



## Other Side of Forever

*Shannon Eckrich*

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Seventeen-year-old Allie Anderson's telekinetic powers are anything but useful--she can't bring her father back, can't stop her mother's downward spiral into alcohol, and can't keep her from falling in love with Ethan Bradley. Loving Ethan is easy, but it comes with a hefty price: Ethan is prohibited by his people from interacting with mortals--because he isn't mortal himself. When Allie and Ethan's love is discovered, there's someone who will do anything to keep them apart. If Allie can't learn to control her powers and fight to save Ethan, this dark entity will make every attempt to stop her beating heart. And if that happens, not even the energy of an immortal can bring her back.

## **Other Side of Forever Details**

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Author : Shannon Eckrich

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## From Reader Review Other Side of Forever for online ebook

### Hot Stuff Book Reviews says

<http://freak-ya-tastic.blogspot.com/2013/07/review-other-side-of-forever.html>...

This book is the first one of a series but I don't know when the sequel will be in store right now.

I want to thank the author who gave me a free e-copy of her novel for me to read and review.

Being a YA novel with a love-story in center stage, it's getting a little too much cheesy sometimes even if not unexpected. I just don't buy completely the relationship between Ethan and the main character. These two characters together are cute and all but it's maybe a little too fast for me. Even more when you consider the point of view of the main character at the beginning of the novel. She changes her mind and sees things otherwise and I'm glad but it's maybe a little too "easy", even more with her mother too quickly out of the picture.

But, because there's always a but, this relationship isn't spared of hard obstacles but are resolved too "easily" or not well used for us, the readers. The feelings of these two and the little moments between them are cute and well-written but somehow I don't really buy them. I'm kind of weird sometimes.

Also, I don't see what Erica's character brings to the story. She's kind of invisible even if she's the bestfriend of the main character. I would have preferred to "see" her more.

And, Jeremy and Keira are too much in the background which gives too much room for Ethan and Allie - the main character - when, in my opinion, sometimes it's not necessary. Keira stays too long in the background when she could have brought really something.

I'm a little disappointed how things are resolved because it seems too fast, too "easy" if I can point it that way and just too much. On the other hand, I like to have some little things still with no answers like about Allie's parents or about Ethan and Tobias.

But, the thing I really enjoy the most in this book are the immortals and the other dimension. I hope to see more about them both and to dwelve into it furthermore. It's different, it's well-thought and well-built and it's a gigantic good point in this kind of YA book.

If you want to spend a lovely time with a novel, go and buy this book. I rated it 4 stars on Goodreads.

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### Tilly Currer (Hardcore Heroines) says

I'd like to start by saying thank you Shannon for giving me this book to review. The Other Side Of Forever had a very original premise and if you're sick of the constant vampire/werewolf books being churned out, I recommend this one. The concept of mortals and immortals was refreshing.

The telekinetic powers attracted me because it was unique; Allie hates her powers and can't manipulate them easily, she has kept this secret hidden and whenever she gets emotional, her powers get out-of-control. I liked the idea of energy and how she could control certain objects, this made for a more entertaining read. Allie's problems at home gave her a believable background and many teenagers could relate to this. It also gave another layer to her character and made her more complex. She had a hard time loving Ethan, because she'd gotten hurt before, so at the beginning she pushes him away. This angst was great and I thought the build-up to their first kiss was nicely paced. Sadly, as the book progresses, I thought they fell in love too quickly to be believable as I felt they barely knew each other. This ruined the romance slightly for me, as their professing love for each other seemed a little silly.

The bad guy's bravado was poor, he didn't infuse me with fear for the characters, no matter how powerful he supposedly was. The climax at the end was good, especially because I always like a bad guy that has a past and reasons for his actions, but it was a bit of an information dump at the end, and he sounded like a bad cartoon character.

I had problems with Allie being saved a lot- she was saved by Ethan on numerous occasions. All of those times she didn't even try to save herself and that bothered me. I realise she is a character a lot of teenage girls would like though, because she is very passive and could be easily related-to, but she was too passive for me. I think this might be deliberate to make her stronger throughout the series, at least I hope so because I liked the twist at the end and it seemed to be the beginning of her character development.

Ethan was a great male character, I can see a lot of girls fangirling over him. He grabbed me from the moment when he simply sat down and read a book- guys reading books are hot. He had a certain type of mystery surrounding him that made him more alluring and his past was an interesting back story.

There was also a strong balance between plot and romance, with puzzling occurrences in the beginning that lead to hair-raising conclusions in the end.

Overall, it was a great debut novel and even though I had some problems, it had characters that were easily related-to, an original premise, and I'm looking forward to the next in the series.

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## **D. says**

One thing I loved about this book was the way the Author brought a new concept on Mortals and Immortals.

The heroine of this book Allie is your typical teenager that doubts herself. That all stems from her telekinetic powers. She has not learned how to control them yet. So she is constantly blocking life away so that no one finds out. Plus adding to the fact that her parents abandon her literally. First her father, then her mother and her mother takes the Allie's dog!

Then she meets Ethan Bradley, everything evolving from there. He has a special way of calming her, which untimely calms her powers as well. I think the Author has great potential with this book! Definitely a great base line & intriguing characters. I only wish there would of been more strength added to Allie. Maybe if Allie and Ethan's relationship was not made out to be the instant love? But it worked in any case for this particular story.

I absolutely loved Jeremy, her best friend! I am so waiting to see what happens in the next book! There better be a next book, because I have too many unanswered questions. I am so sure Jeremy will be something special and have some special powers of his own. I will say the author did an awesome job and keeping me

in the dark about Ethan. I went into this book blindly, so well done! The book doesn't have a cliffhanger but it does leave you with some questions, just enough to prep you for the next journey of Allie and Ethan.

As I said, very good story concept, if you like action, mystery and romance you should give this book a try! I look forward to reading more. One thing for sure all the YA girls will be drooling all over Ethan!

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### **Kelly says**

First thing about this review is that real life sort of interrupted me between accepting the read/review for this book and actually getting around to reading it. I say that because by the time I got around to it, I had forgotten what the blurb said and started reading it with a completely clean slate. It means I didn't know about her take on mortals and immortals, which is a prime part of the suspense of the novel and probably made it a much better read. I kept thinking "I swear I didn't have a vampire book on my list, and things aren't quite right for vamps anyway..." At the same time, the mystery had me intrigued and it was a genuinely different twist on the idea.

The building and the pacing in the beginning of the novel are very good. I seemed to blink and be 20% in. The author does a good job of keeping you in the dark (provided you've forgotten the blurb), and not telling you until the last minute. The concept as a whole has great potential. It's different, I love me some immortals, and it's a bit unexpected, especially in a time where the market is flooded with vampire/werewolf paranormal books.

That being said, there were a couple of things that really irked me about this book, and the more I read, the worse they got. The prime one is an issue of dialogue. Of all the problems I have with books, that usually isn't one of them, but in this book it definitely was. It was awkward in places, dialogue tags that didn't seem to match with what I was "hearing" the characters say (you know, someone says something sarcastically except the answer isn't actually a sarcastic one?), and progressing to some dialogue that was just painfully out of place. Things that made me stop and re-read and assure myself that, yes, that was actually in quotes, she did actually just say that. There are mini-info dumps in dialogue with language that no modern day teenager would use (at least, none that I've ever known). I realize that I'm a bit more of a critical reader than most, but I shared the first example that really tripped me up with a friend and was asked if it was a historical novel; the language is that out of context. It isn't everywhere, but once it begins, it rather continues, making what had been an effortless read a lot more stilted and unnatural for me.

The second is the action sequence at the end of the book. Having been through a few lately whose action sequences were their strengths, this one was definitely a weakness, up to and including the trite villain monologue (again in that weird not quite right language). There wasn't a rush for it, no drive to see from one moment to the next, a lot of fuzzy, in-and-out pacing (it's deliberate, but very awkward), it just didn't read very smoothly and didn't drag me to the finish line.

The characters are more-or-less just kind of there. I never got very strong mental images of most of them. I think the potential for this idea and these characters is there, I'm just not entirely sure that it's been fully realized yet. However, if you're looking for a contemporary paranormal read and are over vamps and werewolves, based on strength of concept alone, you should definitely give *Other Side of Forever* a try. I'd pick up another book from this world, just to see where she goes with it.

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## **Cindy Smith says**

Allie is a teenager from a broken home. Her dad left and her mom fell into the bottle because of it. She has sworn off love. Her best friend since childhood is Jeremy and he knows everything about her...almost. He moves away leaving Allie with only a few friends. She is trying to be just a normal kid getting through a school day. It is a tough job as her emotions cause all kinds of electrical problems, and when her mother takes off with her dog, the race is on.

Ethan shows up at her job one day and ultimately saves her from school bullies. She notices her "powers" calm around him.

Jeremy shows up to rescue her and there is a cute "why didn't you tell me" time. Her two best girlfriends are also shocked to learn that Allie is living alone.

Ethan was human but was turned immortal during the Civil War. His honest nature and compassion has gained the attention of the head immortal filling his son with jealousy.

I hope this is a series as there are a lot of unanswered questions and the characters are developed in such a way that you really want to know what happens to them next!

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## **Brownie says**

Other Side of Forever was a quick read and although there were many elements of it that I enjoyed, the lack of sufficient character development prevented it from living up to its true potential.

The protagonist, Allie, is telekinetic, fatherless, and has an alcoholic mother. She meets Ethan Bradley and her life is irrevocably changed.

While I deeply enjoyed the otherworldly dimension of immortals and Allie's supernatural gifts, she struck me a bit immature and whiny at times. I understand Allie had a tough time growing up, but whenever the protagonist starts self-pitying themselves it's a huge turn off and I can't help but roll my eyes. But, aside from the moments of immaturity Allie's character is admirable. She is loyal, kind, and capable of standing her ground. It's clear she'll fight for those she loves. I'm eager to see what more Allie is capable of and how she'll grow as a character. The secondary characters, on the other hand, weren't very well-developed that their interactions and relationships with each other felt a bit superficial.

For all those against insta-love romances be warned because that is exactly what happens between Allie and Ethan. Though surprisingly, Allie and Ethan manage to pull off the insta-love making their affections for each other true and believable.

Overall I enjoyed the book. It has an interesting concept with potentially interesting characters. If there is a sequel I'd definitely read it. I'm excited to see Allie further exercise her gift, as well as, see all characters develop more. I'm also interested in learning more about Allie's father and his mysterious past. I give it 3.5 stars, rounded up to four.

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## **Fiona Wilson says**

I have read a lot of YA fiction involving teenagers with special powers, aliens, that sort of thing. And I got to a point in this story where I thought this was going to be the same. But I was pleasantly surprised to find that the male figure in this story wasn't an alien after all!

Allie lives with her mother, they have lived alone since her dad left them. On the same day her dad left she began to discover she had a talent. This talent, however, is one she finds difficult to control. She tends to lose control in certain situations when she feels uncomfortable or pressured. However one day this all changes.

Allie works in a shop which sells paranormal paraphernalia. She is working one day and finds herself in the midst of a heated exchange involving Becca Wallace, a girl from school who has a huge grudge against her. Allie is losing control, everything around her is in chaos, then suddenly it goes silent. She realises that someone else has walked into the shop. It is a boy, who she feels instantly attracted to, not only because he looks good, but because he has silenced the chaos which always surrounds her.

The next day the boy turns up at her school. His name is Ethan, and she is still attracted to him. Ethan warns her off, tries to stop her getting too close, but Allie is hooked on him without really knowing why.

Allie goes through a lot in this story, physically, mentally and emotionally. She has to deal with her mother, who became an alcoholic after her husband left. She has to deal with abuse from Becca, who seems hellbent on revenge against Allie. And she has to deal with her growing attraction to Ethan, who seems intent on staying away from her. But something always brings him back again.

In the end Allie has to learn how to use her powers, how to control them, and ultimately how to use them in order to get what she wants.

I love the relationship between Allie and Ethan, and the fact that despite his best efforts to keep away from her, they are destined to be together. He completes her, calms her. I love the twist where we discover who, or what, Ethan is. And I love that Allie has to fight for what she wants against something she doesn't understand. But above all I love the relationship Allie has with her best friend, Jeremy. They have an amazing relationship, he arrives just when she needs him most and proves his worth as a friend. Everyone should have a best friend like Jeremy.

I understand there is to be a sequel to this book, and that excites me. I can't wait to see where the author takes the characters and their story.

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## **Reading is my Time Out says**

Other Side of Forever was an amazingly quick read that contained just enough YA and paranormal to make it a good read. I love that the author took on a subject like teen love and immortals, but added a twist to it!

Allie, the heroine of the book, has a power that she has kept hidden since she was 10 years old. She isn't sure if it is a gift or a curse. She views it as a curse because she didn't gain this power until her dad left her and

her mother. Her mother is a drunk and has preached the fact that love is for fools to Allie since losing her father. Allie decided early on that if she closed herself off to people and didn't let them in, she would never fall in love, therefore never getting hurt. She has her friends, yes...but they aren't close enough for her to tell her secret to. Allie's mom is notorious for taking off and abandoning her for weeks at a time, so in Allie's mind everyone leaves... another reason not to let anyone near her heart.

Enter Ethan... oh Ethan.... he is from Asteria and his people do not take well to falling in love with a mortal. The higher ups in his Asterian society have made it their business to forbid Ethan and Allie to fall in love and make sure they are separated at all costs. Ethan is a hero of all heroes. He saves Allie from disaster after disaster and even balances her wonky powers while she learns to control them. He is the perfect boyfriend... minus the fact that his Asterian family want her dead!

I give Other Side of Forever 3.8 stars on the knock my socks off scale!! I loved how the story flowed, the characters were endearing, and the basis of the book grabbed my attention from page 1! This is a phenomenal YA book and a must read for YA lovers!! I can't wait to see what Shannon Eckrich has in store for us in her next installment of this hopeful series!! \*\*hint hint\*\*

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### **Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says**

I had been curious about this book for awhile so when the author approached me about doing a review I jumped at the chance.

I have to say, this really was a very unique fun read. Not at all what I was expecting.

As a little girl (okay, maybe as an adult too) you always imagine what you would want for a super power if you could choose one and telekinesis was always high on my top 5 powers I would choose. I mean how cool would it be to be able to move things around with your mind? You would never have to get up to reach something again! Okay, maybe that power appealed to my more lazy side, either way, it would be super cool.

Ahem, where was I now? Right, telekinesis. Allie has this power but instead of seeing it as a gift she sees it as a curse. She isn't able to control it and unfortunately it springs up at the most inconvenient times.

Enter Ethan. A super hot guy new into town who not only shows an interest in Allie (who has sworn off love by the way) but it also somehow able to calm her crazy energetic powers by simply being near her and you have one heck of a storyline.

This really was a fun story. I liked the original storyline as well as the characters. It wasn't something that has been done over and over but yet, still had elements to it of other books that I have read and enjoyed in the past.

There wasn't exactly an insta love story going on but it was close, which admittedly did bother me a little bit but I was able to overlook it to get to the real heart of the story and discover exactly who Ethan was and to learn more about Allie.

While we didn't get all of Allie's background revealed to us (I really wanted to know more about her dad and what made Allie so special exactly and what that meant for her) we did get some and I am really hoping that

the sequel will bring more of that to life along with her mother's story as well.

I really think readers who enjoy fantasy would like this one. I think it shows promise and I would pick up the next book and read it just to see where the author took the storyline.

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### **Regan says**

Seventeen-year-old Allie Anderson's telekinetic powers are anything but useful--she can't bring her father back, can't stop her mother's downward spiral into alcohol, and can't keep her from falling in love with Ethan Bradley. Loving Ethan is easy, but it comes with a hefty price: Ethan is prohibited by his people from interacting with mortals--because he isn't mortal himself. When Allie and Ethan's love is discovered, there's someone who will do anything to keep them apart. If Allie can't learn to control her powers and fight to save Ethan, this dark entity will make every attempt to stop her beating heart. And if that happens, not even the energy of an immortal can bring her back.

Teenage years are hard enough... but add Telekinesis to it, things just get harder! Allie, the main character, has this ability and is trying hard to keep it secret. The author, Shannon Eckrich, does a great job at creating romance between Allie and Ethan, drama with her alcoholic mother, and overall plot interest.

This is a great book with ups and downs. I enjoyed reading it, it made for a good "curl up by the fire and lose time reading" type of book. I could relate to Allie, special powers/alcoholic mother/absent father, and I think that's why I really dove into it and read it from beginning until end.

Well written, good grammar, and overall interesting book.

This was a review copy, thank you for the opportunity to read it for you.

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### **Avery Olive says**

Forbidden love is always up my alley, but when it's centered around believable characters--and Allie's real life, relatable problems, I just can't get enough. Mrs. Eckrich has created an amazing world with an interesting take on abilities. I felt I was right there in the novel with Allie and Ethan and their fight for love. Even better--it's wrapped up with some awesome writing. I can't wait for the sequel, that's for sure!

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### **Jessy says**

Meet Allie. She has telekinetic powers and has lived her entire life trying to keep it a secret. That's when Ethan comes in and somehow that changes everything! She falls fast and hard for him. They had a lot of cute moments and Shannon wrote them splendidly. She is definitely really good at cute romance! There were those charming moments when you catch yourself smiling and saying 'Awww'. But they have things being

hidden and when those secrets come to the surface it is dangerous for everyone! This is a couple that has to go fight for what they have no matter how many odds are against them! They must bring forth their inner powers to learn to defend themselves and those they love.

There were other background characters that we are introduced to and seem to take on big parts at the end of the story, but I think for them to take such a main part we needed to hear more about them. Jeremy her best friend seems like a really likeable guy and I wish we had more of him so that we could "see" why he's determined to fight so hard on Allie's side. Same with Kiera. She was in the back part of the story and showed up a few times throughout and I want to know so much more about her! Every character is someone I know we can stand behind! Shannon wrote them to appeal to the readers, now we just need be given the chance to relate to them. We do grasp on to Allie and Ethan and make a strong connection there with them and it's wonderful to have the feeling of becoming a united front with them and their friends to battle the "evil" against them!! I give this book my thumbs up!

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## **Kristin Scearce says**

Disclaimer: I received an e-copy in exchange for an honest review.

Allie is that awkward girl in school with only a couple friends, trying to keep her head down and her nose clean and make it through each day without causing a scene. However, there's a secret she's been carrying for years, a secret not even her best friend knows, and that's how she wants it to stay. That is, until a new boy strolls into the shop where she works, and throws all her best-laid plans of staying off love's radar out the window.

I rather enjoyed this book right from the start, as I remember being one of those awkward high school kids. Although, it was never to the extent of Allie, as she has to hold her emotions in check due to her secret. Not too easy when you're being harassed by two older bullies just for accidentally pushing one down the stairs. But while the two girls are trashing the store where she works, Allie loses it, and now what does she do? They know there's something up with her, but not exactly what, and then this hot new guy shows up, and her day just keeps getting better. Although many people would love the gorgeous new kid to take a shine to them, Allie's the complete opposite, and it gnaws at her that she feels an electric attraction to him whenever he's around. The main characters really grabbed my attention, as Allie and Ethan are both hiding something, and I couldn't wait to get to the part where they finally opened up about their secrets. Ethan's is a little beyond what Allie could have imagined, but their bond is great, and he helps her cope with everything in her life.

My only issue is I felt the ending was rushed. It was a great story, don't get me wrong, but about 3/4 through, I was under the impression it would continue into a second book because of the issue with Ethan (I don't want to give too much away). However, only a couple of chapters later, it gets resolved in one of those "happened in the background" type ways, and it just didn't seem to flow with the pace of the story. I would love a continuation, to see how the characters cope with what happens in the end, but if that's the case, then I wish the last couple chapters of this one had been stretched into a sequel. Still, a very good read, and I'd recommend it to fans of the paranormal, paranormal romance, and YA.

4 stars

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## Carrie Slager says

[Full disclosure: Shannon Eckrich sent me a free ebook in exchange for an honest review.]

Well, that wasn't at all what I expected. And considering I was expecting a typical YA book with a love triangle and a helpless heroine, that's a good thing!

There was no love triangle. I'm still trying to process this amazing fact. I haven't encountered a YA book without a love triangle in years, ever since the Twilight craze began. Other Side of Forever also doesn't end in the way you expect it to either. Shannon Eckrich didn't go for the stereotypical ending I would expect from a book with immortals. Heck, even her characters didn't fit into the archetypes they appeared to.

If I'm not being very articulate right now it's because I'm still trying to process this new development. Avoidance of clichés and stock characters? I'm having a tough time with this.

The plot was fast-paced and took some pretty unpredictable twists, both Allie and Ethan were believable characters, there was no Insta-Love and the immortals in this book are unique. If it had been my choice, I would not have stopped reading Other Side of Forever for anything: food, drink, etc. It quite literally kept me on the edge of my computer chair, reading frantically to find out how thing would turn out. Shannon Eckrich's premise was also unique and Allie's discovery of the secret world of immortals helped move the plot along as external forces tried to wrench her and Ethan apart.

The characters, oh the characters! Allie was not a poor, helpless damsel in distress. She was resourceful and strong, but not your stereotypical kick-butt heroine either. She's just an average girl who has some emotional scars from a pretty awful childhood. Ethan was not your stereotypical bad-boy immortal jerk. No, he was sweet and kind and never pressured Allie into anything or treated her badly at any point in the story. Both characters were obviously well developed and their relationship didn't go in the typical Insta-Love arc you find in YA. There were roadblocks along the way and the characters overcame them instead of acting like immature idiots. As you guys know, I'm not a big fan of romances. But I absolutely loved this one.

I don't care what type of books you normally read. You need to read Other Side of Forever right now. You'll love it.

I give this book 5/5 stars.

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## Soumi says

Allie was not a typical teenager, she is a telekinetic but she cannot use her power to get back or stop her mother from being an alcoholic. Without her sensible friends and job at book store her life was miserable. Enter Ethan, charming, caring, helping and dashing handsome but secretive. Their romance took a roller costar ride but there was something out there, someone dangerous and they will do anything to take last breath out of Allie.

**I closed my eyes and snuggled deeper into Ethan's arms, knowing that this was where I was meant to**

**be. And there was nothing in this world, or any other world, that could tear us apart.**

I loved the book; I never expected I will like the book so much. Books centering some forbidden love have always been my taste, and this one was no exception. The romance was fast paced but believable. Allie and Ethan were cute together. I enjoyed the romance and found myself engulfed by the romantic lines which were beautifully written.

I liked Allie as the main lead though I wanted her to be a little strong. No doubt her power was unique and impressive, truth to be spoken.

Ethan was breath taking beautiful and worthy enough to be the male lead. He belongs from a kind that forbids him to be with Allie. But when you are destined to be with someone, no can gets in your way. He was strong and loving, fought for Allie and protected her in every way, which I liked about him more.

Other side of forever brought some interesting concept about dimensions and portals, which was very imaginative of the author and the whole credit goes to her. I really wonder is it a stand alone or a series, cause I would love see more action and romance.

Easy to read, Other Side of Forever is a kind of book that once you start to read, you will not left until you are finished.

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