr

PAJAMIE AND AMY FOREVER.

Katie says

[Too many new characters! (hide spoiler)]

Abby says

I love this series. It's just the right mix of mystery, drama and silly. This is the last of 4 books and, even

though all ended as it should, I really wish there were 4 more!

Haley says

I did like this book, but I had a few things I would've changed as her editor. Here is the list:

- 1.) I REALLY wanted to hear the interviews with the taps, as hers from the first book, Secret Society Girl, were hilarious.
- 2.) While we did get a lot of Poe (Jamie) in this one, I wanted to know more about what he was thinking
- 3.) The ending REALLY dissatisfied me! I liked it, and it was happy, but there was just something about it...I don't know...

Otherwise, a read I would definitely recommend!

Heidi says

I loved this series, I just wish there hadn't been more or less the exact same plot device in the last 3 books.

cloudyskye says

It's here! It's here! Just fished it out of the letterbox. So happy!!!!

--- And it didn't disappoint. Almost anything I could write here would be a spoiler, so let's just say the future is a reasonable and not unrealistic HEA for our favourite Diggers (if rather bittersweet for some), justice is set to have its course, even if not each and every answer is spelled out.

All in all I'm really grateful to D. P. for 4 volumes of enjoyment, not to forget the little extra stories on her blog, and a new literary crush - Jamie, of course!

Norah Una Sumner says

I hereby confess: I can't believe it's over.

If someone told me a month ago that I'll get so attached to a certain character in 2015, I wouldn't believe him. But here I am, at the end of this magnificent story that pretty much ruined my life, and all I can think about is how I would pretty much give my kidney to forget about it so that I can read this series all over again. These books gave me so much joy that I can't even express my gratitude to Diana freaking Peterfreund. I will miss my wonderful Amy, her adventures... and that special boy we all fell in love with so much. The whole story was amazing and so was the ending. I actually shed a few tears after finishing

it. God, when did I get all sensitive and shit? But seriously now, I'm so proud to be a part of this phenomenal journey of my dear Diggers.

Favourite quotes:

“You want to know what’s even more troublesome?” I scooted up. **“Our real names rhyme.”**
He chuckled. “Yeah, they do. I never thought of that.”

“We’ve known each other for a while,” I said. “And our feelings just ... blossomed.”
“Like fungus off rotted meat?” Josh snarked.

“There’s nothing wrong with Plan B. **Play it right, and no one will even know it wasn’t your first choice.**”

“Pleasanter surprise,” he managed, backing us away from the threshold. There’s the idea. I pushed him gently against the wall and started tugging on his shirt.

“About to get even pleasanter,” I murmured against his neck as my fingers found the drawstring of his pants. **Bad grammar is such a turn- on.”**

“The last time I had sex,” I said, “was Halloween.”

He nodded slowly. **“That was my birthday.”**

I choked on my waffle. This was getting worse and worse. “No!”

“Why do you think they called me ‘Poe?’” I had always guessed it was because he was morose and taciturn and creepy.

“Um ... because ‘Hotstuff’ was taken?”

“You know what you remind me of,” Odile said to them as they scooted into the booth. “Those sneaky co-stars having an on-set affair who are always so careful not to let anyone photograph them together because they don’t want the paparazzi to have any material by which to draw inferences.”

“You know what you remind me of?” Jenny replied coolly. **“The paparazzi.”**

Odile: **“Touché.”**

“Topher?” Dude, how many oaths did this kid plan to break in his first month as a Digger? Who did he think he was? **Me?**”

“I mean being a knight,” she said. “Was it worth it?”

The drama, the heartache, the stress? The friendships, the conspiracies, the pranks, the bonding ... Was it worth it? **Oh, yeah.** But then her words sunk in. Was. Past tense. For I was no longer an active knight of Rose & Grave. **I was a patriarch.**”

“Hey, Mom and Dad, this is my “friend” Jamie. My boyfriend Jamie. We’re going to England together. Also, I met him in a secret society. We’re Diggers, folks. And Eli graduates. And in love. What do you think?”

Sarah (thegirltheycalljones) says

This whole series is a success, the four books were great and never once was I bored or wanted to do anything else than read! Honestly, I'm this close to upgrade my ratings and give it 5 stars, because guys, I had a blast! It was fun, smart and captivating, I loved the characters and the plot and I wouldn't have minded to read more books about them!

It definitely deserves better than those lousy covers that screams cheap and dull. Because yes, it is a series about a college secret society, about boys and girls, about romance but it's much more than that.

It also approaches some important topics as the need to fight a misogynistic society and be ready to take some risk in order to do so because it's worth it.

It's about diversity and you'll be glad to know this series has POC and LGBT characters who are proud to fight for their rights (it's not the central topic but it's there in many ways).

It talks about blackmail and harrassment and the importance of not remaining silent about it, of the necessity to talk about it and the right of justice you have as a human being.

I got quite emotional about Michelle's story because it hit a bit too much close to home and I will not take this review as a therapy but fuck, your right to say "no" matters and nobody can take it away from you. And if they do, you bring them down. Because they're the monsters. Fight back and talk, don't let them win.

Aaaand on this mood-killing note, let's move on!

Another great surprise was...*drumrolls*... THE GIRL FRIENDSHIPS! YES! Girls are friends! They like and back up each others! Whoop whoop! I shouldn't be *that* excited about it but as you all know, it's still too rare to not be highlighted.

Anyway, I don't want to exaggerate and make this series look like something its not, as I said, it's not Shakespeare, but I don't want you to think it's only some silly romance with no depth at all.

It remained a very fun read and I recommand it anybody who wants to chill out without letting their brains on the doorstep.

Thanks again to Gelis for finding and letting me know about this unicorn, and for listening to my hysterical reactions by PM all along. You did a wonderful job of "being here but not saying a word because no spoilers"!

Danielle Gomes says

Que Série ❤? Eu comprei essa série a anos atrás mas só fui iniciar e finalizar esse ano de 2017. Nem acredito que esperei tanto para ler mas foi super incrível pq li com as minhas amigas e foi super divertido poder falar sobre a história. Nesse livro vemos sobre as finalizações, do romance, do futuro dos personagens e claro nada foi fácil. Teve um problema pro meio até o final do livro que foi interessante mostrar o engajamento feminino mas a única coisa que não curti muito foi a forma que foi administrada pela universidade, achei meio irreal, fora isso, curti cada página e não queria que acabasse. Essa é uma das melhores épocas da vida e me fez lembrar muito desse período da minha vida. Amei essa série e vale muito a pena ler. 4,5!

Angie says

I was having a truly mediocre day. Nothing was going right. I couldn't snap out of it. And the whole thing was rapidly approaching a complete wash. In a last ditch attempt to jar my mood, I went out to check the mail. An ARC of TAP & GOWN was waiting for me and presto! Crappy day salvaged. Ironically, writing this review has been hard. Truth be told, I've actually been avoiding it. And it's not because I didn't love it. Because let me tell you, I loved this book like George Harrison Prescott loves women. No, I've been avoiding it for a much more cowardly reason. You see, I kept getting a lump in my throat every time I went to write it. Because writing it would mean it was really over. The book, the series, the whole Amy at Eli saga. And, yes, I know Rampant will be out soon and I am seriously looking forward to that. But this series will always hold a special place in my heart and it's hard to see it come to a close. Even the kind of close that leaves you with a big, ear-to-ear grin on your face.

Amy's made it to her last semester at Eli. Time is running out and she has a thesis to finish, a brand new boyfriend she'd like to spend some "quality" time with, and an appropriate replacement Digger to find who will supposedly take her place within the tomb of Rose & Grave. And though she's studiously avoided thinking about it up until now, she also has to deal with her own personal post-traumatic fallout from the events at the end of spring break. Feeling rundown, anxious, and like senior year is kicking her butt seven ways from Sunday, Amy finds herself the unexpected recipient of rather a lot of attention from a few very hopeful, very accomplished undergrads. Of course, in true Bugaboo fashion, when she does stumble across the perfect tap, her potential choice comes complete with the kind of baggage guaranteed to scandalize the venerable patriarchs of R&G. It seems she is once more surrounded by secrets, some of them harmless, and some of them poised to wreck everything she's worked so hard to achieve.

Amy is such a strong character. She's an everygirl and, as a result, it's just so dang easy to empathize with her, particularly when we've had the opportunity to follow her through four books and watch her progress from an uncertain, unwelcome, uncomfortable-in-her-own-skin fledgling Diggirl, to a confident lynchpin member of a whole new order of Rose & Grave. Perhaps most satisfactory of all, she becomes brave in her honesty. Even when it scares her. She learns to be careful with (and protective of) the relationships she formed in her time at Eli. She understands how she fits into the larger scheme of things and she knows what (and who) is important. Frankly, I was proud of the girl. I have to say, it is extremely gratifying to finish a series feeling like the characters would be people worth knowing, like it played out the way it was meant to, like the author knows the score. Diana Peterfreund delivers with TAP & GOWN.

I hereby confess: It was good for me.

Tiff at Mostly YA Lit says

4.5 stars. Re-read. Spoilers abound.

I stayed up until 5am RE-reading this a few nights ago, which tells you how I feel about it. I love pretty much everything about this book. Definitely the best in the series, where the themes of secrecy, love vs. everything else, and violence against women culminate. I honestly don't think I can put into words how amazing this book is, how much it crystallizes what women have to do to be heard, how much it matters, and how much this book captures those "final moments before I graduate" feelings.

Aside from that, a few things I noticed on my second read:

- 1) Josh knew about Jamie's ambitions (not for BigLaw) before Amy did - how did that happen? I want an explanation, Diana.
- 2) Amy really is incredibly terrible at relationships. She's definitely not a trusting person. Which makes it all the more amazing that she and Jamie were finally able to get together
- 3) In my headcanon, Amy and Jamie are now married, living in DC or Manhattan together.

That is all. If you haven't read this series, you have to. Go. Now. Go.

Maria Angelica says

3.5

Eu gostei desse último livro, mas confesso que não foi o desfecho que estava esperando. Achei que foram coladas diversas estórias uma na outra e não combinaram completamente. Principalmente o fato do conflito principal do livro surgir apenas pela metade e não ter nada a ver com a nossa personagem principal. Isso é algo que sempre me incomoda, pois faz dela uma observadora das situações a sua volta. Ou seja, não é emocionante para mim como leitora.

Também o "desaparecimento" de outro personagem relevante e o "ressurgimento" ao final ficou muito sem sentido. Apesar de vermos um pouco o quanto isso afeta a Amy, não entendi pq tinha que acontecer.

Gostei do livro, mas infelizmente me deixou com a sensação que faltou estória para contar nesse mundo.

Sara ♥ says

August 18-19, 2012

Do I even need to say anything here? This book rocks. This series rocks. If you haven't read it, what are you waiting for? Go get them and read them! Definitely in order though... So start with Secret Society Girl! Seriously.

December 20-21, 2011

Pooooooooooooooooooooo!

October 11-12, 2009

I just reread book 3, so I had to continue on with book 4!! *sigh* The ending was so great... and the middle.... and the beginning.... ;) Okay, I mostly just loved this book. Michelle was a fabulous new character!

May 18-19, 2009

I don't want to spoil anything, but I was really worried about half-way through the book that the book would end horribly... But by the time I finished that last page, I was happy with it. ... Yeah. Let's leave it at that.

EEEEEEKKKK!! SO CRAZY!!!

Jennifer says

Loved loved loved this series. So sad to see it end. I fell in love with Jamie and Amy's torrential relationship. The thing I liked best about the whole series was that there was a substantial mystery included in the wonderful fluffy stuff. Most of the characters were so well developed and you were drawn to them (or not, as the case is with some of them), wanted the best for them, and wanted them to do certain things. The smut factor (and I say that in a good way) was just right, not too much, but enough to be interesting. I wish there would be additional books in the series. I can imagine the capers Bugaboo would find herself into in the Real World.

Alix says

Reread September 2015

Bumping it up to 5 stars because PAJAMIE/AMY AND ALL THE FEELINGS!!!!

Tori says

[I get so sad for Jenny and Harun! I know there are definitely lots of different kinds of love and lots of different kinds of ways to love people, but it just seems so sad, and they seem sad about it. I JUST WANT THEM TO BE OKAY AND IN LOVE AND HAPPY FOREVERRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR.

I still never know how to feel about Jamie quitting the CIA or whatever it is for Amy. I mean on the one hand DEF BE TOGETHER ALWAYS but IDK does it seem al
