



Hereafter

Kate Brian

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Rory Miller thought her life was over when a serial killer set his sights on her and forced her into witness protection. But a fresh start on Juniper Landing Island was exactly what she and her family needed. For the first time in years she and her sister hang out at the beach, gossip about boys, and party together. She's also made friends with a local clique--including a magnetic and mysterious boy named Tristan.

But Rory's world is about to change again. Picturesque Juniper Landing isn't what it seems. The truth about the swirling fog that rolls in each morning, the bridge that leads to nowhere, and those beautiful locals who seem to watch Rory's every move is more terrifying than being hunted by Steven Nell. And all Rory ever wanted was the truth. Even if it means learning that she can never go home again. From the best-selling author of the Private and Privilege series comes the second novel in a heart-stopping trilogy about a girl who must pick up the pieces after the only life she's ever known ends.

Hereafter Details

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Author : Kate Brian

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From Reader Review Hereafter for online ebook

Vicki says

I didn't see that coming and I was way off with my predictions! I have to read book 3 ASAP! I love this series!

Veronica Morfi says

Great continuation to the series. I feel like what we learnt in the end can't really be true though. It just cannot! I need to get my hands on the third one but can seem to find a copy anywhere...

Jon says

Check out Scott Reads It! for reviews, giveaways, & more!

I really had no idea what to expect from *Hereafter*, considering that I loved *Shadowlands* so much. *Shadowlands* ended on one of the most painful and most surprising cliffhangers that I've ever read. Sadly, *Hereafter* never fully commits to the unexpected turn of events that occurred at the end of *Shadowlands*. *Hereafter* relies way too heavily on *Shadowlands*' cliffhanger to move the plot ahead which led to an extremely slow-paced plot.

Hereafter continues just where *Shadowlands* left off and the plot is simple, but entertaining. Kate Brian introduces a bunch of paranormal concepts, but they felt like takeoffs of Greek mythology. It seemed like Brian just stuck on a new name and rebranded these Greek concepts as her own. Calling a creature a "lifer" doesn't really excuse the fact that she is borrowing the entire concept of Charon (the ferryman in the Underworld). I would have been fine with this borrowing if Brian had expanded these ideas, but Brian seemed to take the easy route with the lifers.

I had a lot of fun reading *Shadowlands*, but *Hereafter* wasn't nearly as entertaining. *Hereafter* has a bit of a darker tone than *Shadowlands* and something seemed to be missing from *Hereafter*. The romance is nothing special at all and is extremely formulaic. I read *Hereafter* in less than a day, but I felt like I had to force myself to continue reading it. It lacked the addictive, page-turner quality that *Shadowlands* seemed to possess. I also really felt like barely anything occurred in this entire novel; I could probably summarize this whole book in two sentences and cover almost the book's entire plotline.

I didn't mind Rory in book #1, but she definitely annoyed me while reading *Hereafter*. It seemed that she was so oblivious to the looming danger that was quite obvious. She also seemed a bit selfish in my opinion because she didn't want her father and sister to move on without her. Rory easily could have averted all of the danger if she wasn't so concerned with Tristan and falling in love with him. Maybe I'm being a bit too harsh because I'm annoyed with her lack of action! Instead of complaining how everything was going wrong, she could have tried to do something more than whine.

Hereafter suffers from "Middle-Book syndrome" for sure and it lacks almost everything I loved about Shadowlands. Shadowlands was an intense thriller, but Hereafter feels like a simple lackluster paranormal romance. Hereafter is nothing like what I expect and I'm beginning to think that maybe my expectations were too high. I am extremely disappointed by Hereafter and I can only hope that book 3 redeems this series.

Michelle (Pink Polka Dot Books) says

****Some Spoilers if you have NOT read Shadowlands****

Rory is getting used to her new reality on Juniper Landing. She's getting to know the clique of "Lifers" and figuring out how things actually work behind the scenes, while also grappling with what her situation means for Darcy and her dad. Meanwhile things are happening on the island that are not normal. Plants are dying, crows and insects have shown up, and people are going into the fog and not ending up where they should. It's hard for the locals not to blame Rory, since it did start happening with her arrival... but Rory doesn't even understand half of what is going on, let alone being able to cause it intentionally. With so many secrets, it's hard for Rory to fix anything... and it doesn't help when Tristan is being secretive and Joaquin is the only one she can lean on.

My Thoughts:

The SECOND BOOK!!!! I was SO excited to read this one! I've been pining away for it ever since I read the last page of Shadowlands. And let me tell you, that last page certainly was a mindf*ck. It ended with a twist that I NEVER saw coming and wasn't sure I even liked. But after further reflection, I realized that I did like it, I just wasn't prepared for it at the time.

Anyway on to this book. If you loved Shadowlands, you won't be disappointed with Hereafter. With Steven Nell out of the way, another baddie reveals him/herself. And this person is doing things that are causing the entire island to go haywire. Poor Rory doesn't even have time to adjust to her new role (or even get all the info) before the ominous stuff starts happening. She has no idea how to fix it, but she somehow becomes the center of all the speculation. It seemed like everyone was keeping secrets from her and she was already in the dark about most things as it was!! Could someone fill a girl in??

If you were hoping that book 2 would let you off a little easier than book 1.... well I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but I still wanted to punch myself in the face when it was over. Mostly because I have to wait who knows how long to find out what's next.

There were only a few drawbacks. One was that it felt a little short. It's 320 pages, so clearly it's not that short, but it just felt that way. I wanted MORE. More info about how everything worked, where everybody came from and how they got to be where they are. I think this book suffers a little from middle book syndrome in that it is transitioning from book 1 to book 3 and not giving major bulk. That was ok for me because I loved the creepy fog, the new direction it started to head, and the fact that I was able to read it super fast. Another thing was Rory didn't seem to grasp the idea of forever. If she's going to be on this island for eternity, then I don't think she needed to be so dramatic about Tristan not being sure about wifing her up on the first day. Take a breath girl, you guys have FOREVER.

OVERALL: For book 2 of a series, I give it an A. It held it's own and transitioned the story nicely. I loved the creepy setting and the fact that there is ANOTHER twist. Even though I expected the

cliffhanger this time, I'm still dying over here because of it!!

My Blog:

Alanna (The Flashlight Reader) says

The ending of Shadowlands left me questioning whether I would like this series or not. I can say after reading Hereafter, I do like this series.

I found Hereafter a bit more predictable than Shadowlands. If you read the first book, you understand what I'm saying because that ending came out of nowhere. Do not expect that same since of shock and surprise from Hereafter. There is nothing really surprising in this book. I saw the ending coming from the beginning. The setting is still great. The sleepy little island community of Juniper Landing is starting to be shaken. Things like hornets and dead animals and flowers are creeping in to the island paradise. It may seem like nothing for a typical Florida beach community, but it is not common in Juniper Landing. The cause of these mysteries is the focus of the entire book. In simplest form, something is amiss.

Not only can you see what's obviously going wrong in the community, but Rory and the other Lifers can sense it. Souls are going astray, and no one knows why.

The creep factor is a bit higher in this one because we meet new characters. The new characters are dark and mysterious. It's hard to say what role they will ultimately have in the series, but for now it's not looking too good.

I have to say, though, what really sold me on Hereafter is Joaquin. He never made much of an impression on me in the first book, but he shines in Hereafter. I adore him. Rory is in a tough spot, so I don't know how things will turn out in that area. I'm very anxious to see where that subplot will take us.

Kate Brian has definitely written a mystery that I'm curious about. This is typically my least favorite genre, but there was just enough of a hint of mythology (Charon and the golden coins) to suck me in. I will be waiting patiently for Endless to arrive.

Chelsea (chelseadolling reads) says

DAMN. This one was infinitely better than the first one. I need the last book asap!!

Ferdy says

Spoilers

-What's what: Rory found out she and her family were actually dead, and that her new home was some sort of in between place where all dead people go before moving on properly.

Naturally, Rory was told she was a speshul snowflake and that her and her new sexy teen friends were all 'Lifers' — immortal dead people that usher other dead people to either the Light or the Shadowland. Also, lame romance, silly secrets, and nonsensical worldbuilding.

-Better than the first book (which was awful). The whole purgatory thing actually seemed more plausible than the serial killer/FBI/witness protection nonsense in the first book.

-Rory was the typical bland, predictable, clumsy YA heroine. I was hoping she might have improved from the first book but she didn't. I hated how useless she was — she had to be constantly saved by her love interest (Tristan) whenever she did something idiotic. And when she wasn't being an idiot, she spent her time either moaning or banging on about Tristan's looks and sexiness. The way she went on about him, you'd think she'd never seen an attractive person before.

She was meant to be reasonably intelligent but all she did was act dumb — she jumped to conclusions, ignored the obvious, and generally acted like a right thicko. If a heroine is supposed to be clever then why make her such an idiot?!

Also, Rory hardly spent any time with her sister or dad. She was more interested in her pathetic love life. Because nothing should matter more than guys. Ugh.

-Tristan was boring. He had no chemistry with Rory whatsoever, they were so dull together. And since when has keeping secrets, being evasive, and acting mysterious equalled a personality?

I did quite like the 'twist' with him being the bad guy but it's pretty obvious it'll all turn out to be a misunderstanding and he'll end up being the good guy that was trying to save everyone. Ugh.

I really hope Tristan/Rory don't end up together, they're so cheesy and blah. Also, it's clear that Tristan's true love was Jessica - it seemed like they had an epic-one-of-a-kind-sort-of-romance, whereas Tristan/Rory have nothing close to that. Rory would just be second best and what's romantic about being second best?

-Why did so many of the 'Lifers' believe that Rory was responsible for 1. The weird changes that were happening on the island and 2. All the people that were getting sent to the Shadowlands instead of the Light? She'd only been a 'Lifer' for a couple of weeks yet everyone was convinced she was some kind of mastermind/expert on the afterlife. It was dumb that they thought that someone so clueless and new to the afterlife could manipulate everything there.

-I rolled my eyes at the jealous evul girl (Nadia) that wanted Tristan - she was the typical mean girl that hated the heroine, dressed in skimpy clothing, and tried to get the heroine in trouble. Ugh.

-Krista or Nadia will probably end up being the bad guy. I'm sure Tristan will reveal that he was trying to stop Krista/Nadia by himself and that's why he had all those coins and whatnot.

All in all, *Hereafter* was utterly predictable and unoriginal.

Trisha says

wow

a surprised and explosive book 2. I can't believe all the information that is revealed, and what a full out sprint this book is to get to each new chapter.

The hints of chapters inbetween Rory's really do set this book on a fast pace.

I loved it. I can't wait for book 3.

Erica Alyson says

I really love this series and this book. Kate Brian has always been one of my top 5 favorite authors since her Private series. Her books got me back in to reading in 2006 when I was walking around Borders (that is how long ago this was) and I was the amazing cover to Private and had to read it. After that every time one of her books has been released it is on my kindle and ready to go.

The Shadowlands series is very different then other books but her and I love it. It is hard to review without giving away the huge ending to book 1. But I may have liked this installment for than the first. Because now I know what I know from book 1 book 2 was learning how everything works and finding out a mystery all at once. It was brilliant.

Can't wait til the next!!!!

Since I am not sure when the next book is out below is my spoiler to read before I read it.

(view spoiler)

Heather says

This book was so Freakin Good!! I am a bit devastated about what happened in the end...although I felt it was coming. I cannot wait to start the final book and see what happens. *damn cliffhangers*

Mimi Valentine says

Wow! That was such a suck-you-in-and-make-you-finish-it-before-you-know-it-yet-super-duper-compelling kind of book! I've kinda had a weakness for Joaquin the Jerk since book one, so everything that happened was totally okay with me x)

Review to come! :)

Shelley says

Genre Young Adult

Rating 3.5-4

My Thoughts

"Forever isn't all it's cracked up to be."

After learning that her family actually died in Shadowlands, 16-year old Rory Miller learns yet another secret, she is what's called a Lifer, and it is her job to help people in limbo cross over into either the light, or Shadowlands. Being a Lifer comes with some disadvantages as well as advantages. It basically means that

she is stuck on Jupiter Landing for eternity and it is possible that her family will move on without her and there's not much she can do about it. The advantages are that she can never die, or become ill.

Rory is also at the center of a major crap storm which coincided with her arrival on Juniper Landing. The main issue is that those whose time has come to move on, are going into the fog but not ending up where they should be. Is this a mistake, or does one of the Lifer's have his/her own agenda? There is also the fact that the weather, insects, and plant life, are showing a remarkable change for the worst.

Rory's character is a bit on the emotional side at times when she needs to take a step back and look around and see what is actually happening around her. She's also a bit too trusting, especially when it comes to Tristan, when she should be looking out for her family and her future. When Rory starts her own form of investigation, someone close to her is taken away and Rory scrambles around for answers before it is too late to change things.

Overall, *Hereafter* was a pretty interesting story for me. There was a dark undertow to the story almost from the very beginning and the mystery of who is really responsible for things going badly on the island isn't all that clear. (Until you read the synopsis for the next book!) I liked the fact that Rory wasn't the only story teller. I like that the mystery villain was also allowed to give a hint at what his intentions really were. I really hope that *Endless* keeps up the steam and blows me away with the final installment.

There is a entire cast of characters including Tristan, Bea, Kevin, Lauren, Joaquin, Krista, Pete, Fisher, Nadia, Aaron, and Cori, as well as the mayor, and Officer Dorn, who play various roles throughout *Hereafter* and could have been responsible for sending people into the Shadowlands instead of into the light.

Endless, book # 3 in the trilogy, will release July 22nd 2014 by Disney-Hyperion and apparently the publisher may have rushed to release the synopsis and cover and therefore spoiled who the antagonist ends up being in *Hereafter*.

An Advanced Reader's Copy was provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.

Recvd 06/14/2013 Expected publication: October 1st 2013 by Hyperion Books

Clay says

YES KATE BRIAN! A THOUSAND TIMES YES.

I do not know what it is, but I find this the most intriguing book series I may have ever read as far as contemporary/fantasy goes. The stories are so well-written and vivid - I feel like it's overall very cinematic. This book was so amazing, and was the perfect second book in this... trilogy? series? I'm not sure!

The ending was pretty ambiguous, but that's how I like it. Perfect set-up for the third book. THE WAIT WILL BE PAINFUL.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. I CAN'T GET ENOUGH.

Brooke (The Cover Contessa) says

I want to thank Disney Hyperion for providing me with an ARC of this book at BEA to read and give an honest review. It was so great to see Kate Brian once again and chat with her a bit about things. Receiving this book for free has in no way influenced my opinion or review.

Blurb from Goodreads:

Rory Miller thought her life was over when a serial killer set his sights on her and forced her into witness protection. But a fresh start on Juniper Landing Island was exactly what she and her family needed. For the first time in years she and her sister hang out at the beach, gossip about boys, and party together. She's also made friends with a local clique--including a magnetic and mysterious boy named Tristan. But Rory's world is about to change again. Picturesque Juniper Landing isn't what it seems. The truth about the swirling fog that rolls in each morning, the bridge that leads to nowhere, and those beautiful locals who seem to watch Rory's every move is more terrifying than being hunted by Steven Nell. And all Rory ever wanted was the truth. Even if it means learning that she can never go home again. From the best-selling author of the Private and Privilege series comes the second novel in a heart-stopping trilogy about a girl who must pick up the pieces after the only life she's ever known ends.

If you haven't read the first book in this series, you might want to stop before moving on as there will be spoilers for the first book. And, since the first book lands a huge cliff hanger, then you might be totally disappointed when I tell you what happened!

This book picked up immediately where the last book left off. At the end we are given the shocking conclusion that everyone on Juniper Landing is dead. That Juniper landing is not the vacation island Rory and her family thought it to be.

Once again I am in love with the cover of a Disney book. It's just utterly beautiful with the colors and the girls on the front. It's simple and yet conveys an important message with the birds flying around.

Rory continues to be her inquisitive self as she was in the first book. Her mind is always working, always trying to find the truth. So once she finds out that the island is a place where the dead come, she needs to find out the truth of why she and her family are there and what their purpose is. Once Rory is told that she's a Lifer, things come more into focus. But she's having a hard time accepting the reality that she may soon be separated from her family for good. And she wants to try and do everything she can to stop this from happening. But the evil that lurks on the island is changing things for the Lifers and things are slowly starting to deteriorate. When Rory realizes things are not right, she has a hard time getting people to listen, especially Tristan, who she has felt a connection with since landing on the island. Rory continues to be quite a fearless and kick butt character, but you do see her emotions come through quite a bit in this book.

Tristan himself is quite mysterious. He certainly seems like he's attracted to Rory, but when things start to heat up he backs off and throws her into total confusion. Slowly we learn that Tristan has been on the island for a long time, and that most if not all the Lifers listen to what he has to say because he has the most experience. I have to say that I would have liked to see more character development with Tristan. He's a bit flat. I do understand the reasoning behind us not getting too deep into his mind, but it bothered me a bit. We do get a bit more of Juoquin in this book; more of a look into who he is and why he is the way he is. And Brian fleshes out some of the other minor characters as well. We don't get much more from Rory's father or sister, which is a bit annoying. They are just kind of in the background. And we also meet some new characters, one of whom seems to have huge chip on her shoulder for Rory from the very beginning. It's a bit annoying not understanding the reasoning for this until closer to the end of the book.

And interesting twist is the unknown POV that Brian includes in the book. It's not often that we see it, just a few chapters, but it's a look into the evil that lurks on the island. I tried my hardest to figure out who it was throughout the book, but I couldn't. And even in the end, when things are "revealed" I still don't think it's who it appears to be. The voice creates a feeling of mystery and suspense and definitely left me with an unsettled feeling in my stomach!

Brian has amazing pacing, as she did in the first book. I finished this in one sitting. There's action and adventure and mystery and it keeps you wanting to read from chapter to chapter. The book definitely leaves you with a heart pounding that propels you to want to know what will happen next. It's intense for sure. And Brian's writing is spot on. It's easy to follow and flows well. I also loved how Brian built more of the world, showed us more of the island and all its intricacies, although there still seems to be a bit of mystery that I hope is cleared in the next book. And the romance does not overpower the book too much. Sure, Rory does some pining, but what average teenage girl doesn't. And there's just a hint of a love triangle given, although it's not fleshed out and I wonder if it will go anywhere in the next book.

Overall I truly enjoyed this book as much as the first. I love the story telling and the premise. It's totally different from anything else I've ever read. And, while the ending is wrapped up enough not to leave you with your jaw hanging, you still want the next book yesterday so you can see where things end up!

Laura says

To be completely real, I only read this book because I was an idiot and bought it before finishing the first. And I refuse to not read something I wasted my money on. I had so much hope in the first that I could have sworn the whole series would be great. But the lesson here is definitely not to buy the second book, third book, fourth book, etc. until you finish the first book and know that you indeed want to read the second.

Now if you really want to know my review, here it is..I hated it. It got to the point where it was obvious the plot was going nowhere and I literally just skimmed the rest of the way to make sure nothing would happen. And I was right. Unfortunately. Just to get my point across I'll go ahead and say: this is the first time I've ever just not been able to finish a book because I was so bored reading it.

Obviously after hating the twist in the first book, I should have never picked up this book. So if the twist made you all happy inside and somehow you think there's something left to the plot, then the book could be for you!

Needless to say, I won't be buying or reading the third and final book of this series.
