



Heart of Light

T.K. Leigh

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A woman running from a dangerous past.
A man haunted by shadows of his own.
Can he bring her back from the darkness?

Sex slave. Property. Disposable.

Jolene's spent the past decade of her life being paraded in front of men and sold to the highest bidder on a nightly basis, wondering when it would all end... Until she risks it all and escapes, leaving her past and Chicago behind.

Scared of being discovered, she hides away, trying to distance herself from everyone... Everyone except a blue-eyed surfer who seems to know the secret she's hiding.

When her past closes in on her, will the truth of who she is surface in time to save her from the shadows threatening her freedom? Or is she doomed to live a life of darkness?

Heart of Light Details

Date :

ISBN :

Author : T.K. Leigh

Format :

Genre : Dark, Romance, Sociology, Abuse, Suspense, New Adult

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From Reader Review Heart of Light for online ebook

Katrina Jay says

5 intensely bright stars

Wow just wow!! Talk about a book hangover! Not sure what I just read, but wow!! This was an intense mind blowing type of book. This will be a book that sticks with me for quite awhile. I will definitely be needing a recovery book after this one.

Now after all of that being said I think the only negative I found was some repetitive phrases, and though it got a bit much for me (ie: "show me you love me" "show me how much you love me"), but it wasn't enough to make me stop reading. I just sort of rolled my eyes and moved on.

In this book you meet Jolene. She belongs to a human trafficker that is masquerading as a savior of women and a hotel owner. He has his hands in everything; FBI, police forces around the country, government, pretty much everything. With the help of a very sweet older woman that works as head of housekeeping as well as many others she is able to escape, but for how long she doesn't know. She does everything she can to conceal who she is and where she is going.

Then you meet her light in the darkness Cam or Dr. Bowen. She and he both try to keep their distance and fight things, but struggle tremendously. They both keep their distance for different reasons. Cam because she looks like a past love and Jolene because she doesn't want to be found out and various others.

This book is suspenseful and intense and there many other characters that are entwined within this story. There were lots of intense moments mixed in with lots of sweet & tender moments. Definitely not for the tender of heart though.

RedRedtheycallmeRed says

This is pretty much what I kept saying to myself over and over as I read this book: "um...what?" There are contradictions on almost every page, it made my head spin. Jolene is broken and fearful, yet feisty and strong. She afraid to be touched, until she turns into a seductress. Huh?

The story started out good, Jolene escapes her life as a prostitute after 10 years and takes a bus from Chicago to SC to find a new life. She dyes her hair, is watchful, and finds a place to rent. Then it all goes downhill. She won't tell anyone her name, or anything about herself. That is until about 24 hours have passed, then she has a new BFF and a guy she's pretty much in love with. So of course she's spilling her guts almost instantly.

Sure, Jolene's been forced into having sex with hundreds of men and cannot stand to be touched, but Cam has sexy silver eyes and great abs, so of course she can totally trust him! I mean, it's already been like 2 days since she's been free, surely that's enough time to get over 10+ years of abuse. Plus, he calls her cute nicknames like "tomorrow", "baby steps" and "peaches".

Apparently Cam was in love with someone named Olivia (from another book I think), and has been in a funk for TWO YEARS since she's been gone, but within 24 hours of meeting Jolene he's practically planning their

wedding. He's a 38 year old doctor, who acts like he's a teenager in love for the first time. I didn't understand what he saw in Jolene, who pretty much spends all her time overreacting and running away. I found her exhausting.

The reason I'm giving this two stars instead of one, is that when Alex (again from another book I think) enters the picture and the story gets more action focused, it's much more tolerable. At least until Jolene turns into Sarah Connor and I'm once again rolling my eyes.

Finally, while there were hardly any typos in the book, there was one glaring exception. One cannot shoot heroine into their veins. It's HEROIN!

Tiffany Readz says

First off I will say that I am a huge fan of the Beautiful Mess series and Cam was my favorite character when it was all said and done. He was such an nice and understanding guy, you just wanted to see him get a HEA of his own.

In the Heart of Light Cam is still in Florida, still feeling the loss of Olivia even after a couple of years. In his heart he knows she belonged with Alexander, however that doesn't mean it was easy to let her go. Cam has a great job, is good looking and wants to share his life with someone special. Thinking that isn't possible, he meets the beautiful Jolene at his beach rental.

Jolene is finally free. After escaping a hellish situation, she has landed in Florida, in Cam's beach house. Jolene has spent the last ten years in the worst way possible, so to say she's a bit cautious is stating it mildly. Jolene has zero trust for anybody, especially men. All of her life she was either let down or used by men and she has had enough. Hiding from her past, Jolene is trying her best to be "normal".

Befriending Benny, Cam's bestie and Benny's girlfriend Elsie, Jolene starts to actually feel a bit of the freedom she craves. Of course things aren't going to be easy and the drama ensues. Her past is catching up to her, she is running out of options, including Cam. She's gone from dark to light, back to the dark.

In true T.K. Leigh we get action with our romance. While I liked the story, I didn't like it for Cam. I felt like the romance was rushed and would liked to have seen him with a different type of girl. I didn't feel any connection to Jolene while reading, although I felt for her plight towards freedom.

Cassia Brightmore says

"Yes, I need it. To be free from the darkness. Please, Cam. Be my light."

If that isn't a quote that breaks your heart, then don't fret, Heart of Light has a million more to choose from that are sure to twist you and your soul up into tiny little pieces. This book was a **turbulent wave of emotion**

for me. I cried, I laughed, I had my heart broken more times than I can count, but most of all - I felt hope. Hope for the beauty of love, for the power of a strong spirit, and hope that good really can triumph over evil. T.K. Leigh touches on some very real, horrific crimes that unfortunately, a lot of females fall victim to. After finishing this story, I found myself completely **in awe of her and her writing ability.** The way that she managed to portray the seriousness of the topics without glorifying or romanticizing them in any way, well to me, that truly is a gift. While its no secret that I am a fan of darker reads, the truth of the matter is, the subjects in this book are issues that are often ignored everyday in the real world.

Jolene is a survivor. Held captive and forced into prostitution for 10 years, she has become an expert at survival, protecting herself the only way she can. Retreating into the darkness and closing herself off from the heinous acts she's forced to commit. **Freedom** comes in the form of a caring couple that work tirelessly on a plan to smuggle her out of her prison. To everyone's shock, the plan works, and soon she is on the run. Jolene was the girl more heavily guarded than any other, considered the "princess" to the boss, a fact that haunts her days and nights with the most inconceivable nightmares. Desperate to put as many miles between herself and **the Hell she lived through** as possible, she runs until she can go no farther. Landing in quiet Amelia Island, she begins the tortuously long process of healing.

Cam Bowen is a jerk. Or is he? Suffering from the **pain and humiliation** of losing the one girl he thought he loved, he's been closed off and a cold version of the man he used to be. Nothing his best friend Benny says can get through to him. He spends his days focused on his patients in his practice, and his free time out on the water enjoying the Florida surf (yes, insert mental image of hot surfer man here). Discovering that Benny has rented out his beach house is not news he takes lightly, and when the occupant bears a startling resemblance to her, he explodes.

Jolene learned the hard way that men can't be trusted. When Benny rents her the quaint little beach house, she warily trusts puts her trust in him while stubbornly refusing his attempts at friendship. The affectionate way he called her "**Tomorrow**", and promised to look out for her, while the words and actions warmed her on the inside, they hit the steel wall on the outside. Her freedom was dependant upon no one getting close to her, on her being invisible. When Cam shows up and throws a fit about her living in his house, that's all it takes to send Jolene running.

Cam knows his harsh reaction frightened Jolene, but what he didn't expect was the ball of fire she turned into – **her sharp tongue has him stumbling**, and causes a physical yearning he hasn't felt in years. Convincing her to stay after he all but threw her out becomes one of his greatest challenges, but the more he spends time with her, the more he knows the rewards will be profound. I enjoyed the way Cam and Jolene slowly began to open up to each other and to **heal the broken bits of themselves**. She is a woman running at full speed to catch up with her own life, dying to experience everything at once, but terrified at the same time of letting anyone too close. Cam feels himself come back to life when he's with her, slowly remembering the pieces of himself that **heartbreak stole**. He falls for her and he falls fast. Some may say that seems a little unbelievable, but for me – I've always trusted that the heart doesn't need time, it can recognize its soul mate in an instant. These two are the perfect example of that.

"You need time. But know this, I will kiss you. And after that, you'll never want anyone else's lips on yours for the rest of your life."

Happy ending for them right? Jolene escaped and found someone who loves her. Well, before you call out the parade – you should know that T.K. Leigh is a **brilliant mastermind**. The dark, sinister monsters never truly disappeared, they simply laid in wait for the opportune moment to reclaim Jolene for their own.

Is love enough to protect her? The past meets the present in a war that started years before Jolene was born. **Secrets. Deceit and treachery. Devastating loss and unthinkable pain.** This is a story that will affect you with the simplest of phrases, the smallest of words. Keep the tissues handy – you’re going to need them.

xo Cassia

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Michelle says

ARC provided by authors in exchange of honest review

????? 5 “Tomorrow” Stars ?????

The Beautiful Mess Series by T.K. Leigh will always hold a special place in my heart. This was the first time I was introduced to this talented author and of course I cannot forget Mr. B and his Olivia. But I must say T.K. Leigh has truly outdone herself once again in her newest novel, *Heart of Light*. *Heart of Light* absolutely 100% stole my heart. In this touching, breathtaking, and heartfelt story, Ms. Leigh spellbinded me with her ability to bring awareness in the matter of human trafficking. Intense, dark, raw and gritty, Ms. Leigh does not sweep under the rug of how important this awareness must be raised to the public. Not only does she weave layers of this subject matter but she brought life to her characters in Cam and Jolene. The journey of their love has no words. It's one of those rare love you can only hope to find. A love that has no bounds. A love that is light. A love that brings hope. A love that heals. And most importantly a love that cannot be extinguished. They say the eyes are useless when the mind is blind and so Ms. Leigh will open our eyes to an emotional, raw and vulnerable story of Jolene Bergio. Human trafficking and monsters exists. The truth hurts. Nothing is black and white. Hope is a beautiful thing. Love is not perfect. And without darkness one cannot know light. They say the truth will set you free. And so begins the journey of Jolene as she claws her way out of the dark with the help of Cameron Bowen. And behind their eyes is a story to be told on how they discovered the HEART OF LIGHT.

Fear. Pain. Alone. Gritty. Sick. Raw. Dark. Monsters. These are a few words that come into my mind when I think of what Jolene Bergio had to endure for 10 years of her life being held captive as prisoner. As a victim of human trafficking, her life and innocence was stolen from her. Happiness, love and freedom ripped out from her. For 10 years, she endured what no one wants to experience where monsters still lurk in the dark. The lost of hope was inevitable but luckily for Jolene, an angel came to her rescue. With her help, Jolene was finally able to escape and run away from the monsters she feared. For the first time in 10 years, Jolene saw hope shining through.

Fearful and alone, Jolene found herself in Florida in a small coastal beach town of Amelia Island. With the little money she had, she rents out a beach cottage. In that one moment, Jolene found solace and peace with her newfound freedom. Not wanting to be found, she is hesitant to give out her name to people. Little did

Jolene know, another angel was sent her way in the form of Cameron Bowen, who happens to be the owner of the house Jolene is renting.

Two years has passed since Olivia walked out on Cam's life. The once cheerful and happy Cam was replaced with a man just going through the motions. But that all changes, when Cameron meets Jolene. For so long, Cam thought Olivia was the one but as it turns out, the one who truly owned his heart was the blue eyed brunette renting his beach house. Cam knows there is something that is burdening Jolene since she is fearful of letting people know her name and being touched. As a therapist that works with victims of sex and human trafficking, Cam has his suspicions of why Jolene is fearful.

Being the ultimate sweetheart, Cam aka Dr. Surfer Man tries to befriend Jolene since there is something in her that ignites him. He is drawn to the beauty of Jolene inside and out. Cam knows that he must take baby steps with Jolene since he doesn't want to scare her. Slowly, Jolene begins to let her guard down and let Cam and his friends enter her life. For the first time, Jolene begins to FEEL. Feel the hope and love shine through her darkness.

Let there be light.... And so, begins the journey of Cam and Jolene. What a beautiful, emotional, and touching journey it was. Trust was one major step that Jolene had to overcome and luckily for her, Cam made it easy. He brought back life to Jolene. Sparks of happiness and love soon began to radiate off both them. Pieces of brokenness, darkness, and emptiness were slowly beginning to crumble and fade. Jolene finally saw the light. And Cameron Bowen was her light. His love burned so bright that it was fire to her heart and soul. So what happens when the monsters Jolene feared comes back haunting her and threatens to erase the traces of the light Jolene tried so hard to find. Will the darkness takeover? Or will Jolene find the strength in Cam's love to guide her way out of the darkness?

What can I say but I absolutely LOVE CAMERON!! He was the shining knight. He was prince charming. He was Dr. Surfer Man. And most importantly he was Jolene's light. They say love heals and he did just that with Jolene. He slowly mended and erased all the shattered pieces of Jolene's heart. He was her sun. He was her protector. Simply, he was hers and he did everything in his power to make her see that their love will save them. He was just simply perfection. <3

One word to describe Heart of Light: Beautiful!!! This book blew my mind and I loved it. Ms. Leigh is such an amazing talented author. She literally took her readers on a roller-coaster ride of emotions. Not only did she take her readers on emotional ride, Ms. Leigh raised awareness on human trafficking. She did not sugarcoat it but expose the raw and gritty side of where darkness and monsters exist. Intertwining layers of public awareness, she was able to incorporate a beautiful love story. Cam and Jolene love was breathtakingly beautiful. It was so honest, raw and vulnerable. It was a love that stole my heart. A story that made you believe that heroes are real. For Jolene, she found her hero in Cameron Bowen. The pain, emptiness, and fear that Jolene felt literally gutted my heart. Jolene was a woman exposed. Her sadness and brokenness was written all over her face. I truly felt every ounce of her heartbreak, loss, fear, pain, love and happiness. What I truly love about this book was that Ms. Leigh made Heart of Light, a book to EXPERIENCE. A journey of

finding love and letting it heal you. A journey of letting light in. And most importantly a journey of hope. A hope for tomorrow. And a reminder to us all that there's light even in the darkest places.

T.K. Leigh

Spoiler Whore-Momoa says

I got bored, skimmed, didn't hold my interest whatsoever so it's a DNF @ 18%.

Again, all my DNF gets one stars.

Raj says

3 stars

Is it weird that I like the senator and Anthony for Jolene? The senator was obsessed with her and Anthony calls her Jo-Jo Bear, which is quite endearing.

The story's kind of dark, but not dark enough.

I breezed through some parts coz It was just too serious, borderline boring. Usually, the dark novels that I've read, they're serious but there's excitement, this one, not so much.

Stacy Hahn says

This book was beyond amazing! TK Leigh is a master story teller. I didn't think she could top the Beautiful Mess books, but boy was I wrong!

We got to meet and fall in a love/hate relationship with Cam in A Tragic Wreck. I wanted to love him but my love for all things Alexander and Olivia kept me on team Alex. In the Heart of Light you will be 100% team Cam.

The Heart of Light is a stand alone novel. You do not need to read the Beautiful Mess series to read this book.

It's been 2 years since his heart was broken by Olivia and he hasn't been able to put her out of his mind, no matter how hard he tried. That was until he saw the beautiful woman standing on the porch of his beach house, her beach house. Cam was furious at his best friend Benny for renting out the house, especially to someone who looks so much like Olivia. Cam was a total rude ass to Jolene when he met her.

Jolene was finally able to escape the evil she had been forced to live for the past 10 years. She just hoped she was safe at Amelia Island. Jolene couldn't imagine going back to that man and being forced to do all the terrible things. She wanted to "feel" again and not be numb. Just the thought of being touched made her sick.

Cam realized that he was being a jerk and he found himself drawn to her amazing blue eyes that held so much emotion. Emotions he'd seen in his own sisters eyes. He knew she was hiding from something causing her so much pain. Cam is able to slowly build Jolene's trust and allow her to "feel" for the first time in 10 years. Will that be enough?

Jolene's past wasn't far behind and all her fears were becoming a reality again. She is forced to do unthinkable things to protect those she has become close to. This is causing the light to slowly burn out that Cam had pulled from her darkness.

Will Cam be able to save her, or will he lose the one person to make him feel love again?

This book put me thru a wonderful emotional ringer. It is heart stopping, gut wrenching and beautiful. I am suffering from a horrible book hangover with puffy eyes from crying so many tears.

Anjee says

No just no. Spoiler involved. I have never read any of this author's work before, and sadly I probably won't read any more. I wanted to DNF so badly, but I didn't. I think everyone of my book friends did so I said I would take one for the team to star it. The main event in this book is the instant love factor. Here we have a girl who has been held captive and sold as a sex slave since her eighteenth birthday, however she has found a way out. She jumps on a bus and immediately heads to a beach island in Florida. There she meets Cam who immediately hates her upon hearing she has rented "the" house that the girl he is in love with stayed at, which he also owns. After a little berating from his friends he suddenly changes his tune and wants to know more about the mysterious stranger whom is living in his beach rental. They both within a twenty four hour period can't be away from the other, and are all each other think about. Meanwhile here comes one of her Ex rapist senators that follows her all the way down to the island while she was on a bus, plotting his exploit. He rapes her one night and threatens to send her back to "him" (her old owner). The very next day she is in Love with Cam and thinking about how hot he is and how much she wants him. Are you Fing kidding me? You just got raped and you want to go sleep with someone else? I wouldn't even want to look at another man let alone think about one no matter how much I loved him. You can't do this it doesn't even seem real when you do this. Yes I know this has tons of 5 star reviews, but mine isn't one of them. The ending predictable. Sorry if this seems harsh, but I know my group of readers won't like it. To much eye rolling from me, and to much instant love.

Ashleyjo says

[image error]

Kimberley says

[

The heroine. HA! NO heroine. Geesh. The female lead, Jolene, was recovering from a broken heart... that we got to see in The Beautiful Mess series (OMG, another disaster!!!!!!!)
.... a yoyo would have been more interesting.

She was 28 years old when she finally escaped from a vicious... VICIOUS sadistic man

J says

There are a lot of high ratings for this book, but a lot of DNF's also. So I thought I would see for myself. I read it (admittedly skimming along many times) and have to totally agree the DNF's have got it right. I didn't care for it at all.

Jennifer Kyle says

DNF @ 21 Percent

Jolene escapes from being held captive and used for sex for 10 brutal years. She flees to Amelia Island, Florida and scores a beach house to rent.

On her first day hiding out:

1. She breaks and tells people her real name because she trusts these new people after 24 hours.
2. Makes a bff and spills all her dark secrets.
3. Falls in love with a guy named Cam and visce versa.

The instant love was preposterous and thus I stopped because this story wasn't for me.

Kimberly says

This amazing author has done it again. She's written another awesome suspense story with romance wrapped all around it.

Cam is a fantastically sweet surfer man (not boy) who loves with his whole being. Which is why I loved him so much in the Beautiful Mess series. I love his character. #GirlBoner. Does that say it all or what!

Jolene. Wow. Where do I even start. To think what has happened to her in this book actually goes on in this world of ours in unreal and will draw you in and keep you there. Right next to Jolene.

I loved this story. Human trafficking isn't something you read a lot about and T.K. Leigh wrote about in a way that sticks you right in the middle of what it could be like from many angles. From the victim, and the people who love them, to the creeps behind it all. This book gutted me but in the most awesome way. Get your tissues stocked and ready. Sometimes in your darkest moments ya just need a little light. This book reminded me that no matter what your "dark" is always look for the "light" and you will find it.

Heart of Light

You can get to know Cam a little in the Beautiful Mess series as well.

The Beautiful Mess Series

DJ Sakata says

Favorite Quotes:

“He made a mental note to stop giving Elsie so much crap for saying that he only went for the troubled girls. She was spot on, and it took him running on the beach past midnight after a girl wearing wet underwear to make him fully realize what she had been saying for years.”

“I’d rather suffer from blue balls because of you than be with anyone else. I have a feeling you’ll be worth the wait.”

My Review:

This is my virgin voyage with T.K. Leigh, although I have been hearing about her books and beloved characters since she started spinning her tales over a year ago. I am relieved to say – I get it now. I was actually a bit hesitant and afraid to start this book, as it sounded heavy and intense. And while the subject matter is a weighty and scary one, Ms. Leigh’s writing made it palatable and human. Her narrative flows well, and is easy to follow – an amazing feat for a lawyer – smirk... Maybe it is finally time for me to check out her earlier works so I can enter into those fierce Facebook debates with other bloggers and devotees, and decide whether I am Team Cam or Team Alex, although I suspect I would be a bit biased having started with this one. I have a feeling I cannot lose with either team, and look forward to reading her backlist as well as any future works she cares to scribble.
