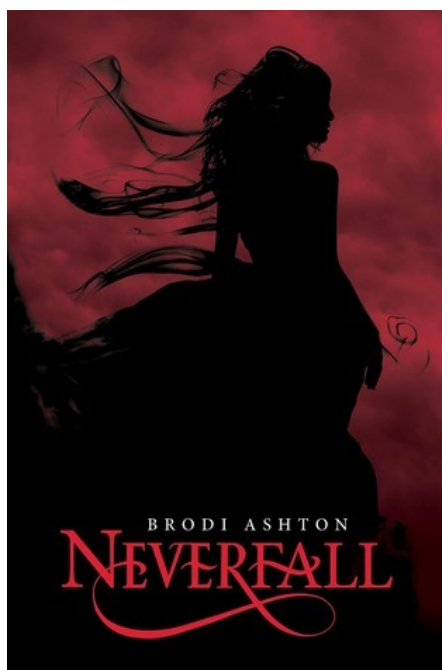




Neverfall

Brodi Ashton

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A thrilling new novella from the author of the Everneath series!

Jack is trapped for eternity in the Tunnels while Nikki has managed to evade Cole's grasp . . . for now. But Cole is more desperate than ever to find answers about Nikki, his best chance for taking over the throne of the underworld. How did she survive the Feed? Can Cole find another Forfeit like her who can survive it too?

Cole's quest leads him to the other side of the world, to a mysterious, dangerous society known as the Delphinians, whose price for information might be higher than Cole can pay—a price that could destroy Nikki. But when Cole attempts to steal the answers instead, his mission ends in disaster. Faced with centuries in a Delphinian dungeon, Cole is confronted with questions he's been too scared to ask himself: Is he really obsessed with the throne—or is he obsessed with Nikki? And can she really give him a new beginning as the Everneath's king . . . or will she instead bring about his tragic end?

Neverfall Details

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From Reader Review Neverfall for online ebook

Keertana says

I suppose that, when compared to other YA Novellas, *Neverfall* is kind of amazing. Yet, taking into account that the novellas I usually read are either written by Australian Authors (Melina Marchetta's *Ferragost*) or Adult Urban Fantasy Authors (Ilona Andrews), *Neverfall* fell short of the exemplary novella-writing I've come to expect when I crack open these short stories. While it was entertaining and kept me engaged (for the most part), I struggle to find the real *purpose* in it. Is there a point, because really, I would have picked up *Everbound* with excitement even *without* this filler piece.

Neverfall is told from Cole's PoV and every few chapters or so, we are gifted flashbacks to Cole's meetings with Nikki and his perspective of their brief exchanges. In the present-day, however, Cole is desperately trying to find an answer to why Nikki was able to survive the Feed - and what the secret is to finding another human who can survive it too. Although the beginning of this novel is slow, and I did skim a few sections, it gradually picks up as Cole's quest takes him to places that we, as the reader, could have never imagined. In fact, I find myself being bowled over, once again, by the creativity Ashton uses throughout this series and her deft incorporation of Greek myth in a modern setting. I am still very much in love with it.

Where this story fell flat for me, though, is my understanding of Cole. In *Everneath* it is very obvious that Cole has no *real* or *true* feelings for Nikki. We don't really have a love triangle on our hands as Cole simply wants Nikki so that he himself can survive for thousands and thousands of more years and, of course, gain power along the way. In *Neverfall*, this understanding of Cole is only confirmed as he is truly only interested in Nikki for what she can offer him. When extenuating circumstances force him to question his life and his reason for existence, however, he rapidly comes to the conclusion that he is, in fact, in love with Nikki. Now, I still firmly believe that Cole has an obsession with Nikki - nothing more, nothing less - even at the end of this short story, which really proves that this novella is pointless. Cole doesn't change and although it *says* he changed, we have nothing to substantiate that claim and his change of heart is so quick that it is missed in one small sentence.

Nevertheless, I still enjoyed being back in this world, reading the banter between Cole and his best friend, Max, and re-familiarizing myself with the world Ashton created. If nothing else, *Neverfall* is a great reminder of what the *Everneath* Series offers and it throws in some creative new settings and mythology at the same time. Although I wouldn't have missed out on much - or lessened my understanding of Cole - if I had skipped this, *Neverfall* remains a must-read for all fans of *Everneath*.

Christina (Ensconced in Lit) says

Novellas that take place between sequels in the YA verse have become increasingly popular. I remain a skeptic because I haven't seen many novellas that have added anything to the story. But every once in a while, I get surprised and impressed. *Neverfall* did both.

Neverfall is probably the best novella I've read, and is a must read for a reader of the *Everneath* series. Why? The novella adds essential information, changes the perspective to Cole's so we get to understand this enigmatic character better, and is well thought out. This novella focuses on Cole, probably the most fascinating character in this trilogy. We get to learn more of what happened in *Everneath* through his eyes-- and there are definitely some surprises there! Furthermore, the story gets propelled to the present between books, and we see what happens in the background, learn more about Cole and his motivations, learn more

about the Everliving and Cole's friends.

The book is well written, and doesn't feel like a cast off or a vehicle merely to show a sneak peek of the next novel. It is a stand alone story, and adds a lot to the Everneath-verse. This is one of the rare cases that I would say that this book is a must read for readers of Everneath. It adds a depth and richness to the story, as well as gives us a glimpse at one of the most interesting characters, Cole.

Overall, a terrific addition to the story of Everneath, and a must read for those who are following Nikki, Jack, and Cole through their journey.

Cookie says

This book is similar to Tahereh Mafi's Destroy Me. Because both are in the "bad guys" POV, and they pick up right where the previous books end. Not that I'm complaining.

Dirty Dayna says

hmmmmm

I think I have a crush on Cole!

SHES A TWAT .. I love him I pick him always

5 be still my ever living heart cole stars

this is totally in coles POV and yes I need it and I hope we get more of just coles POV you stop thinking of him as evil and actually romantic ...

the book makes you question... what would you do for love.. and we all pray there is a COLE out there that would make the same decisions for us

Kaylee Magic says

WHY DO I HAVE TO LOVE BOTH BOYS?? I always thought my undeniable obsession with Jack Caputo was enough, but of course Brodi Ashton has to make me fall for Cole too.

The way this was told from his perspective was GENIUS, and I loved -- as I always do with make POVs -- seeing Cole's adorable perception of Nikki. He's such a damn softie Ben though he pretends to play the tough rocker guy. And he loves her too much not to make me gush AWWWWWW (':

Also, that excerpt from Everbound at the end?? KIND OF KILLED ME, OH MY GOODNESS.

Jaaaaaaaack, I love youuuuuuuuuuuu ❤

This was definitely a great fix to curb my addiction to this series for a moment... although it really only makes me crave Everbound even more afterwards!

Γι?τα Παπαδημακοπο?λου says

Η οπτικ? του "κακο?" παιδιο? που ?λοι λατρε?ουμε να μισο?με και ν' αγαπ?με, μ' ?ναν τρ?πο που η διπολικ?τητ? μας εκτοξε?εται στα ?ψη. Μπορε? να μην προσφ?ρει τρομακτικ? πολλ? στη δομ? της ιστορ?ας, φωτ?ζει, ωστ?σο, κ?ποιες ενδιαφ?ρουσες πτυχ?ς εν?ς ακ?μα πιο ενδιαφ?ρων χαρακτ?ρα.

♥ Becky 22 says

Had a book hangover from finishing Everbound - found this.

This was the best novella I have ever read. Can I give it 10 stars?

Brodi Ashton is an amazing writer. This is written from Cole's perspective, and his voice is so different than Nikki's! He's really funny.

Cole (whose real name is Coleson Stockflet, by the way, who knew?) is my favorite character in this series. If you wondered what was going on in his head in *Everneath* (and to better understand how he acted in *Everbound*), just read this book.

This novella gives you a whole new view of him, and it's really kind of fascinating.

I. Loved. It.

Christine says

I kind of was looking forward to maybe a Jack POV, but Cole's will be interesting. This is all so similar to *Destroy Me* by Taherah Mafi, though..

Blythe says

I'll admit that the one and only reason I picked up *Neverfall* was that I found Cole to be the one and only character to be interesting and multi-dimensional in *Everneath*, drifting helplessly in a sea of bland and boring characters, and I was incredibly intrigued by the concept of being stuck in his head for nearly one hundred pages.

I'll also admit that being stuck in his head for one hundred pages felt more like I was being trapped in there - more often than not, I wanted to get out, and wanted desperately to go back to my initial thoughts of Cole. In *Everneath*, Cole was portrayed as the relentless and endlessly cruel Everliving who wanted to make Nikki the queen of the Underworld. *That* is the view of Cole I prefer, and somehow *Neverfall* managed to screw that all up by attempting to make Cole ... *shudders* *likable*...

I'm not against Brodi Ashton attempting to make Cole likable, and in a way I encourage it - character development is a good thing, and honestly, I'm Team Cole in the inevitable and predictable love triangle because I find Jack to be as boring as watching a can of soup for eight hours - maybe even more - but I do not approve of how Cole's characterization, in my opinion, devolved in this novella.

Everything that Cole was in *Everneath*, and hopefully is in *Everbound*, was flipped on its head in *Neverfall*, all thanks to the effects of Nikki on Cole. All thanks to insta-love. I like Cole, I really, truly do. But honestly, I'm going to act like this entire novella never happened. I prefer to view Cole in the same way I viewed him in *Everneath*, and not as the sappy mess he was in *Neverfall*.

As a whole, however, I found *Neverfall* to be mostly good, if not a bit boring at times, hence the three stars, but I do not approve of this portrayal of the one character in this trilogy that I actually like. I do not approve of it at all.

Trisha (The Tea Reader) says

I think its possible that I liked this novella more than I liked the first book, I love seeing things from the POV of Cole. My favorite scenes were the flashbacks between him and Nikki, I wish there had been more of them. In *Everneath* the flashbacks were also my favorite scenes to read. In this novella I think the flashback I wish we would have seen more from Cole's POV is the dance, I wish we could have seen first hand how he felt when he saw Jack and Nikki together.

I love how Cole is coming to accept that he's in love with Nikki, I also like how Max keeps claiming that he Cole is obsessed with Nikki and he keeps claiming that all he wants the throne. What that Oracle told him leads me to believe that Cole might die in the end of the series, I love Cole so I hope that isn't the case, I'll have to wait and see.

shady boots | #WatchPOSE says

This review is also available over at my blog.

I like the cover, but I wish it had Cole in it instead of the same picture used in the *Everbound* cover. Wouldn't that be way cooler? :D

Anyways, my thing with Cole is that, I'm aware that he's immortal, yeah. But for some reason I'm just not really...*convinced* about it. I was excited when I heard this was going to be from his POV, and maybe I'll get a chance to finally get to know his past, since he's lived since like the beginning of time or whatever. But there was only *one* scene where we got a glimpse of his past, and they were all just extremely brief flashes of random things.

A perfect example of an immortal protagonist to me would be Nastasya from the Immortal Beloved series. In all three of the books, we get in-depth scenes of various things in her past, and it made me actually *believe* that she's an immortal, regardless of how, well, *modern* she acts. I never saw her as, say, 18. I saw her as 460.

Cole, on the other hand, the author doesn't seem to wanna show his past and keep him mysterious, and that

kind of disappoints me. I'm not fully convinced that he's immortal because the way he acts is so...21st century *teenage guy*, you know? I thought the author would at least give us some of his memories since he's lived for centuries, but there was barely any mention besides that one scene I talked about.

Don't get me wrong, I really really like Cole. I'm just not fully convinced that he's immortal, and I just really wanted to see his past and learn of his backstory, like how he became an Everliving, mostly, and just basically what he went through all those centuries to make him the way he is now. Surely I'm not the only one who feels this way, right?

I liked this novella a lot, but the whole barely-any-mention-of-Cole's-past thing really did disappoint me and I sadly have to take away one star. So excited for *Everbound*!

Lauren says

Wow. Just wowww! Where to start?

I always liked Cole's character but just as equal as I liked Jack's! But now, reading everything he went through and his point view I definitely am starting to favor Cole more.

From Nikki's point of view, of course, Cole is seen in a harsher light and you can't get the real feel for Cole's love because Nikki only wants to love Jack, therefor you really only see Jack as the good guy perfect hero/boyfriend. Which is Nikki's point of view. But seeing the whole story now from both sides you get a real feel for what's happening with this love triangle and you can make a non-biased decision on which male lead YOU personally like more!

If most of you prefer Jack and haven't read Neverfall yet, I strongly encourage you to read this so you can see, firsthand, for yourself, how Cole really feels and thinks and what he was up to when Nikki wasn't around!

I felt so bad for Cole in this book where it kinda stung my eyes a little 0.0 but I didn't cry!

Reading from Cole's POV was great because you're in his head, where there is no protective walls or facades put it and you just get pure raw feelings and thoughts of Cole's.

Plus at the end you get a pretty good chunk of the next book, Everbound!! I, personally, couldn't read it and torture myself with wanting more because I already can't wait for the next book!

I really liked Neverfall a lot!! Definitely a must read if you've read this series!

Merve Özcan says

?lk ba?larda s?k?c?ama ard?ndan aç?lan bir kitap. Yerkara'ya dair çok az ?ey hat?rl?yorum ve bu çok nadir olur. Nedenini dü?ünmek gerek. Yunan mitolojisini oldu?u gibi ald??? yerler olsa da, yeni bir soluk kat?yor ve bunu seviyorum. Karakteri hat?rlamasam da, Max'e bay?ld?m. Max ♥ Ben.

Sonraki kitab? okuyaca??m san?r?m, hikayede geçen 'emanet'in ileriki kitaplarda kullan?laca??n? tahmin ediyorum. Bu merak bile bana okutur, tabiii sa?lam bir spoiler bulmazsam.

Gabriela says

[

"I don't want to find another Forfeit. I don't want anyone else. I only want you."

"Nikki couldn't keep Jack alive forever. And when he was gone, I would still be here. Waiting. I crouched down beside her bed and lightly touched her forehead. 'Don't worry, Nik. I'll never let you go. Never.'"

(hide spoiler)]

Katy says

First of all, I think a 100-paged novella is too short for a book to switch back and forth from past to present because the transitions were really choppy, and it kind of made it confusing.

While it gave us a glimpse (very short look) of what happened with Cole and Nikki first met, I think I preferred to think of Cole as some mysterious guy, rather than the mentality all-over-the-place guy we learn more about in this book.

And in the present tense, he spends so much time trying to figure out how Nikki survived the feed and kept coming up with dead ends - which wouldn't be so bad if the story hadn't been interrupted after each turn.

It's almost as if Ashton couldn't decide if she wanted to write a prequel or an in-between short story, and the decision to split such a short book did neither tense enough justice.
