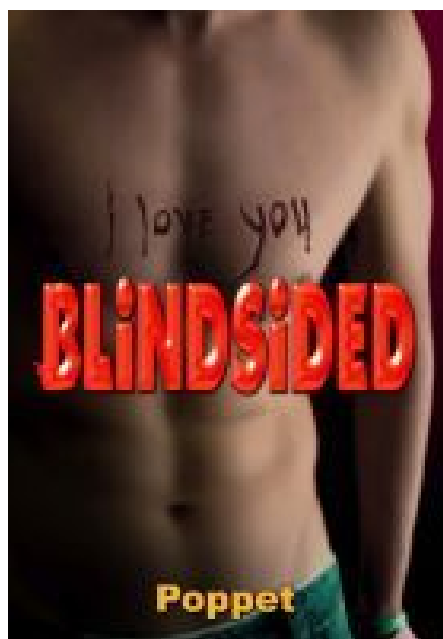




Blindsided

Poppet

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Blindsided Poppet

Exploits defines the difference between a relationship and a dictatorship A psychological journey from naive, to liberation, until she finally has the greatest love of all. Stefanie has played by the rules. Now things are changing. The condensed version of a dysfunctional relationship, and how it turned a good girl into a spineless victim. Isn't love supposed to be a battlefield?

Blindsided Details

Date : Published (first published May 2nd 2011)

ISBN :

Author : Poppet

Format : Kindle Edition

Genre : Romance, Contemporary Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Blindsided for online ebook

Joy says

Blindsided aka Betrayal

Cheating is not a favourite theme of mine I'll put that out there right off but the rapt reviews that it was a raw gritty read caught my attention so what the hell, why not?

But man...oh man...oh man...

I don't even know where to start. Days later I'm still scratching my head. You call this love? For all the Lee's in the world my most earnest advice to you women is to love yourself more and kick your Andre to the kerb. It is not okay to pass on to you a sick twisted version of the kind of love that is portrayed here. You should let no man emotionally abuse or manipulate you in this way. It's sick, it's dysfunctional and if after reading this novel you still think its okay (and clearly many of you do) then good luck to you.

The only way this novel could have redeemed itself is if Lee had walked away and left him to it, it was no more than he bloody well deserved.

Samantha Towle says

I've just finished reading this book and – wow! I loved it!

This is not your typical love story; Gemma Rice takes hold of your emotions and yanks you in from the opening chapter, right down to the very last word. I was instantly hooked into the complicated world of Leanne and Andre.

Rice covers issues that some authors shy away from and she deals with them beautifully, and eloquently. I could literally feel the emotion pouring out of the pages. It's raw. Parts of this story are shocking, but at the same time so very compelling.

I don't want to put spoilers here so I'll just say that at times I found myself banging my hand against my head in frustration at Leanne's reactions, but Rice quickly follows up to give such insight into Leanne thoughts, motives and reasoning that my initial frustration quickly dissipated and I actually found myself empathising with her - that shows just how cleverly this book has been written.

It was fast paced and I couldn't read quickly enough to find out what was going to happen next, yet I really didn't want it to end!

This is a must read.

Matthew Carter says

There is a familiar feeling with this writing that rings true to life. Blindsided is a book by Gemma Rice that supercedes categories, even though it is listed under romance, to me it feels like realistic fiction that kept me enthralled the whole way through. There was never a time in which I felt bored with the story as there was a new twist and turn that I didn't see coming. Even the ending I thought I had it pegged, but was wrong on that one. Like most of Gemma's works this was an action packed bumpy ride from start to finish. It made me think what true love really is - and what love means in the real world - and not some fantasy world where the lovers are separated by circumstance but are perfect in every other way. This book shows that love is patient and love is kind, through thick and thin.

I don't want to give too much away, so I will only give you a taste of what this story is about. Lee is a successful woman with a boyfriend she has been with for over ten years. She finds out secret after secret about him forcing her to the edge and beyond.

The most telling thing about this story is that it reminds me that there is no love that is perfect. There is always going to be something you have to work through and get past. This story shows the human side of it all and trying to accept lover's flaws and all. If you are into a realistic romance story that will have you on the edge of your seat the entire time reading it, then this is definitely the story for you.

Annmarie says

What the hell?!? He cheats on her and she walks in and is totally calm. Because he cuts himself she is afraid to show him how upset she is. The girl is a chubby teenager and he is 40. The h is 50 and insecure about that but trains 5 days a week and looks great. The H is a sleaze bag, oh, and he takes coke because the teenager that he was screwing for 4 months (with NO CONDOM while he was also screwing the h with NO CONDOM) gave it to him to enhance their sex. Yup, he tells the h this. He is weird and a child. He tries to kill himself after she finds out about the coke. Then, while he is in the hospital she meets an amazing doctor that adores her and treats her so well and she sleeps with him and dates him but ends it to be with the cheating psycho. She is an idiot. She is ridiculous. What is wrong with you? She buys a house so she can take care of him. Um... he cheated on you for months and you had to get aids tests. What is loving about that?!?! He says he loves her but acts like that? She's an idiot, nothing left to say but she is the frigging idiot.

Monique says

This book delves into the complicated and dysfunctional relationship of a couple in love. This story is not a fairy tale, it is the stone cold truth of how relationships are not always roses and chocolate's and how it takes real work and sacrifice (mostly of one's pride) to maintain it. I loved this story because I was able to experience every emotion along with Lee, her hurt at discovering her life was not what she thought it was, her anger at being betrayed by her soulmate and her desperation to hold onto her best friend and love of her life. Anyone who has been in a long term relationship can relate to her. This book is not only very well written it resonates within my heart and truly makes me FEEL the story page by page. Poppet has a way of pulling you into her books making you feel like Alice Through The Looking Glass. So that inevitably it doesn't seem like a story at all, but real experiences you share with the characters. Once again I bow to the literary genius that is Poppet!!

Kim McNiel says

Excellent book. A very raw and real book, full of emotional roller coaster ups and downs, twists and turns. Gemma Rice pulls us into the heads of her main characters, and they anything but normal journey through with their relationship.

SeptemberTenth says

I wouldn't exactly call this book a romance but it still had elements of romance within it.

I liked this book. I noticed that some ladies were peeved about Lee's reactions toward Andy's indiscretions, saying that she wasn't "angry" enough when she found him cheating etc. I gotta say, I'm one of the few ladies out there who would've reacted *exactly* the way Lee did. I, too, would have calmly waited for them to finish. I, too, would have been politely passive aggressive toward the third party (it wasn't Trish that cheated after all). I guess it's because the calmer you are, the more information you can gather, and you know what they say, knowledge is power.

I felt for Lee throughout the entire book and commend her strength. She'd put up with so much of Andy's crap, yet she still took him back... It felt like she was more his mother than his lover - how they learned to differentiate the two? I have no idea.

The reason I'm giving this book 4 stars is because it is a **realistic** story about a modern day relationship. There were no sickeningly cute OTT gestures of love, no undying proclamations etc. It was real and it was fucking refreshing.

I opted to leave a star out because the ending was too abrupt. It felt like somebody had ripped the last few pages out of my book.

Patricia Ibarra says

If a book deals with two whackos it has to be a crazy book It is supposedly a love story of LeAnn and André, but one is crazier than the other. Both of them are in urgent need of therapy or be institutionalized. The good thing is that these two nuts are together, thus preventing anybody else from being. Their damage is limited to themselves. Nothing positive or learnt from this type of stories. A waste of my time.

J.E. Taylor says

Gemma gave me this book as a birthday present and I devoured it in one day. Gemma pulls out all the emotional stops in this poignant look at the rollercoaster ride a spouse of a mentally disturbed mate goes through and how hard it is to break the cycle of addiction.

Bravo on the emotional ride!

ToddAn says

3 1/2 stars. I was just mentally exhausted after reading Betrayal. It is so much more than a love story...It is a tale of the real life struggle that comes after love. I felt for both Andy and Leanne. I know for certain I wouldn't have handled things as she did in the beginning...absolutely, positively no way at all. But as I continued reading, I realized her reaction (or lack thereof) is for the sake of her love, Andy. What a deeply moving story!

The Project says

Blindsided is one of those stories best reserved for a day or night when you want to wrap yourself up in angst. Me, I'm a fan of angst, so that could be any time. This is the story of Lee and Andre as told from Lee's point of view. Lee thinks her relationship is just fine, at least until she walks in on her lover, Andre, with his, err, lover. In their bed.

Thus begins a very gloomy chapter in the couple's relationship. Andre's secret fling is only the tip of the iceberg, and things go from bad to worse. Lee has long been aware of Andre's fragile emotional state, and isn't exactly surprised when his way of coping with the revelations about his activities take a turn to the dark side.

Overall, I found it an interesting twist on your typical romance. There was some struggle for me in settling into the read. Personally, I'm not a tremendous fan of first-person, present-tense. It can grow tedious if the story is lengthy -- but that's just me. At the start, the writing was well, descriptively intense, which was a bit of a distraction. I'm more interested in learning about the characters, not the shade of the color of the room the action is happening in. But that quickly settled down and I was able to leave my initial misgivings behind.

Lee is sympathetic without losing her edge. Andre is another story. While the author offers some potential points of sympathy for him, overall, I found him manipulative and unlikable. I was invested enough in the story that I spent a couple minutes grumbling at Lee when I finished, mostly because of the choices she made towards the end.

Blindsided is definitely unique. The ending is not one you might expect in a romance novel. It may not be one you agree with. It may be one you cheer. This is one of those stories that can elicit intense and varied emotional responses, depending upon the reader's experiences with relationships and the ups and downs of life with the ones they've loved. This one is a thought-provoking read.

--Joey, The One Hundred Romances Project.

Shelby says

This was very well written! The subject was emotionally charged and I was able to empathize with Lee. I wouldn't classify this as a romance, not really sure how I would classify this- but it was an interesting read (and I'll read more by this author).

Sudama Panigrahi says

Lee discovers the monster of infidelity giggling with her husband Andy. She sees her edifice of love falling apart, brick by brick. Suddenly, it crumples on the ground on which it is raised carefully. The garden losses blooms and becomes a patch of thorny bushes. Lee sees another girl Trish inside the sweet grip of Andy and she begins to slip. Trust shatters, love losses its meaning and two hearts loss the code to unlock each other.

Andy tries to show his love but Lee would not believe. The virus of distrust enters into the mind of Lee and she unearths more evident. She discovers mails and call records with another girl Kate. Unbearable she sees the end of the world.

She tries to save the marriage but the distrust but proves of infidelity defy patch up. Andy commits suicide and Lee finds himself in a land of vacuum. Vacuity and lack of love dents her mind and she does for against she fights. Temporarily, she commits with a doctor.

The emotional rupture of Lee is vividly and clearly portrayed. Each chapter continues the idea of the previous chapter brilliantly leaving no gap or hole in the story.

Infidelity is a cliché concept but Poppet has portrayed the same with brilliant uniqueness. Many writers have portrayed this age old theme but this writer is brilliant in her portrayal. The writing style is unique. The easy flow of sequences makes reading easy. This is easy to relate and above all a fine reading.

With fewer characters the writer has weaved a beautiful story. Apart from Blindsided the writer has other titles, how about having a search in Google?

Would you like to some memorable quotes from the novel? I know you would like to read. So here I go.

Young blood is tastier, eager and forbidden.

I unclip my bra, letting it fall like one more discarded woman.

Even you're prepared to annihilate me, you do it with eloquence.

"And just watch him when he's playing that guitar. It may as well be a naked woman under his fingers.

There is confidence there. Women wait half their lives to develop that kind of confidence."

Warm lips defrost very cold nipples.

Buts, your butt is the only but allowed.

Nothing lasts, everything beautiful dies.

Andy has shut me so effectively; getting to know him again will force me to be a burglar. The code on the safe around his heart has changed, and I no longer have the password.

If you want to receive it, you have to give it.

Love is unconditional. Love soothes, caresses, blesses...

Love says, this is me, accept me or you can't love me.

Your lyrics have been a raft on turbulent seas for me recently.

It gets boring seeing the same set over and over. She didn't come tonight.

"I love you, I fucking love you so much it hurts."

"I feel you in my soul, Andy. You live inside me even when we're apart.

My eyes need a plumber because they've got a leak again.

Have you read this? Go for it now. Recommended.

Thanks.

Nora says

Blindsided
by
Gemma Rice

I found the newest work of Gemma aka Poppet, Blindsided, a nice change to your typical love story. Blindsided kept me wondering from chapter to chapter what was going to happen and if Andy and Lee's love was going to survive the next tragedy or twist of fate. I found it to be a very fast paced read because it was a great page turner.

I found myself in awe with the situations Lee found herself in mainly due to a man she loved unconditionally and thought he felt the same towards her. But she finds her world shattered to pieces after coming home from a long Canadian trip that lasted months, to find her perfect mate had been keeping a terrible secret, which turned out to be several secrets. She handles the first one she is faced with great poise and restraint. I could not understand how she could be so calm, but soon it is revealed why she cannot confront her 'true love' like a normal woman would when their man is found in a web of betrayal and lies. I found this part of the story shocking and compelling and became a very important part of the entire story.

I felt the story ended too quickly. I felt that the healing process between Lee and Andy should have been drawn out a tad more. I had mixed emotions about the ending of the book because there is a third party in the mix, and frankly, I was rooting for him because I felt he was a far more stable, loving, kind man than Andy was towards Lee. Goes to show you some loves are meant to be no matter the heartaches, hurdles and tragedies it has to endure.

I recommend this book like I have Poppet's other great works. Hats off to you again my friend.

I give Blindsided five stars *****

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