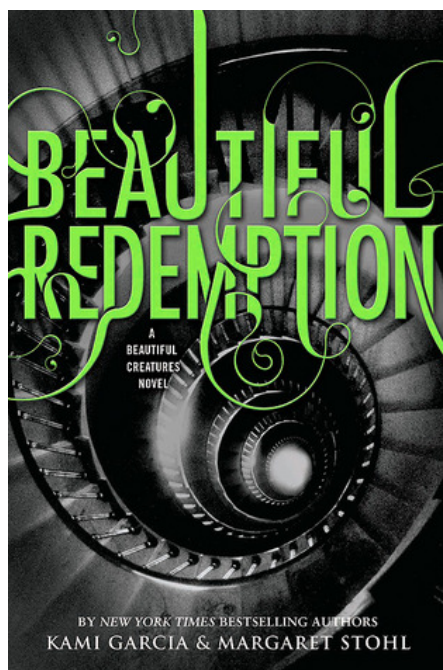




Beautiful Redemption

Kami Garcia , Margaret Stohl

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Is death the end . . . or only the beginning?

Ethan Wate has spent most of his life longing to escape the stiflingly small Southern town of Gatlin. He never thought he would meet the girl of his dreams, Lena Duchannes, who unveiled a secretive, powerful, and cursed side of Gatlin, hidden in plain sight. And he never could have expected that he would be forced to leave behind everyone and everything he cares about. So when Ethan awakes after the chilling events of the Eighteenth Moon, he has only one goal: to find a way to return to Lena and the ones he loves.

Back in Gatlin, Lena is making her own bargains for Ethan's return, vowing to do whatever it takes -- even if that means trusting old enemies or risking the lives of the family and friends Ethan left to protect.

Worlds apart, Ethan and Lena must once again work together to rewrite their fate, in this stunning finale to the Beautiful Creatures series.

Beautiful Redemption Details

Date : Published October 23rd 2012 by Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

ISBN : 9780316123532

Author : Kami Garcia , Margaret Stohl

Format : Hardcover 456 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Fantasy, Paranormal, Romance, Magic

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From Reader Review Beautiful Redemption for online ebook

Annabelle Marie Veronica says

****FINAL RATING: 3.90 STARS****

CATCHALL

Wow. My first thought after finishing this was, what a stunning finale to the Caster Chronicles. I feel like I've been reading these books for years. They're so fantastic and gorgeous. This series just...wow. I mean, wow. I'm speechless really. Was this book perfect? Of course not. But I loved every moment of it nonetheless. It made my heart ache in a good way. I've become so connected to these characters, to this universe, that I have really found a home in it no matter how cliché that sounds. Beautiful Redemption was gorgeous and breathtaking and most certainly went out with a bang.

THE HERO

ETHAN

Ethan is, of course, our hero. He's changed so much from the first book. He used to dream of escaping Gatlin. Now the only thing he wants is to get back to it. Before he met Lena, he was just a typical boy. Now, he's a strong young man. I loved seeing him change, and he continues to change in this novel. He is forced to mature still more. If he wants to return to Lena, he must stay strong. Ethan definitely has some issues. We all do, of course. He can be impulsive, but he's also sentimental in a good way. He has feelings and a heart, and though that doesn't always make life easy for him, it also helps him in more ways than one.

THE HEROINE

LENA

Because Lena narrates a part of the story for the first time, we get to know her more intimately than ever before. She's a lot like Ethan, which isn't surprising, since half the time they seem to be the same person. Even so, she's also starkly independent and very strong even on her own. She'll do absolutely anything to get Ethan back, even if it seems completely insane. Insane doesn't matter to her—he does. She does think about her magic an awful lot, but at least she knows when not to use it, and I guess that makes sense.

THE FRIENDS

LINK

Link is fantastic. Easily my favorite character in the entire series. He has the most amazing and awesome personality. Sure, he's a bit arrogant, but that's just part of what makes him so darn lovable. He thinks of things that no one else would ever think of, and by sheer luck and a strange conglomeration of circumstances, his plans somehow always seems to work. He also says the most random and weird things, which of course just make my entire life.

RIDLEY

Ridley is Lena's cousin, but I didn't feel like making a separate header, so whatever. She's a very, very interesting character. She's Dark by nature. That much has always been clear. But it's also very clear that she cares for Lena, and she cares for Link. She seems constantly at odds with what to do with herself even though she usually tries in the end to do the right thing. I love how she changes throughout the books especially.

XAVIER

Xavier is an entirely new character that we meet in this book. There are several, but Xavier is by far my favorite and in my opinion the most important. When we first meet him, we're not supposed to be sure what to make of him. He is many things in more ways than one and a complete enigma. Eventually, though, I really came to love him. He's a shockingly complex character and I really wish that we could have gotten to know more about him.

THE PLOT

And now for the most lengthy part of my review. Let's discuss the plot. There is so much good that I have to say here. Of course, there's also a bit of bad. But clearly I loved this novel, so I imagine I have mostly good things to say.

Well, there was definitely excitement to this plot. Somehow, even without making everything move at a million miles an hours, the action in this book is still heart-poundingly intense. When I'm reading this book I'm desperate to keep reading so that I can find out what's next. There's a certain level of anticipation that's achieved here and that can count me among its prisoners.

It seems like no matter how much we find out, no matter how much information to gather, there is always more that we don't know. This added still more suspense to the novel! I was reading to find out not only what was next, but to find out more. I loved the way the information was slowly spilled to us, revealed to us smoothly, in milky transitions. I loved finding out more, tying everything together just a little more.

Still, this book had less good v evil. Not totally, but in general, there was more focus on Ethan's journey to return to Lena and Lena aiding him than there was with Caster corruption and such, and I was sorry for that. It ended up leaving some things too open-ended for my taste, which naturally I was sad about.

Also, some things were just way too convenient. Like, some things just worked out way too nicely. It was completely unrealistic and made no sense and just kind of ticked me off. It all felt very rushed and contrived and just didn't seem very genuine. I wasn't buying it.

Even so, overall, like I said, fantastic. I really, truly did love this. It brought both joy and sadness to my heart, drug me onto an emotional roller coaster and decided not to let me go. There are some intensely emotional moments to balance the action and the info, and some of them were definitely tearjerkers.

THE ROMANCE

Ethan and Lena have such a sweet, soft kind of chemistry. It sparks, but it's also obviously not going to fade anytime soon. Maybe never. You can feel the love between them. When they're together. Even when they're apart, which they mostly are in this book. But at the same time, while it's clearly the most important thing to each of them, it doesn't really ever seem to control them or dominate them. It's a large part of their lives and who they are, yes, but it does not define them. They love being together and hate being apart, and when apart all they want is to find their way back to one another, but they still stay strong.

THE WRITING

I've always loved Kami and Margaret's writing. Their descriptions, especially, are lovely. Absolutely lovely. I love the way they describe the worlds their characters inhabit, and the gorgeous places around them, so vividly and completely. It's like I can picture myself really there. And I practically can. What my main problem here has always been is that Ethan's voice isn't very masculine. He sounds so feminine a lot of the time. It's gotten a little better, but that first impression is hard to erase. However, unlike the the other Caster Chronicle books, we also get Lena's point of view in this installment. Not only is her voice gorgeous, but it was nice to have that change. Even if her voice sounds suspiciously like Ethan's. That may be the point.

THE ENDING

My sappy and sentimental heart has a thing for sentimental endings, and so by default I do too. And this ending just made my heart so so so happy. There was so much sweetness to it! And of course, it was desperately romantic. But there's more to it than that. There were sacrifices that had be made. There are always sacrifices, serious, permanent ones. And I love that this ending embraced that too. There's happiness, but there's also heartache because endings are never perfect.

WRAPUP

I certainly had my ups and downs with this series. It wasn't perfect, and I was often frustrated by it. Even so, over all of that there was an overarching enjoyment that made me unable to keep from loving these books. They're achingly real, and I recommend them with all my heart. If you love magic, especially, you'll probably love these. I myself will definitely be reading future works by both Kami and Margaret. And maybe if we're lucky, they'll even work together again someday.

FINE.

Find more of my reviews on Sparkles and Lightning!

hayden says

3.5 Stars

Beautiful Redemption is an odd book to judge.

It's so much different than the other three books in the series; in this one, there's a very clear goal in mind. The book is one overstretched, boring journey -- however, what this book accomplishes with the long journey is the increase and build of tension. The end kind of just exploded in my face. I read the whole thing in one sitting, and while in certain parts I wanted to sleep, it was a fun journey mostly.

The only thing that REALLY bugged me about this book was one particular death scene (view spoiler) that really unsettled me and felt completely unnecessary. I sobbed like a baby because honestly, this character didn't deserve death. To be honest, I didn't expect any of the deaths in BEAUTIFUL REDEMPTION. There were a lot. I don't think I can count them on one hand.

The book is told from both Ethan's and Lena's perspectives. There are three "books" within this book; the first and third are told from Ethan's perspective, while the second is told from Lena's. The first two, around 200 pages each, bored me for about 125 pages each. The third was a constant flurry of action and excitement. I was honestly surprised at how much the ending gripped me -- although, because it's the end of the series, I'm not surprised anymore looking back.

This book wasn't my favorite in the series, although the ending is one of my favorite series endings. Garcia and Stohl really know how to end a series. I would've cried if I wasn't at school and pressed for time. I don't think I have a favorite book in this series, actually -- they all just kind of blur together. I liked them all, really.

OMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMGOMG THERE'S A COVER.

Potential Theories for *Beautiful Redemption* (with Spoilers!):

Theory #1: (view spoiler)

Theory #2: (view spoiler)

Those are the two main things I've come up with. **I'm so excited!**

BlackroseBlackheart says

OH MY GOD. I AM SO SORRY.

I realised I had been putting off this review because writing it would have meant the end of... *of this*. The love, the heart-break, the passion, the frustration, the components that truly make this a beautiful series.

And all I have to say is... **DAMMIT XAVIER**, where were you all the rest of the series??? :o

I wasn't too sure about the book being from Lena's POV so much, as I kind of missed Ethan. He was a little more wry, and I thought it dragged on a little bit, which is the only reason I gave it 4 stars out of five (blasphemy, I know -_-), but otherwise this was the perfect ending to a much-loved series.

Kami Garcia, I salute you, and I eagerly await any more books you wish to write :)

This is going to sound really weird, but... the cover of this book is always going to remind me of Hurricane Sandy, because of the closeness of both, and because of the way the stairs. Y'kno? Like a hurricane, with the eye of the storm in the middle. The stillness in the middle of the storm. Who knows, maybe that's where we start. In the center, where all is not what it seems...

I don't know, okay? I've been revising so frickin' hard for my GCSE Maths exams that I haven't been able to read the book. It's just sitting there, on the bookshelf, waiting to be picked up. Waiting to release it's secrets and sacrifices to me, as soon as I have a chance to PICK THE DAMN BOOK UP. you have no idea how much this is driving me around the bend.

Oh and did I mention how much *I hate Maths*???

Today, my dear friends, is the Day. 23/10/12. The Day we all fall down these Gothic stairs, arriving finally to the end of Beautiful Creatures.

Thanks to all who read my pre-review rant about this book, and liked it. All 80 of you (for now...) :P

Review to come...

OMG. OMFG. Oh my. Oh, oh my. It's green. It's- it's bright green. And there's a staircase. There's a flippin' *staircase*. It's winding down, down, down...

A green winding staircase. Whoa, mama.

And all that was going through my head for the next week was...
(view spoiler)

Joy (joyous reads) says

Warning: Spoilers galore. Read at your own risk.

There are books that you savour every page that you read and books that you simply couldn't wait to finish. Beautiful Redemption was a combination of both. I've started reading this book ever since it came out; and as you can tell, it took me a week or so to finally say goodbye. The ending, for us was bittersweet and I'm going to miss every single character of this book. If the ending to Beautiful Chaos left you in a fetal position, sucking your thumb, this book may or may not make up for that. My feelings? Well, this book wasn't up to scratch - sadly.

Beautiful Redemption finds Gatlin mourning the death of our boy - at least, those who were in the know. Link hounds Lena on the pretense of wanting to protect her. Lena haunts Greenbrier where Ethan was "interred" while Amma and the all the other casters casted a very powerful spell to protect Ethan's dad from ever knowing his son offed himself by jumping off the water tower. Business as usual in Gatlin except for the fact that their son is conspicuously missing.

Meanwhile, Ethan hasn't given up hope that he could return to those he loves. In the Otherworld, he's making deals left and right, finding ways to get back to Lena and attempting to right the wrong that started the whole thing to begin with.

Well, this is where Ethan and Lena's trials and tribulations come to an end. And while I'm happy with the way this book ended, I can't help but feel like it was entirely anti-climactic. I thought that they didn't really struggle and that the authors gave the characters an easy out. Not that they were convenient or anything; I just found that Beautiful Chaos was more suspenseful than this one ever was.

Half the time, Ethan was fighting his battles without having a clue on what to do. And really, who would, right? I mean he's a teenager who suddenly found himself in the after life trying to figure out how to get back to the real life. Trust me, it wasn't like the stuff he had to do was easy but he was his own army going into battles with his gun half-cocked. The final showdown between him and the "bad guy" was a bit of a let-

down. I expected some black magic kickassery and never got it. It was too tidy and - pardon me for saying this - kind of lame.

Sigh.

However, I love that this has a Lena POV. But what's a mystery to me was the lack of distinction between their voices. It seemed like Lena and Ethan were the same person. Their thought processes were alike.

As usual, the southern gothic theme in this book was of high calibre. I've always found this world mystical and mysterious and the writing duo of Stohl and Garcia never disappoint. The appeal of this series also extends to their colourful secondary characters.

Over all, I think Beautiful Redemption was a good enough adieu to a series that I've come to love. But I think it didn't live up to its fantastic reputation. This book could've been better, which only adds to my grief of it ending.

Jessica (Goldenfurpro) says

REVIEW FOR THE ACTUAL BOOK:

This was an AMAZING end to the series!

Yes, I said end!

THIS IS THE LAST BOOK!!!

Wait! No! Don't be sad!

It was a *satisfying* ending, not one of those endings that make you go "*OH MY CHEESE! What will happen next?! I NEED TO KNOW!!!!*". Believe me I've read some of those "endings" to series and they did not make me happy! But this book? Again, it was *satisfying*!

So I guess you wanna know about the book?

Well... i'm not going to give things away but I will say this:

-It's different than the other books in the series, but different in a good way.

-Yes, there are some slow and boring parts but it all works out!

-Did I say that it had a *satisfying* ending?

I know that some of you are going "*grrrrrrrrrr! That's not a review! Where is the review?!*" and I apologize for the crappiness that is "my review" but I am keeping my lips sealed on the happenings in this book!

So if you wanna know what happens, you'll have to read the book yourself! *evil laughter*

ANOTHER EDIT:

And here's the movie trailer!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=...>

Not a fan of the guy playing Ethan :p

He looks NOTHING like how I pictured him!

EDIT:

THE MOVIE POSTER!!!!

IT IZ HERE!!!!

Jumps up and down with excitement

Original "review":

WHY WORLD?

WHY MUST YOU MAKE ME WAIT SO LONG?

AFTER AN ENDING LIKE THAT!

WHY MUST YOU TORTURE ME SO?

I seriously need a time machine just so I can travel to the future and get this book. anyone with me?

By the way did you know that there is going to be a Beautiful Creatures movie?!

Beautiful Creatures Movie

SO FLIPPING EXCITED!

Marnie Krüger says

This was totally unexpected!

I had a very general idea as to where this story was going, I even gave a little prediction in my review of Beautiful Chaos. But man was I wrong!

This book just blew me away. It was so different- different is what caught me in Beautiful Creatures, so I guess that's what did it this time around as well.

I love how it all played out, how every thing tied so neatly into this final installment of the Caster Chronicles.

I believe this will be a series I read and re-read over and over again.

The magic in this books is more than just the casts; it's the relationships, the characters and the ever unpredictable plot.

Kami and Margaret outdid themselves!

Ilze Folkmane says

There is such a thing as sloppy writing, and this book, even the whole series, could easily be shown to aspiring writers as an example of such writing. Also, editors could take a note or two on how not to edit. I've seen booklets with more thought-out structures and better edited plot elements.

I have no doubt that the authors are a pair of imaginative, creative and wonderful women, but I wouldn't go as far as saying that writing is their thing. If it is, they hide it pretty well. The amount of plot holes in the book is higher than in all my bookshelf taken together. I guess there are several possible explanations for this (e.g., they had no idea what they were doing; they had crappy note-taking system; they understood everything so well that they couldn't imagine that some other people might not understand), but in the end it all boils down to the editor, who should have tied the authors to a couple of chairs and made them write a decent book. This one seemed to be read once. By a cat probably.

However, what strikes me most, is the lack of belief I realised I had in Ethan and Lena's love. Somewhere in the middle of the fourth book (I know, I'm really quick when it comes to perceiving things), I suddenly realised that they have absolutely no chemistry at all. I was more moved by and ready to believe Ethan's sort-of-crush on Liv than his unwavering, supposedly undying adoration for the love of his life. And the reason for this is mainly that Lena is as interesting and deep as a wooden board. The authors clearly wanted

to create some buzz in the world of supernatural young adult novels by making the main heroine the gifted, awesome one, while the boy can barely tie his shoestrings by himself, but it really doesn't work out if the supposedly awesome character does not have any qualities worth mentioning apart from her quirky magic skills. So, to sum up – Lena sucks. What also sucks is the fact that her narrative and Ethan's narrative have the same exact voice, but that's not Lena's fault, of course.

So what I'm saying in the end is that I applaud the effort the authors put in this book, because I truly believe that writing a book is a difficult, time-consuming and exhausting job, no matter what the end result looks like. At the same time, if you can't create likeable, clever characters, but end up making them look stupid because of your lack of writing skills, don't write the book. Or write the book, but don't publish it. Or get a better editor. To be honest, though, no one forced me to read it, so I can't really complain too much, but at the same time I would like all authors and editors put a little more effort into their work. You know, it's just common courtesy towards readers.

Shreya (?High Lady of The Night Court?) says

I think these books only ever got better and better. The more I read about these people and their lives and the world of the casters and the mortals it only got better.

This book just had a way of keeping me captivated - and after the ending of the last book I was dreading this book.

Towards the end this book just gets extremely and touching and I've grown so fond of this world- like any series it gets so hard to say goodbye to the characters after going through so much with them.

I give this book 4 stars, and if you've read the last book, try to finish this one I think it's just as good as the last.

(view spoiler)

Perro says

[OH
MY
GAWD .

THIS STUPID BOOK .

IS COMING OUT .

ON MY **BIRTHDAY** !!!!!

I'm trying not to cry . Like . Things just got so serious .

My life just got so real .

I'm so depressed .

Book-depression .

Raise your hand if you know what I mean .

I mean just like BOOM GOES YOUR OVARIES .

LIKE THE FRANKS MAN . I JUST FINISHED READING BEAUTIFUL CHAOS AND HERE I'M BOUT TO CRY LIKE THE FRANKS, ETHAN JUST DIED THAT WAS BEAUTIFUL BUT I'M SO MAD BRO , BLANK PAGE AND IT'S

Maham says

I have no idea why everyone is raving about this book so much. I wouldn't have given it any stars were it not for the fabulous array of supporting characters - Link, Amma, Ridley, Macon...they are the only reason I kept reading this series after the second book.

Lena and Ethan are one-dimensional in the sense that their love is all-consuming and all-encompassing. I always think those relationships are so unrealistic. The fact that Ethan wasn't even a little conflicted about the choice between staying with his mother or going back to Lena...I don't know, I just found that unrealistic.

That aside, every climax was anti-climatic. Villains easily despatched and problems easily solved - despite that, the writing seemed to drag on forever. You would certainly expect more from a book that's written by TWO authors. It just felt like everything was repeated twice or something, just to drag out the ending.

Somehow, when I eventually got to the end (months or years or millennia after I started reading) and everything had been resolved, I had to read though what felt like a thousand pages of mindless, boring, life-going-back-to-normal stuff. This whole book was a mess, from start to finish, like Garcia and Stohl couldn't decide how to end it so they thought of a rushed-out plot and then wrote a lot of words so that it didn't look like it was rushed.

Mainly...I was bored. I couldn't relate to Ethan because even after four books, he still doesn't sound like a guy. And I definitely couldn't relate to Lena since the John Breed fiasco.

OH and I just remembered; right at the end, Ethan informs us that since he came back from the Otherworld he and Lena can touch without his heart stopping. No explanation. None at all. Do I hear *deus ex machina*? Actually, when I think about it, no explanation was given as to why he died every time she touched him in the first place, right? Urgh.

For the love of God, do not read this book. It's better if you stopped reading at the end of the last book and consoled yourself with the fact that actually, Ethan came back to life and they lived happily ever after because...well, why not.

Mike Mason says

UPDATE 7/19/12

The cover of this book has green letters. Green. FREAKING GREEN, which is my favorite color. And a staircase winding down, down, down. And they gave us the title, Beautiful Redemption.

Redemption - The action of saving or being saved from sin, error, or evil: "God's plans for the redemption of his world". Hmm, maybe Ethan's the one getting saved. I hope...

Now, I have some new predictions for you guys. I recently reread Beautiful Chaos (my eyes were totally mistified by the ending) and I've come up with some new predictions. Here are fifteen "prophecies" that I believe must come true in Beautiful Redemption.

1) **Lena will break down. She'll become almost Bella Swan-like and be gone when everyone needs her, but some vision from Ethan will finally get her ready and she'll Bind the New Order and bring her Mortal boyfriend back.** That's got to happen. If Ethan was going to die, the authors would've ended the series at three books (which would have made me bomb their houses. No, I'm kidding. But I would've been pretty mad.) Plus, look at the summary. It's almost telling us Ethan's coming back.

2) **Amma will die.** This is one of my oldest predictions, and it still stands because I believe it to be true. Amma made her deal with the bokor in Beautiful Chaos, and Abraham banished him. I think the deal is going to be trading her soul for Ethan's or something like that, and she dies. Her death will be painful, but it won't be unexpected.

3) **John Breed and Liv Durand will get together.** Their romance was hinted at in Beautiful Chaos, but they didn't actually get together yet; remember Liv denied that they were dating? I'd actually love to see Jiv (or Lohn?) happen. They're pretty cute together.

4) **Ethan's mom will come back, or reveal that she was never actually dead.** A similar thing happened in The Chronicles of Vladimir Tod, and it was completely unexpected. I think the authors would do it. It'd certainly be an excellent plot twist.

5) **Ridley will finally choose- once and for all- which side she's on.** For the past three books she's been back and forth. We can see that she really loves Link, but she's not showing it because of the part of her that's Dark. However, when she became Mortal, she was shown true love and Light on Link's part (and their relationship is SOOOO cute). Also, I think what Macon said- "Everyone has Light and Darkness" was a hint at a possible plot turn.

6) **There'll be one final, spectacular Claiming Moon.** This is almost confirmed by the sudden Nineteen Moons at the end of Beautiful Chaos. The only question is, will it be John's Nineteenth Moon? Or some new character?

7) **Abraham will have a hand in trying to stop Lena from Binding the World Order.** Of course he will. He's the main antagonist, the reason for so much of Ethan and Lena's struggles. And he was mysteriously sane in Beautiful Chaos, so I think he has some epic end-of-the-world tricks up his sleeve for the next book. Let's hope they're not too epic, 'cause I don't want the authors killing off anyone else, even though I'm certain that's going to happen.

8) **It'll be from Lena's point of view.** I can imagine the authors continuing with Ethan's point of view, but it wouldn't really be very entertaining. I mean, what else can he do but watch from the Otherworld? If he's dead, all he can do is watch. It would be interesting if they did a Vampire Diaries type thing where Ethan's a ghost and Lena's the only one who can see him, but I don't know. Lena's POV would be best though. Or maybe even both! That'd be awesome, and from the looks of the summary, I'm seeing both their stories.

9) **There's going to be an earth-shattering, jaw-dropping secret that NO ONE saw coming.** That kind of thing has been happening a lot in YA, sudden plot twists that no one saw coming, so I can imagine something forbidden happening. Only... what?

10) **Ethan's father will finally come out of his depression/stupor.** This will only happen if his mother comes back. That'd be pretty nice. His dad's a clueless character, but I think with the right incentive he'd be cool.

11) **Marian will either die or Liv will have to give up something to save her.** This wasn't on my original list, but when I reread the book I noticed the depth of the Far Keep subplot, and I realized that Marian might be dying in the next installment. That'd be terribly sad. I love Marian's character, but hey. Doesn't look like there's any way to save the Caster Librarian...

12) **There will be something underground, explaining the winding staircase on the cover.** Or maybe that's just a metaphor for Ethan's journey into the Otherworld, or to find Lena. Too early to tell.

13) **There will be an Ethan's dad/Ethan's mom/Macon love triangle if she does come back.** I mean, come on. Mrs. Wate was the reason Macon chose Light- or at least part of the reason- so you know he still has feelings for her. It would be kind of awkward for Lena and Ethan, though.

14) **The bokor will have a bigger-huge role.** I mean, come on. This one's gotta happen. Amma's little deal with him was deadly, I'm assuming, so maybe he'll be on the villain card with Abraham in the book.

15) **There will be a bittersweet ending.** At the moment, I can see many characters dying, the Nineteenth Moon being action packed, Abraham causing some trouble, and Lena and Ethan having that powerful reunion. I think the book will end on a bittersweet note, but I don't know how much of which will come across.

So, there you have it. Those are my predictions for Beautiful Chaos. Now, hurry up October! Please! So we can see if they come true!

*Note: Guys, have you heard that they just recently finished filming the **Beautiful Creatures** movie ??? It's coming out February 13, 2013. Who's going to see it? I hope they make movies out of all the books, including this one!*

Benjamin says

I'm feeling so...you know, disappointed...

Full review posted!

Nice quotes, bad content.

"I guess that's the thing about a hero's journey. You might not start out a hero, and you might not even come back that way. But you change, which is the same as everything changing. The journey changes you, whether or not you know it, and whether or not you want it to."

Spoilers from this and the books before!!

HUGE DISAPPOINTMENT

This is the last book of the series and the worst (at least for me). It's the shortest and yet, it could have been better if it only had had 120 pages.

Worldbuilding: Rest in peace under the uselessly dramatic stuff.

Writing style: I haven't been a huge fan of it but the "accent" was impossible to understand.

The so annoying characters:

Since the first book I couldn't stand *Ethan* (I'm not stereotyping) but every time I read a chapter with his POV I couldn't avoid picturing him as a girl instead of as a boy. (Sorry not sorry)

Lena was okay in the books before, but in this last book, there are pages dedicated to her sorrow.

What the f*ck did you do with *Ridley*, first you gave me a strong, evil Siren and then we got this weeping creature. NO way!

Amma: Of course, my favorite character had to die. Is there any other way of making things worse? I don't think so.

Macon: He never become the importance he deserved.

Ethan's aunts: they're funny but that's it.

~~The cat is the best thing in the series.~~

A little funny summary:

Ethan: "I'm dead because I wanted to, but considering it well, I don't want to be dead anymore"

Some miracle: "Oh, but Ethan you don't have to be dead if you don't want to, you can always go to see a mysterious creature that will tell you the answer to all your problems"

Ethan: "Right! How could I have forgotten that?" "But first I have to talk with *Lena* because she can't live without me."

Lena (in the living world): "I missed Ethan so much, I don't care if everyone else dies I just want him here, so I can write my shitty poetry" "But I don't worry because I know he will come back"

Everyone else: "You cannot bring your boyfriend back"

Lena: "You don't know anything, you don't have eyes with different colors like me."

Everyone else: "But we are older, duh"

Lena: "Shhhhhh, don't wanna hear you talking, go clean my room." "I'll go and save Ethan by myself."

Ethan (still dead): "After fighting so much I'll finally go back to see *Lena* (I was actually letting everyone else die for me) I'm such a powerful man"

Ethan (living world): "Guess who's back bitches?" "Wait, why is *Amma* flying through the sky" "Oh no!"

She's been eaten by the Greats" "Never mind, I'll be okay"

Lena: "Let me kiss you, Ethan, I've missed your stupid decisions so much"

Ethan: "So have I, Lena. Let's go to Dairy Queen and make some babies.

Lena: "What a wonderful idea! I'll make babies with you for the rest of my life."

THE END

~~Being serious, nobody should waste their time reading this series.~~

*"There is a point. I don't know what it is, but everything I've had, and everything I've lost, and everything I felt-it meant something.
Maybe there isn't a meaning to life. Maybe there's only a meaning to living.
That's what I've learned. That's what I'm going to be doing from now on.
Living.
And loving, as sappy as it sounds"*

Miranda Reads says

3.5 stars

This one was better than the last. **Mostly cause Ethan is dead.**

After three books, I thought, surely Ethan and Lena would run out of ways to **confess their love??**

It didn't matter if we were dead or alive. We could never be kept apart.

Apparently not.

Because, now that Ethan is dead, we have a whole new angle. **Pining.**

*Even when I didn't know anything else about where I was or what I was supposed to be doing.
You were my Wayward, even then. Everything always brought me back to you. Everything.*

Mutual. Pining.

I love her beyond the universe and back. I love her from this world to the next.

Sigh. Just shootme now.

Okay, so if you manage to wade through all this lovey-dovey **he-is-my-moon she-is-my-stars** stuff....the plot was actually a bit decent (better than the last two at least).

Ethan sacrificed himself at the end of book 3 and is now in the **underworld**. Which is a lot like the real world - only with lots of **arbitrary and convenient** rules to keep the plot plodding along.

Lena is mourning yet another death until she plucks up the courage to do something radical. Like bring her boyfriend **back from the dead**. After all, when has that idea ever gone wrong?

From then on, Lena and her friends spend all their time following **arbitrary and convenient** rules to bring back her dead boyfriend.

As usual, the only reason I'm continuing this with this series is because the authors can write **absolutely amazing side characters**.

Well...side character.

I abso-freaking-lutely adore Link. He has such a **hilarious personality** that it really makes this series shine.

As I followed him along the sharp black stones, I could hear Link's voice in my head. "Bad move, man. He's gonna kill you, stuff you, and add you to his collection of idiots who followed him back to his creepy cave"

Audiobook Comments

Read jointly by Kevin T. Collins and Khristine Hvam. As usual, I enjoyed the narration by Kevin Collins and all the character he gives to the folks of Gatlin County.

For the first time, we have the story written from the perspective Lena. We have a new narrator (Khristine Hvam) for Lena's parts. However, what really threw me off was that the new narrator did all the accents differently. Some of them were so different that I really had to pay attention keep track of who was who.

Blog | Instagram

Manon says

21st of October (1 day after reading Beautiful Chaos) : The book doesn't even have a name yet, but I just can't wait 'till October 2012 to read it - hope Ethan is alright! And it's so sad to think after that one, whatever its name, there won't be any other story with our Ethan, Lena, Liv, Amma, Link, Macon and co...

14th of February (almost 4 months after reading BC) : WE HAVE ITS TITLE! I'm actually much more excited now! But I'm wondering what does *Beautiful Redemption's* plot will look like, and I'm quite nervous to see whose "redemption" the book is gonna be about. Oh god, curiosity makes waiting much more harder!!

6th of March (5 months after reading BC) : COVER RELEASED! Haha, I knew it was gonna be green for once. I love it. And it's a good omen for what'll happen, isn't it?!

10th of October (14 days before the release) : The book is out here in precisely two weeks. Oh my god. Seven days and it's gonna be the end of this series I've been adoring since its release in France. How am I going to survive without Ethan, Lena and co?

23rd of October (5 minutes after having finished it): Wow. Or, like Amma would have said it, W.O.W. three vertical, symbolizing atonishment with a hint of gratitude. Because that's how I feel, at this very moment. I just loved this book so much five stars aren't enough. Ten thousand stars wouldn't be enough. This book was magical, in the real sense of the term, I was hooked and only managed to let it down after five hours of non-stop reading (I even read it while going down my stairs, that's to say!).

The ending was just the perfect one. Every single word in this book was perfect. I don't always feel that way, I most of the time find little things that could have been changed, improvements to do on an artistic plan, even and mostly in my favourite books. But not in this one. In all points, this was the perfect ending to the four years of my life I have spent loving these books, running blogs about them, posting on networks, meeting the authors - this book is like the final gift Kami and Margie did to us readers, and I feel oh so grateful for that. I wouldn't change a thing in it, and even if I could, I wouldn't, because the perfect imperfections are making this book one of my favourite ever. I just feel so overwhelmed by emotions right now, I don't really think I can think clear, and even if it was the case, and even if I often revise my opinion for days after the reading, I don't think how my opinion of this book could ever change.

On a more technical matter, (view spoiler)

I really do hate endings - who doesn't? - but as we say, all the good things have to end someday. This is where the Caster Chronicles end, with their lot of joy and sadness, of laughter and tears, of Ethan and Lena and Link and Ridley and Olivia and John and Macon and Amma and Lila and the Sisters and all these other perfect characters who have been here for me for these past four years.

So THANK YOU SO MUCH to our wonderful authors for having shared the magical world of the Casters with us, which I don't even remember my life without.

Morgan says

To be honest I was a bit disappointed with the last installment in this series. I liked the other books but this one sort of failed to deliver. The authors used multiple points of view in this book switching off between Ethan and Lena. I think perhaps if they had switched perspectives more frequently instead of having large portions of the novel be from one pov or the other it would have added more of a dynamic feel. As it was the book felt stagnant and the plot was inevitable and predictable. I didn't enjoy the new characters that were introduced and the ending felt anticlimactic. I wish certain plot points had been further elucidated such as what happens in the Far Keep and to the Keepers after Ethan's adventure there. Additionally the physiological changes Ethan and Lena experience were not explained. For anyone who has read all the prior books I would say go ahead and finish the series but don't get your hopes up too high.

Jordan says

GRRRRR.... Why did you have to stop it when Ethan jumps! Why! It took all I had not to cry. I love Ethan and Lena and if you Seriously kill Ethan, Lena will go CRAZY. Probably even worse than when she thought Macon was dead! You can't continue the series without Ethan it is crazy!

Please please please please DO NOT KILL ETHAN. Or kill him and let the Wheel of Fate bring him back to life! But he has to live. If he dies they all die, because Lena will lose it and go crazy!

Cat's Review says

I just finished this today and I think I said, "What the H*LL?!?!" throughout the entire novel.

This was the worst book out of the entire series.

It felt like the authors just had to squeeze one more novel into the crazy mess they thrust upon the readers.

Ethan died. That itself was pretty boring and unemotional. He jumped off the water tower to save Gatlin and the Mortal world and I really didn't feel a thing. Through his journey to get back to the Mortal world and among the living again, he had to encounter and accomplish crazy and seemingly impossible obstacles.

I should say, obstacles that were very conveniently removed without much fight and Ethan was allowed to go on his merry own way.

SPOILERS

(view spoiler)

Why does Lena's voice sound just like Ethan? If it wasn't for the bad poetry snuck in there, I never would have guessed that it was Lena's turn to tell a story.

Ethan keeps fighting to get back to the Mortal world to see Lena and Amma (just switch the order once in a while) but often forgets to mention his father. He mentions his friends here and there but only referenced wanting to see his father again a few times. How odd.

Lena and Ethan claim to be in love but I actually never felt it throughout most of the series. The authors may want us to believe it but I never got the impression that they were that romantically connected to each other. Lena basically called the shots most of the time and frequently pushed him away. Ethan just followed after her like a loyal and sad little puppy

My impression of the whole series: WAY TOO LONG and way too much going on. Each book could have easily been cut in half and told the story a lot better than what was actually published.

There didn't seem to be a logical plan for the series and the Caster world was just too chaotic (too many characters, too many Casters, too many random and unnecessary events, too many inconsistencies and too much whining.

Ethan was not a believable male character and this should not have been told from his point of view. He was basically a female posing as a male. It was like the authors wanted to try something different in the wake of

Twilight's success but they were not able to convince me that Ethan was a true male (like I mentioned above, I was not able to tell the difference between Lena and Ethan if the dialog tags were not there or specific references to the characters).

The overall plot was interesting and some of the characters were actually well written: Amma, Macon, sometimes Marian and Ridley. I was not impressed with Ethan, Lena, Ethan's parents, Sarafine, the high school crowd and the townsfolk.

I give this book two stars and the whole series 2.375 stars

Phoenix2 says

The last book of the Caster chronicles takes place in the after life (?) I think, or at least where Ethan goes after he dies. The good part of the book is that the povs are swift, so we get Lena's as well (yeah!!). The not so good parts are the first half of the book, where Ethan is trying to figure out what it's happening to him and accept it and then go back and see everyone and try to communicate with them and then finally (FINALLY) learn that he can go back and that's when the action starts. Another thing that I didn't like was the ending, it was too swift and I would have liked to have more of a battle then just a realization (I'm not writing anything else, because there are major spoilers, but if you read the book, you'll know what I'm talking about). Some chapters were dragging the story and some others were okay, but this book was defenatelly not the best end you could get for this series. I mean they started really strong and they just gave us books that were less and less good, till we reached Beautiful Redemption, that is nothing compared to Beautiful Creatures. Maybe I'm just overthinking this, but I thought Beautiful Redeption was just okay.

Sarah says

i cried myself to sleep last night.
&a bit this morning while getting ready.
i mean;
WHAT. THE. FUCK?
how can you continue the series if ethan`s dead?/:
at least, that was the impression i got, i`m still a little confused on it.
either way, the ending broke my heart.
i cried for about the last 200 pages, when ethan figured out about the other half of his soul.
i *knew* it was himm/: the one who is two, i mean.
i`ve never been so devastated about a book before D:
i need this *now* 3

Laz says

Fabula Peracta Est.
Scripta Aeterna Manent.

After the story is written forever.

I'm so sad to see this series coming to an end. Every single book was amazing and I'll forever cherish them.

I won't lie, it was the most painful book in the series but at the same time it was the best and the most beautiful just like the first half of its title suggests.

Ethan found his way back and there was a price paid (of course there would be) but everything ended beautifully and tragically all the same just as I was sure it would. There was a happy ending but not for everyone.

I just want to say how much the writing affected me. I think this book was the most well-written book the duo has released. It was so deep. The meaning behind the book was made clear throughout the entire book.

We are never alone. We always have people looking out for us even when we think we don't.

I also loved the fact that we got to see how Lena thinks and how she perceives all these things happening. Most of all, I'm going to miss Ethan because I love him so much and I'll forever be grateful to those two wonderful authors for introducing him to us, the readers. Thanks to them, we got to experience another amazing world and we can always re-read the books if we want to!

Well, that's it! Thanks for reading my review! :)
