



# Ripple

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**Ripple** L.D. Cedergreen

Kendall Brooks has an impossible decision: Tell the truth or protect the lie?

She has buried herself in years of undergrad, medical school, and now her residency—hoping to leave behind what she is unable to face.

Her world is rocked to the core when she returns to her small hometown and runs smack dab into her first love, Adam McCoy.

Adam is the key. He stirs up old emotions that send Kendall spiraling back in time, remembering all the moments that led them to her ultimate deception.

Will revealing the truth of what transpired all those years ago provide her the self-forgiveness that she desperately craves or will her devastating secret destroy the only man she has ever truly loved, shattering her heart in its wake?

## Ripple Details

Date :

ISBN :

Author : L.D. Cedergreen

Format :

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance

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# From Reader Review Ripple for online ebook

## Rachaelthebiliophile says

H is a Cheater

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## Kristina says

Reminder to myself that yes I read this. No I did not like this story at all. No I will not read any more cheating asshole stories by this author. This is the 2nd book and this guy is an even bigger cheater than in the first book.

The H is another cheating manwhore who cheats on his girlfriend for months with his brother's girlfriend. And then gets away with it. The h irritates me when she takes blame on herself for circumstances instigated by HIS selfish self centred behaviour.

I have to laugh at all the "true love" feels from some readers. Seriously, so true love means being with a serial cheater who never gives a reason for his cheating other than he "regrets it". He love Kendi so much & wasn't a dirty sleazebag he would NOT have cheated for 5 plus months on her. That is not true love people.

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## Denise says

Spoiler

Spoiler

Spoiler

Cheating, selfish asshat. Betrayed her for months by cheating with his brothers gf. Suddenly developed a conscience, goes to Africa on a mission trip for two (he stretches it to three) years. She tells him the pregnancy test she took two days before the big departure was negative when it was really positive. Hears from him in Africa via letters while she's struggling with adoption decision and what to tell him. He decides to stay an extra year and wants her to wait. I didn't agree with her choice to keep it all a secret from him. Not at all. But she didn't trust him and they had no firm foundation for a future with or without a baby because he devastated her before with his REPEATED CHEATING. They spend 10 years apart. She goes to see him at

the airport when he returns at the end of his three year African mission only to see the girl he cheated with there hugging him. He turned to this chick (as friends only via letters) when Kendi refused to respond to his letters. Of all people it was her. Dick move. He then goes on to have a serious relationship with the cheater chick, who is all over being a ministers wife. But he can't commit to marrying her because he still loves Kendi. So he breaks it off with her and whores around. This is where I became totally disgusted with him. His whole moral conversion and repentance of his cheating and betrayal of Kendi was obviously only surface deep. At least he realizes what a Douchenozzle he is and leaves his ministry. Kendi did him wrong by keeping the pregnancy and subsequent adoption from him and he has a right to be upset. Of course. But he refuses for too long in my opinion I acknowledge any personal responsibility for his part in their life's journeys. Hello, cheating asshole?!?! You could have had it all with the girl/ woman you said you loved if you hadn't been a weasel. The end felt rushed to me. I forgive you, I love you, let's not waste more time. I just didn't get a sense that he had grown much over the story. Not a fave.

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## Charlie says

### 5/5 brilliant stars

**Please do not read this review unless you have read the book, too much to say for me to put constant spoiler alerts!**

L.D.Cedergreen!...You've done it again girl!!! SO so happy this turned out to such a good choice to read. Now following this review I'm not going to lie here, it will sound like I'm gushing over this silly but I don't really care! It's emotional! It made me cry, it made me feel, it made me sad, happy, in love, it broke my heart and then it put all back together!

OK so where to start??

**Front Cover:** I love this front cover. Simple. It displays a woman who we have no idea about who is bearing down looking at the ripples of curls that just happen to have been caused by who exactly? I also love the fact that she's naked in this...not like that! But in the sense of how often do we actually look at ourselves properly and see who we truly are in this life? Are we doing good? Are we doing bad? What wrongs have we done and what can be done to correct these? Not very often I believe. Otherwise the world would be entirely different. People can certainly get too caught up in their own lies, so much so that the ripples are simply too big for them to look at. That's sad.

**Plotline:** What a story! So the story is entirely told from our main characters POV. Kendi. (same name that is the only thing I didn't take to but hey ho, no book is entirely perfect...this one being very close however...) Moving on. Kendi's life is explained from the moment she reflects on the ripples that have been caused by all the secrets and lies by her and one other. Adam. Oh Adam...where to even start with you my fiend/friend? But before I begin on Adam....I keep getting away ahead of myself there's so much to say... From the first page I was instantly hooked. That's when I knew my morning of studying was in the shit! Oh well.

Kendi and Adam grow up together being relatively young people and we can truly see the love and affection between them both. It felt real. It felt too good to be true actually. Something bad had to happen along the way and low and behold... The bad happened. Adam cheated on Kendi with his brothers girlfriend. Goddammit Adam! Screw you!...No pun intended. How could you do that to me and Kendi! We thought you loved her! Almost made me laugh when he turned round and said in his letter to her that it was a

mistake...something to learn from so they never repeat them again! No shit Sherlock! Made me so again. How could he not expect that she forgive him. Did he just think she was just going to magically turn around to him and say "Oh that's fine Adam, don't worry about, You've just gone and broken my heart but never mind"! Massive idiot to say the least and that's me being very calm here. If I expressed how I truly felt about the whole situation...Well I'd be here for a while...

What's hard to fully comprehend about Adam cheating is the fact there is no real explanation as to why he fully cheats on her, yes he's jealous of younger brother getting the spotlight for once...(Grow up and grow a pair of balls Adam)and yes they both had busy lifestyles at the time, but it's still not enough of an explanation as to why he went and cheated on her! He states that it meant nothing but I call Bullshit here. There must have been something for you to go and cheat on her. There always is with people who cheat on their other half's. So I was a little let down that there wasn't much of an explanation given. Either way, Kendi didn't cause the first ripple. Adam did.

Moving on and low and behold again, another ripple is caused and Kendi is pregnant with Adam's child, but oh wait...He pisses off to Africa on a God given Mission trip to help other people and to focus on his religion. Granted that Kendi is only thinking of herself and Adam and what they both separately from life therefore she doesn't tell him she is pregnant. She lies. She says she isn't. Granted the fact that yes she was indeed wrong to not tell him this little fact of being pregnant, but I can logically see where she came from. She only wants the best for them and in not telling Adam, she thinks she is doing right by them both. She knows the likely hood of telling him about the baby and keeping it would have most likely have kept them from doing what they both wanted in life and that wouldn't have been fair to all involved. The baby included.

I don't have any children therefore I can't understand the joys and fear of being a parent but Cedergreen managed to fully captured all emotions involved. Especially with putting the baby up for adoption. When she gave birth to her little girl and fully realised what was happening and the choice that she was going to make...wow...that really did bring on the tears. I felt so sorry for Kendi at this point. She was going through so much and although she had her sister thank god...you couldn't help but think she was completely alone in all of this...Yes Adam was keeping in touch and had no idea what on earth was going on back home and she wasn't replying to any of his letters but that's understandable. She went to do the right thing, but that one letter...that only caused another ripple. It was a complete tsunami that just couldn't be stopped and you felt horrified with what's happening unfolding in front of your eyes. That's what it felt like reading this.

I couldn't believe that towards the latter part of the book, that it seemed like Kendi was the one to blame for everything that happened. That's what it felt like. At this point I was woah! Hold up! Why is this even happening?!? Yes she's in the wrong for not telling certain people about the baby but she did own up. She grew balls and owned up to her faults. She wasn't forced to own up unlike certain characters \*looking at Adam\*, she did it because she wanted and needed to. She's managed to hold onto everything that happened with the baby on her own, all that pain that she gave the baby away and is in pain so much so she can't physically and mentally bring herself to look at all the pictures and information at her. It's hard. I get it.

I was so happy at the end of the book. I really am. It worked out exactly how I wanted it to. There was only one of two ways it was going to end and it ended on a good note. Not perfect...nothing could be perfect for those two in the end. But! They could strive again for it. It good to see that Adam and Kendi managed to sort things out between them, that she could finally let go of the pain that she had been secretly holding onto for the past ten years. So ecstatic that they finally managed to met their baby girl...to have a much wanted relationship with her and her adoptive parents. (I loved them!)

Overall, An emotional heart-breaking story that goes the depths of all emotions! Read in one complete sitting

it was captivating. The writing was poignant, right on point and flowed easily. Would I recommend yes! Be prepared for getting the tissues ready though. Would I re-read this at some point? Yes I will.

Cedergreen...awesome. Please write more books!

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### **Deserie williams says**

self note: H cheats on girlfriend for a few months with his brothers girlfriend! This is not for me!!!!

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### **Amy Hwang says**

I loved Gravity by the same author so much that I decided to read this novel as well. I have to say though, I just didn't love it. I couldn't bring myself to even LIKE the characters, let alone LOVE them. I don't agree with the choices that either of them make and it was just mistake after mistake after mistake with no substance on why they should be forgiven. I didn't feel like Adam was sorry at all and it really pissed me off that he didn't learn from any of his mistakes! You could feel Kendi's pain, but it just wasn't enough to make me root for her. If anything, I was rooting for Derek in this book despite his brief appearance. Also, it was a bit predictable. Don't get me wrong, I love predictable happy endings etc, but this book crossed too many hard limits on what I find acceptable and I just couldn't forgive Adam or root for their love story. I still think she's a good author and will continue to read her books though.

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### **Tessa Teevan says**

4.5 Stars!

Kendi Brooks left her small town when she was 18 years old, and time and circumstances kept her from ever wanting to return to the place where she fell in love with Adam McCoy, only for them to also be separated as their lives take on different paths. It's been years since she's been back, but due to a death in the family, she finds herself back home, and runs into Adam on the very first day, and he claims to still be in love with her, wanting to be with her. When they spend time together, old feelings resurface, and a heartbreaking secret is finally revealed. Will Adam's feelings change when she breaks his heart one last time, or will time help heal the wounds that have been fresh for both of them for so long?

Ripple tore me apart. I was a mess reading this book, but in such a good way. I love when a book is so powerful and emotional that I can barely see my Kindle screen as tears fall on my cheeks, and Ripple did just that.

I'm usually not a huge fan of books that weave both past and present throughout the story, but it's absolutely necessary, and I love the way L.D. let the story unfold this way. It was essential for us to learn the whole story that led up to the secret, and it wouldn't have worked any other way. I fell in love with Adam pretty quickly, and while as a teenager he did some things that made me want to smack him, he was easy to forgive. Adam McCoy as a man? I couldn't get enough of him. My heart fell for him, broke for him, and I felt his pain radiating off the pages, and my heart broke all over again.

To be honest, I really wanted to hate Kendi at times. The things that she did, in my eyes, would be unforgivable for most people, and I had no clue how she would be able to redeem herself. At one point, I was ready to throw my Kindle at the wall and give up on her, but I couldn't. I was so emotionally invested in this story, and I had to know more. I needed the answers. Why? How? What were you thinking? So I kept going, and boy, am I glad I did. As we learn the answers to those questions, you can't help but love Kendi. Her fears were understandable, and her pain was palpable. In one very pivotal scene, I was sobbing to the point that I could barely breathe.

I want to say so much more, but you need to go into this book blind so you can truly experience it for yourself. Let's just say, the ending was perfect, poignant, and beautiful—just like the rest of the book.

Ripple is an emotionally beautiful story that tugs at your heartstrings. It's so much more than your average romance novel. It's the incredibly moving story of Kendi's journey to self-forgiveness, and in finally seeking the same from Adam. The writing in Ripple is gripping, spellbinding, and it flows so effortlessly. L.D. makes you feel every emotion right along with her characters, and I felt like I was right there with them. I'm so impressed by this debut author and I can't wait to read more of her work!

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## **Mhay says**

This book was an emotional roller coaster ride! I tend to avoid such emotional books, but after reading Cedergreen's 'Gravity' I knew I wanted more. The author's writing is just so captivating that I'm able to read through the crazy emotional parts. She is brilliant with writing emotional scenes that just tug at your tear ducts. Yes, I teared a few times throughout this book as I did with reading her previous book. I'm still torn with what I should rate this book, because I hated the decisions our characters made and it irked me to know end their consistent terrible decision making. Yet, that was the whole point of this book that drove the point home-- regret. Through Adam and Kendall's (totally forgot her name had to go back. Lol. Mostly used Kendi that's why) journey I've come to appreciate making decisions by looking at the bigger picture and seeing if I would regret it. You literally could feel their regret coming out of the pages. This book made me think a lot about my decisions, motives for choosing it, how it affects others, and ultimately how happy am I to live the rest of my life with that decision. If a book makes you think and examine your life as this did mine, it's definitely worth picking up.

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## **D says**

Ripple was an interesting read for me. The first chapter had me quite intrigued and wanting to get to the heart of the story. As I continued to read I was anticipating something in the story. I'm still not sure what that something is or was. I kept reading and had a friend who had read it ask me if I was just wrecked with what I was reading. I told her where I was in the story and she again asked about my emotions toward this book. Here's the thing, I couldn't give her an answer. She didn't understand why I wasn't more emotionally involved in the story. I told her I would get back to her and let her know once I had finished—maybe that moment was at a different part of the story.

So I get done reading. And yes I cried during a couple of parts. But for the most part I felt lost. Hold up—don't cast Ripple aside just yet. Hear me out. After I finish a read, I like to mull it over for a couple of days. And for those two days, I wasn't sure what I was feeling after reading Ripple. On one hand I couldn't put it down and on the other I didn't have an overwhelming reaction. Yet somehow I had a book hangover. I couldn't figure it out and then it hit me—I felt lost. Just like the characters felt. Just as the characters lost their way in the story. I realized I actually had connected to the characters and felt their loss and their sadness. I felt everything they felt from the beginning of the story to the very last word.

I don't think I have ever had a reaction to a story like this before. And realizing the quiet force, made this a beautiful story. It's as if I felt the 'ripple' effect of the main characters Kendall and Adam. It's very subtle in it's delivery but has lasting effects.

L.D. Cedergreen had a well-developed story that pulled at your heartstrings. Her characters were all likeable even when some of their choices were not. The story was relatable on many levels whether the events have happened to one before or not. Her words are simple yet poetic.

Ripple is one of those reads that through the angst your heart is pulled, your heart hurts and our heart smiles. It's definitely worth the time to read. D 4/5

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## **Ena May - Swoon Worthy Books/Enticing Journey Book Promotions says**

The story starts with Kendall returning to her home town after being away for 10 years to attend a family member's funeral and running into her first love, Adam. Adam is the one boy who was not only her best friend but first love and first heartache. The lies and betrayal she has kept hidden from not only him but most everyone for the past decade comes front and center and could ultimately rock her world off its axis. Kendall still loves Adam and finally wanting to come clean of the biggest lie she has ever told she risks her heart in hopes that Adam may forgive her.

Adam has always loved Kendall, even after breaking her heart he knew that he would never stop loving her. People make mistakes and he made the one that ultimately cost them everything. After some time apart he wanted another chance, a chance to make things right with her and after they fell in love all over again Adam was off to live out his dream in Africa while Kendall attended college in the states. It's been a decade since Adam said what he didn't realize was his final goodbye to Kendall and seeing her after all this time has brought back so many emotions in him, he loves her and he wants her. But will the secret that Kendall has been keeping from Adam for so many years ruin everything, will he ever be able to trust her again or will the bombshell that she is about to drop on his shoulders cause that love he has for her to disappear and finally have them truly saying their final good-bye forever?

What a powerful emotional beautiful story. L.D. did such an amazing job at bringing us a book filled with love, loss, and forgiveness. The characters in this book portrayed their emotions on such a deep level that you felt their joys, fears, and pain. The story starts off in the present when Kendall is 28 years old returning to her home town and throughout the book will jump back to when the love that blossomed between Adam and Kendall first started and all the bumps in the road along the way that ultimately ended with good-bye. L.D. brings us the insight of what Kendall and Adam went through as a young couple, and what Kendall went through after leaving Adam at the airport when she made that final decision to change their lives forever.

I can't begin to tell you what this story meant to me. It was real and powerful and emotional. It was sexy and



steamy but also very gripping , heartbreaking , and heartwarming. In the beginning when Kendall and Adam first got together in high school L.D. brought us alittle bit of this...

And as their relationship progressed and feelings started to explode she gave us some steamy...

And then the BOOM when the secret comes out my heart was breaking, I was literally lying in my bed.....

And just as quick as I was ugly crying, L.D. gave me enough to make me hopeful. She gave me just enough to have my praying and hoping things would turn out the way they should and at that moment my tears dried and I was okay she left me feeling like I need to....

And then I could smile again and my heart expanded and blossomed and I felt good. Well you would think that's the end right? The secret is out but wait there are bombshells at every turn and that left me screaming....

All I can say is that I loved Ripple! I loved everything about it. The storyline, the characters, the elements within the story – everything. It gave me everything and I can't say that enough to L.D. this is what I have to say to you!!!!

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## **Bianca says**

I was provided with an ARC in exchange for an honest review.

This powerful and amazing story kept my attention the entire time. This book is for those who believe that true love can live through anything. This story hurts. A lot. I found that even after I finished, I was still thinking about it. The story and the characters will leave you breathless as it is both heartbreaking and heartfelt.

Ripple is told in both past and present. Kendall and Adam met in high school and their love blossomed over time. As best friends they became lovers. Circumstances tear them apart. Although they lived their lives apart the flame that originally ignited their relationship never went away. When an unfortunate occurrence forces them back into their small town, you immediately feel the connection between the two. They end up finding out the deep dark secret that has caused them to walk away from each other. Is love enough for this couple? They spent so many years apart but can their love survive this? Can Adam love Kendall through her

mistakes? Can Kendall truly forgive Adam? I cannot tell you how much I felt for this couple. Usually high school sweethearts are not very convincing, however Kendall and Adam had an all consuming love. I've never met such a young couple that loved each other with such conviction as these two have. You will want to scream, cry, and throw things as you read Ripple. But the ending? It's worth it.

I enjoyed the writing style of Ripple. The story flowed seamlessly as we were taken back and forth from past to present and back again. The writing itself is beautiful as you are taken on a journey through Kendall and Adam's story. I truly hope we get to see more of Kendall and Adam. This is so much deeper than the typical second chance romance. If you are a believer that love endures all things, and I mean ALL things, then you must read this book.

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### **Bianca says**

[Adam got away too easily with the cheating...and even having a serious relationship with the girl after...  
(hide spoiler)]

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### **Anne OK says**

A beautifully written bittersweet story of love lost and refound over a span of ten years. The author is new-to-me and I most certainly will be awaiting her next release. Two young high schoolers meet, bond and fall in love. College, family loyalties, careers and huge mistakes fill the pages of this story. Most of this book leans toward sadness and questions of why and how these blunders and roadblocks ever happened to this young couple. I wish I could say that there was a perfect and complete happily-ever-after but the most that is promised is a happy for now conclusion. What the future brought is left to readers' imaginations. Sadly, this was a disappointment to me.

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### **Pilar says**

Dejemoslo en 4,5, pero sólo por el final, que aunque es bonito para poder creermelo del todo hubiera necesitado más tiempo compartido, más charlas para aclararlo todo.  
Por lo demás es un libro muy bonito, y aunque en algún momento me ha parecido un poco chirriante el camino que tomaba Adam, luego me he preguntado por qué no podía ser que de verdad alguien joven deseara dedicarse a la iglesia. Además este tema está tratado como sus deseos, no entra en el intento de adoctrinar al lector, sino que es tratado como algo que quiere uno de sus personajes, y eso me ha gustado. Es un libro muy emotivo y sobrecogedor sobre las consecuencias de lo que decidimos, hacía donde nos llevan esas decisiones y sobre la fuerza que se necesita para enfrentarlas y que no siempre tenemos. Ha logrado emocionarme en algunos momentos y que me ha tenido con el corazón en un puño muchos otros (como a mí me gusta, jejeje).

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### **Lucinda Claire says**

I was given an ARC of Ripple in exchange for an honest review.

After reading the synopsis, I thought I had a pretty good idea about what to expect. Wow! Did I miss the mark! *Ripple* is not a typical I-have-regrets-about-my-past story. It is so very much more. Admittedly, I was a little hesitant as the story gets underway. I tend to shy away from NA/YA stories, so when the story flashes back from present to a time when the main characters are high school sweethearts, I was really worried about whether I'd be able to sustain the story. Well, let me just say that not only did I sustain it, this story compelled me in ways that surprised me, and soon enough, the story returns to present day, as the characters face the aftermath of decisions made long ago.

Author L.D. Cedergreen gives us wholesome and likable characters in Kendall Brooks and Adam McCoy. Even as high school students, these two characters are intelligent, mature, and even (dare I say) sensual. Predictably, the trajectory of their life (and relationship) begins to change as they confront graduation and college. As they reach pinnacles in their respective lives, Adam and Kendi make individual choices, which they believe at the time is in the best interest of the other, without realizing the far-reaching impact of those decisions.

*Ripple* addresses a very difficult social issue in ways that challenge the reader to consider their own perspectives and beliefs. I found myself angry and frustrated at times with both characters, while at the same time respecting some extremely ethical, tough, responsible decisions on the part of each of them. *Ripple* asks the reader to consider whether deception (even for the right reasons) is the ultimate betrayal, or whether forgiveness is the fundamental balm that heals all.

Four compelling stars!

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