



My Serenity

M. Clarke

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When tragedy strikes, Seth Stewart is forced to return home after the death of his beloved father. The unexpected detour forces him to oversee the family's auto shop and restaurant business, and Seth must kiss the prestigious internship goodbye after his first year at Berkeley Business School. When he collides with his first crush after his arrival, Seth wonders what possibly could have happened to Josefina Anders.

Josefina has hidden many secrets she is too ashamed to share with anyone, especially Seth. When they cross paths again, the urge to relive their past lingers in her mind even though she knows he couldn't accept her sketchy past. Things get even more complicated when her mother returns, as well as her overly possessive ex, who decides to crash into her fragile existence all over again.

Will Seth's connection for Josefina be strong enough to see past her secrets, or will he realize he can't rekindle an old flame?

My Serenity Details

Date : Published July 16th 2015

ISBN :

Author : M. Clarke

Format : Paperback

Genre : Romance, Contemporary, New Adult

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From Reader Review My Serenity for online ebook

Amy says

My Serenity follows the story of Josefina and Seth. Josefina's life has never been easy. Her home life was one that she couldn't wait to escape from. The only good in her life was Seth. Seth was her first crush and he gave her the strength to get through each day. Little did Seth know that the day he got his first kiss, would be the last day that he would see Josefina. Seth has always wondered what happened to Josefina. When Seth returns home after the loss of his father, the last person he expects to run into is Josefina. When the two of them are reunited after all this time, it's as though no time has passed at all. As things start to develop between the two of them, Josefina's past catches up with her. Will Josefina ever be able to escape her past and get the HEA she's always wanted?

I thought My Serenity was an ok read. This is the second book in the My Clarity series and it can be read as a stand-alone. This story is told from dual points of view. The pacing is mid-range. I liked the idea of the story. The characters were fun and entertaining. I loved the chemistry between Seth and Josefina. Josefina is strong and has been through a lot. She's a survivor and has just tried to make the best out of things. Seth is determined, a great friend and loyal to his family. He's exactly what Josefina needs in her life. I loved watching the two of them together. I couldn't wait to see what was going to happen next.

That being said, I would have liked to have seen Seth and Josefina's relationship develop a little more. These two fell in love at a young age and then were separated for quite some time. A lot has happened in that time. I would have loved to see them get to know one another more. Don't get me wrong, the sexual tension between the two of them was great, in fact, I loved it. But, I felt like their relationship as a whole was on fast forward and just left me wanting more.

My only other issue was the pacing. I thought the story started off really strong and with a good bang. It definitely had me interested and intrigued with the story. Then, I don't know how to really explain this, but the pace sorta flattened out. The good news was that it did pick back up again in the end.

Overall, My Serenity was a quick read for me. It was a sweet second chance romance with no shortage of drama. I did have some issues with Seth and Josefina's relationship development and the pacing. Other than that, it was an ok read for me. This book is sweet, has some mystery and intrigue. As well as some angst and romance. Even though this wasn't a grand slam for me, I'm still glad I checked it out. I think this author has a lot of potential and I'm looking forward to reading more from her in the future.

I was provided an ARC copy of this book, in exchange for an honest review

My review can also be seen at: <http://onceuponabookblog.com/2015/07/...>

SammiesBookBlog says

I was given a ARC in exchange for my honest review.

When Mary told me there would be a book 2, I was elated. Book 1 with Elijah will forever be my favorite book. And I was curious to see where Seth's book would go. Who didn't love Seth? I know I sure did. And M. Clarke did NOT disappoint as usual. This was completely different from anything she has written. It was an enchanting love story. Second love found its way it, and it shone brightly for Seth and Josie. This love

story shows every princess needs a hero. And every hero needs a princess. It showed the good, the bad and the ugly. And in the end love prevailed. This captivating story will forever leave its mark on your soul and your heart. A truly beautiful story that I cannot wait for everyone to read. I'm sure everyone will love it as much as I did. Mary continues to blow me away every amazing book she writes. Very proud of her and her writing. And you will be also! we also get to see our favorite characters from book 1. And we get to see more of the special bond between Seth and Elijah and I loved every single cherishing moment. The two are very humorous and bring the added spice to the story. Perfection is all I can simply say.

"but when you know that person is your forever, you go for it. Why wait? Life is unpredictable. You just never know what can happen."

"Well... that was fast. I didn't even get to enjoy it. Are you this quick with Alex?" (I DIED of laughter!!)

"I've only had three boyfriends. The first one was in sixth grade. I loved him very much. Even though we were in sixth grade, he was my anchor, my strength, and my rock, but he never knew it."

"I loved you before I even knew it. You are my home, my wisdom, and my sanity. I am your moon and you are my sun. You are my clarity, Alex. And I want to live the rest of my life with you."

"You filled my life with sunshine even when there was rain."

DawnMarie Carpintero says

Not Enough Fabulous Magical Wonderful Elating Stars

This book was given to me by the author for my honest review

Attention Readers: I need you to get the following supplies before even opening this read. Tissues (you're going to need them), favorite ice-cream, the DO NOT DISTURB SIGN FOR THE DOOR, your favorite blanket and comfy chair, leave a message on your cell phone saying "I am being entranced in a special moment at this time and cannot take your call" and last but not least your charger for your reading device (you so will not want to put this read down).

In grammar school we learn that relationships can come and go with a drop of a hat. Whether the relationships between a boy or a girl become everlasting as best friends or truly something more. The years will pass within a blink of an eye. Our friendships between come and go but the ones that stick like caramel on an apple become more than just. Even in an unexpected minute when one leaves with no word in sight. Years and time pass but the relationship always looms in the back of our grown up mind till one day that special person once again may be the apple of one's true eye.

What happens when you make a friendship in your grammar school years and that relationship leaves without a word or whisper? As we continue with our lives our school years become a distant memory but the one person always sticks out in the back of your mind. This is Seth and Josie's amazing journey to finding once lost but never forgotten.

Josie is a strong willed woman that has the world on her shoulders and has yet to let world be her oyster with a troubling yet scary past she becomes the rock that has pebbles hidden beneath that in her mind could be the destruction of her. Seth is the blast from the past that has grown up to an amazing son and the keeper of

Readers: Please come and take this journey with me, Seth and Josie along with their friends and discover that when you think all is forgotten the universe and the tides can take a turn and bring all back to the land where it all began.

BooksandBeyondFiftyShades says

My Serenity will bring you to your knees, will have you reminiscing about your truly, madly, deeply first love. As always M.Clarke never disappoints her fans and she has proved it once again with My Serenity.

The innocent love Josie and Seth had in six grade was so pure yet it was the so strong neither one of them realized how much impact their lives.

Life was not kind to Josie, but like a strong woman she was going to be she faced her demons daily, her only salvation was when she was near her first, innocent love Seth. She would endure so much pain throughout her life, her only thing that kept afloat were the memories of her hero, her serenity that Seth represented to her.

Seth was so sweet when he was young but he knew one thing he loved his Josie Rosie, like he used to called her. But when she was taken from him with no explanation he hurt but never forgot about her. This will make him the respectable, humble man he was today.

Fast forward to the present day when fate had plan on reunite Seth and Josie, the two innocent kids that were now young adults with a love so strong for each other, that it was kept in their hearts awaiting to be unleashed once and for all. Josie's demons were lurking in the shadows and they wanted to prevent them for finally be together but will Seth and Josie's love be strong enough to face her demons? Will he continue to be her hero and rescue her like she had wished all this years?

My Serenity is by far the most emotional book by M. Clarke, it will leave a permanent mark in your heart. With each and every page you read from this story will leave you with an understanding of how true love

will stay alive no matter time, distance or any obstacle that will try and prevent from being with your love, your hero, your serenity.

I want everyone to read this story, because books that leave a mark in your heart are worth reading over and over again.

Movies, Shows, says

Note: This review contains NO spoilers

Oh wow! I just finished reading My Serenity, and I am just reeling in all the feels right now! This was an emotionally charged read! M. Clarke, the pseudonym for Mary Ting, has definitely outdone herself in this second book in the My Clarity series. Just when I thought My Clarity was overwhelming with all the elements of a dramatic contemporary romance, My Serenity is just as beautiful and dramatic, if not even more so, than book one! OMG! Did I just say that! Haha.... Don't get me wrong, I absolutely loved My Clarity...the touching story of Elijah and Alex. This time, My Serenity is Seth and Josie's story. With every turn of the page, I was carried off into their world of family, friendship, pain and love. This story touches on sensitive issues that many people deal with today, and M. Clarke intertwined it in this story so eloquently and with much respect to those issues.

I do have to say, that I would suggest reading My Clarity first before reading My Serenity. Yes, this can be read as a standalone, but reading the first book will give readers a better character history and understanding of the characters and their relationships.

I loved the flow of the story as we "see" it the point of view of Seth and Josie. I found myself laughing, giddy, and in tears as I journeyed through Seth and Josie's story of overcoming their struggles and fighting for their future. I also love how the title of the book is directly related to the story of these characters, just like with My Clarity. You'll see when you read both books.

My Serenity is an epic love story filled with pain, laughter, tears, and love. This was definitely a read that I could not put down.

Follow me at Movies, Shows & Books

*kawehi.reviews says

? I received an ARC via TRSOR PR in exchange for an honest review. Thank you! ?

A tale of second chances...

Seth and Josie's love was one of a kind. It was pure, untainted, and blossomed over the years from silly crush to first love. Then, poof! One leaves without a word to their disappearance. *Gone without a trace*. And leaves the other one to pick up the pieces.

Now years later, these two soul mates are once again thrown into each other's midsts, and are forced to confront pent up feelings, pasts, and the predicament of where the other fits into each other's lives.

Can they break free of the pain of what life's bestowed upon them and move forward toward a future together? Or will tear them apart?

They say distance makes the heart grow fonder, but how can you truly forget something that was never lost or forgotten?

#A MUST READ by author M. Clarke!!

Amber says

Just when I thought I couldn't possibly be even more amazed by the beautifully mesmerizing talent that is Mary Ting, she pulls the very breath from my lungs with a story that will twist the very core of your being while showing you what a real person and a true friend looks like. She meticulously creates two characters who couldn't be more different and yet their souls and hearts were made to compliment the other perfectly in each and every way. Nothing can compare to a Mary Ting masterpiece, and this is one that will take up residence in your heart without you even realizing what it is happening. Love needs no justification or defense; it is just meant to be. The harder you fight and the farther away you stray, love will always bring you back to the one that is the other half of your soul.

Josie's life has always been a shadow of what a normal life should be. What other kids took for granted she longed for with all her heart. She never understood what she ever did to be handed this sad existence. No matter how dark her days were, she always had a light that she held tightly in her mind and heart in order to keep her hope alive. That hope came in the form of a boy named Seth. He was just a little sixth grader like she was when they met, but he became to her everything that she never had and desperately wanted. Who knew that a simple childhood crush could get Josie through the worst years of her life? Seth never forgot Josie because when she left she took his heart with her. After too many years apart, their reunion is an unreal experience that brings back all of the emotions and feelings that he thought was long forgotten. Will this reunion turn into something sweet and hopeful, or will it come to a crashing halt fueled by deep hurt and unforgivable betrayal?

Many times I wondered what Seth's story was while watching him flounder in the background of Elijah and Alex's story in My Clarity. He was a good friend and yet it felt like he was missing something huge in his life. The sad part is that he never realized what that was until Josie came back into his life one day. When he saw her again, he knew he was at once finally completed while also completely captivated by a love that he had been intensely craving. I love that Seth is a genuinely kind and sweet guy who would do anything he could to help a friend or a stranger. He is an average guy who became a hero to a girl who didn't have any other lifelines but him, and I love how Josie was unafraid to show him exactly how much he meant to her. She boosted his confidence and brought sunshine and peace into his dark and hurting world. She breathed life and hope into him, and he in turn filled her with the courage to reach for her dreams. They were such a stunning couple that serve as a huge example that everyone needs a hero to help us when we don't have the strength or the courage to fight through darkness one day at a time.

Mary Ting is such a fantastic author that continues to reach for the stars while showering us with their brilliance and magnificence. Whenever she writes a story, she packages up her heart and gives it to us in such a benign and pretty package. You never realize what it is you are holding in your hands until you begin reading it. By the time realization hits, you are knocked off your feet and are left utterly speechless at the priceless gift that you have accepted. A life should be defined by how deeply and purely we love and not by

the number of goals that we accomplish. It is any wonder why our world is ruled and saturated by anger and sadness? Let's remember to focus on the things that will leave a lasting impression to those around us. Allow love to flow from you unhindered and unfiltered.

Melanie Osmond says

Why are there only 5 stars?? It's not nearly enough.

It's not every day a girl gets asked to ARC read for one of her favorite authors, so when Mary asked I literally jumped at the opportunity. (yeah I so fan girl'd lol don't judge)
But in fair warning tissues will be needed.

We start by meeting a 6 year old Josie, who is hiding a massive secret for the world.

When Josie finally starts running from her past she moves in with a high school friend, but soon after she reconnects with Seth (her first love from grade school) her past comes back with a vengeance. But will her love for Seth be enough when it all boils down?

I laughed, I cried and I spent some time on the edge of my seat. I was glad to see Elijah and Alex make a comeback in this book and like normal they were a barrel of laughs.

I loved the book and cannot wait until Lexy's book is out, she is such a smart mouthed character and I loved her.

Stacey says

Ok I got this book 2 1/2 hours ago

Could put it down if I wished .

Josie wow what a girl a true fighter , what that girl has put up with in her life she needs a medal .

Seth , well one of the most sweet , loyal protective men ever (the forever kind)

When your past becomes your present , but the past has ghost that haunt and follow you , what will become of the one true moment

Will the past destroy the present or what happened in the past did it touch your heart sooooo much nothing can change .

Mary wow loved this book xxxxxx

Jennifer G. says

I really enjoyed this book, as much as the first one.

Josie and Seth are great characters. Their story was beautiful. I was just hoping for a little more in the end.

So I am hoping for another book in the near future. We need more of them, also more of Elijah and Alex.

They were just as amazing.

All the characters in the book were great, except for Brad and Mrs. Anders of course. Couldn't stand either of those.

Seth was as pure hearted and loving as they came. I loved them both, and even more as a couple.

Thanks for another great book. But don't stop there, we need more of them two.

Lina's Reviews ♡????????♡??Book Blog?? ♡????????♡ says

This was a very moving book. This is the story of Josie and Seth. This is a second chance romance that is heavily loaded with emotion and drama.

Josie has lived a hard life. Her mother neglected her and abused her while her father did not care about her. Her childhood was filled with misery and bad luck and so, when she is older she decides to leave her mother and live on her own. Her world comes to a halt when she comes face to face with a man from her past. Seth is back in town for his mother. He needs to be with her after the death of his dad. When he sees Josie again, all the feelings he had buried when she left, come back to torture him.

Will they get what they lost back? Will love be enough to bring these two together?

I liked the writing and the characters. These heroes go through a lot to get their much deserved happy ending.

I also enjoyed the way the secondary characters were incorporated into the plot.

I enjoyed the book, but I must admit that something was missing for me. That is why I couldn't rate it higher than four stars. Even though I was moved by Josie's story, I couldn't fully connect with her and the book lost some of its magic for me. I read about it but the drama did not touch me on a high level.

Other than that, I think it's an emotional book that will speak to your hearts.

Give it a try!

3.5 to 4 Stars.

I received an ARC via TRSOR in exchange for an honest review.

Marika says

What a beautiful story!!!! So precious and sweet!

Seth and Josie were 6th grade sweethearts and they were so cute together..one minute they were happy and the next she was gone..

Fast forward and Seth is all man, taking care of family and business.. One fortunate encounter and a very lucky second ;) and Seth and Josie meet again!!!

Was theirs love or only a silly crush?

Would they be friends and move on with their lives or try to work out the past together?

This story is bittersweet, at the beginning at least, because you really wish them happiness and when you read about Josie's past and what Seth is going through in the present your heart breaks.. you will cry and you will smile, you will cheer for them and you will get mad, not only at them, but at other 2 individuals.. I am still mad lol

I am also very happy because Elijah and Alex are back, along with Lexi and Jimmy!!!

I love this series and can't wait to see what Mary Ting will come up with in the next book!!!!

Kara Nichols says

where to begin?!

such an inspiring story of finding light and strength when all you have ever known is darkness....
overcoming grief and discovering fate has other plans when a love once lost is found again...

I love how the storyline and characters never once seemed to follow a similar pattern as the 1st book as a lot of books tend to do...

seeing a side of Seth and Elijah's relationship that was only touching the surface in the 1st book was great and made you love them both even more...

a must read book of what real friendship is about...overcoming life's obstacles and not letting your past define your future... and real honest to your soul love!

Melissa Mendoza says

Received a copy in exchange for an honest review

"Brad gave me the most hideous, malicious smirk, letting me know he was more than satisfied. I wanted to take one of the knives from his group of deadbeats and rip his heart out, just like head with mine."

5 big, huge, fat stars!! This book was so well written and flowed so flawlessly well! I was hooked from page one!! The characters were well developed and the plot wasn't predictable at all! Bravo!!!

When tragedy strikes, Seth Stewart is forced to return home after the death of his beloved father. The unexpected detour forces him to oversee the family's auto shop and restaurant business, and Seth must kiss the prestigious internship goodbye after his first year at Berkeley Business School. When he collides with his first crush after his arrival, Seth wonders what possibly could have happened to Josefina Anders.

Josefina has hidden many secrets she is too ashamed to share with anyone, especially Seth. When they cross paths again, the urge to relive their past lingers in her mind even though she knows he couldn't accept her sketchy past. Things get even more complicated when her mother returns, as well as her overly possessive ex, who decides to crash into her fragile existence all over again.

Will Seth's connection for Josefina be strong enough to see past her secrets, or will he realize he can't rekindle an old flame?

The book starts with Josie while she's six years old. And while Josie is a sweet little girl she has a massive secret. After a few years Josie is done running from her secrets and is now living with a friend from high school. And soon she runs back into Seth, her first love. Just when she thinks her life is going swimmingly, her past comes back to haunt her again. Will their love survive the secrets from the past?? This book had me laughing and crying, it's an absolute emotional roller coaster but I completely enjoyed the ride!! Excellent read.

****Kindly provided a copy in exchange for an honest review and has been read and reviewed by Melissa for Alpha Book Club****

B at Spare Time Book Blog says

You better make sure you have a good chunk of time available if you are going to read this one! Once you start you won't be able to put it down. Do you remember what it felt like to love someone in grade school? I know we all do/did! It's a special kind of love but, can also lead to excruciating heart ache. For Seth and Josie know this all too well. Life takes over you and you can't control it. For Josie, her childhood through my eyes was awful. She was treated like crap by her parents. I don't think she ever felt truly safe or loved by them. For Seth it was different. He had a loving family and an average childhood. His heartache happened with the death of his father. Both of these people have had to take on additional responsibilities, just at different times in their lives. Will they find love again or will their obstacles prove to be too great?

These two are so cute! School sweethearts, just like me and my husband. Some people will always leave their mark on your heart but, only a few last forever. It takes a little bit for things to really set fire between these two. Which is fine. I hate insta-love in books. Even though they had a history it still took time to reconnect. So much has happened that they don't know about each other. They really have changed. They are both strong and independent people. All in all an amazing couple, they just have to realize it!

Things do get a little hot and heavy with these two. I personally loved the interview part. I thought it was fun and sexy! They definitely have great chemistry. The emphasis of friends and family is highly felt throughout this book. Family is so important and I think Seth's family shows Josie what a proper family should be like. It helps renew her faith in family again.

I loved the first book, *My Clarity*, and I would recommend you read that one first but, you wouldn't necessarily have to. *My Serenity* is a story of love, passion, family, and friends. It will have you laughing, crying, and happy at the same time. It was so sweet! Another amazing story from M. Clarke!
