



My Delicate Destruction

Jillian Ashe

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Katerina Anderson and her twin brother Kris were promised a cure for their cancer, but there was a catch. The drug had to be administered while in cryostasis. Kat and Kris go under, daring to hope that they would have a bright future.

When Kat awakes, there is only darkness. Her brother is gone, and five hundred years have slipped by. She follows a tenuous trail of clues that leads her from Earth to Anarkia, and joins up with a crew of smugglers and treasure hunters in her quest to find him, and what happened to them.

Along the way, she learns that the doctors cured more than her cancer, they altered her very genetic makeup. Kat must find out what happened to her and save her brother before the Federation finds them.

My Delicate Destruction Details

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From Reader Review My Delicate Destruction for online ebook

Dave Higgins says

Dividing the narrative between risk-taking and devotion to family, Ashe paints an accessible portrait of a teenager unconsciously choosing danger as a rejection of the loss of control cancer brings.

Katerina Anderson splits her time between racing cars and trying to give her twin brother, Kris, a pleasant last years as a rare form of cancer eats him away. Then she is diagnosed with a more acute infestation of the same cancer. An experimental drug offers a cure, but with one catch: purging the cancer will take longer than it will take the cancer to kill her – unless she is also placed in a cutting-edge suspended animation pod for several years.

The novella opens with a prologue of Kris clambering from the wreckage of the suspended animation facility, to discover that – instead of a few years – he and his sister have been frozen for a century. While this does leave the reader with the questions “why were they frozen?” and “why weren’t they woken when expected?”, it does also confirm that they were frozen and weren’t awakened on time; as such, when the first chapters cut back to Kat living her life in 2016, the section from her only having a short time to live to finally deciding to accept the treatment lacks a sense of uncertainty.

Were this book mostly concerned with events in the future, this lack of both threat and uncertainty might – by contrast – increase the sense of both in the future; however, the majority of the story covers events leading up to Kat entering suspended animation. Therefore – although Kat does face other problems – the book fails to offer the tension that the opening suggests.

Even the reason for the twins sleeping longer than planned is explained before Kat’s narrative reaches the future, removing a large source of tension from what little of her time there is told.

Where the novella does shine is in the portrayal of a teenager facing her brother having cancer. Half-daredevil and half-carer, Kat shows both her love for her brother and the fear of death that his cancer brings without being aware that her risk taking is a symptom. Kat is a similarly classic yet interesting protagonist when dealing with issues unrelated to cancer.

While the supporting cast are neither stereotypes nor two-dimensional, they are overshadowed by the reader’s knowledge that the story will pick up after they are dead.

When the time-line does finally catch up to the future, it is only for a chapter; a chapter that raises a series of questions unrelated to the preceding narrative. As such, readers might be left with the feeling the story ends just as it is becoming interesting.

Overall, I found this book interesting as a picture of a teenager but not the science-fiction tale the blurb suggested . I recommend it to readers looking for a character-piece or insight into whether they like the author’s style before purchasing the next volume.

Crazy4Books says

In 2016, a drug called Hope was created and administered during suspended animation to Kat and her twin brother to cure their cancer but when an earthquake leveled Los Angeles, they were presumed dead. Forgotten, they slept for 500 years. After waking up Kat books a passage on the Wolfgang spaceship to go look for her brother who woke up a couple years before her. With a vastly different world will Kat be able to blend in long enough to find him and get some answers.

The main character Kat is a great street racer and I really enjoyed reading from her point of view. I liked how we get to see before and after the suspended animation. It really gives us a chance to connect to her and everything she's lost. This book gave me so many feels. We get to see the family and friend dynamics and meet her boyfriend who is just the sweetest thing. I didn't connect to her brother as much in this book and I think that might be because he left her behind when he woke up.

I loved that her best friend Victoria was bisexual but with all the negative stereotype about bisexual sleeping around I was disappointed that Victoria was represented this way. However I appreciated how the author didn't describe sleeping with multiple partners as a bad thing. I also loved Ricky from the Wolfgang crew but they were all interesting in their own way. Most of the characters were well developed but I wish we got to know the captain better. This book was a lot better than I thought it was going to be.

I enjoyed visiting the different planets and I can't wait to see more of them in the sequel. I enjoyed how earth was described 500 years in the future. Most people are now mixed race and the main language is Japanese. I thought the technology was fascinating and I enjoyed the history. The writing was really easy to get into and the pace was great. It was a quick read but we also get a lot of depth. I really enjoyed the ending and want to pick up the sequel very soon.

received in exchange for an honest review

George Babec says

Jillian Ashe books are always fun to read and this is no exception. It's a quick read leaving you wanting more. It leads into a series. I like the twists and turns. The captivating storyline draws you in and holds your attention. The characters are well defined and intriguing to follow their adventures.

Dana Burkey says

[Finally, the ending. Why keep who you are a s

Claire says

My Delicate Destruction is a novella about twins who both get diagnosed with Leukemia. As Katerina's is more aggressive, they both opt to be frozen so that they can be cured. Something goes wrong whilst they're asleep and they wake up at different points in the future. Katerina goes looking for her brother.

Okay, this was a novella, so it was a slim and quick read. Unfortunately this is the text's biggest drawback. We're introduced to street smart Katerina and her brother, but before we can care about either of them or

their relationships, cancer hits and they get frozen. The story doesn't really progress once Katerina wakes up. Effectively we spend a small amount of time on her discovering that she's in the future before the book ends.

This is not to say that this is a bad book. It isn't, there is a great plot and some interesting characters in there, struggling to be told, but the book is far too short, the exposition far too heavy and the relationships far too shallow in order for me to want to invest further. It could do with a lot of expansion as the ideas are there and I would love to see this as a novel.

In short I would have enjoyed this more as a longer and better edited read.

Katie Harder-schauer says

I read this book in two separate parts (like I would have before when it was actually two separate books, *My Delicate Destruction* and *Shadows in Darkness*), so I wrote two separate reviews that I'm going to smash together here into one single, disjointed review. I was hired to proofread this book, and I believe the author is aware that I review books after I proofread them, but a review was not part of our agreement. If you feel that my connection to the book makes my review untrustworthy, so be it, but this is my honest review.

This is the first book in the series, but it's not the first one I've read. I started with the prequel novella, which is barely related to this book and should really probably be read afterwards (although that's not really necessary because they don't really connect) and then read book #5 (now 4), so now I'm going back to get the detailed backstory. I already knew the basic highlights of this book because of my personal approach to the series.

One of my favorite parts of this book is how the author separated the two timelines in the main character's life. It is a very quick, but very clear delineation without flat out stating how much time passes, which allows you to discover that information at the same time she does.

I felt a deep connection with Kat, but some of that might be because I've already read book 5 (now 4) in the series. I didn't feel much of a connection to Kris, but that didn't really bother me.

The second half of the book picked up right where *My Delicate Destruction* had previously ended (you know, like you expect the second half of a book to do after the first half. There may have been a slight change from before since they have now been combined into one book though.) We see even less of Kris in this part of the book than we saw in the first half, and I still felt next to no connection with him. My connection with Kat continued to grow deeper, and there were a few times where I got super happy excited for her. I also got to witness an event that was talked about in book 4 of the series.

Overall I give this 5 out of 5 stars.

Review posted on Just Another Girl and Her Books blog
<http://www.justanothergirlandherbooks...>

Elizabeth says

Throughout the novel, the first in the Wolfgang Series, Ashe portrays a young woman struggling with the hand fate has dealt her. She and her brother have always been close, and she is wracked with guilt over his illness, wishing he were well. She feels overwhelmed by his constant bitterness at his situation. Once he was athletic and confident; now he is run down and haggard. In order to deal with her emotions, she turns to the dangerous occupation of street racing. The challenges give her a feeling of power over her life. She likes to win and makes risky moves to do so.

Told from first person through the main portion of the book, the reader is immersed in Kat's perceptions of her world and the people she loves and hates. Making the decision to place her life on hold for years is heart-wrenching.

Edward Wolfe says

I read half of the description and I was sold on the story idea.

(I didn't read the whole thing just in case it might have what I consider to be a spoiler. Have you ever read the back of a book or movie where it says something like, "After his wife and child are murdered, John is determined to seek revenge." But they don't die till a quarter of the way into the story. I hate that! So if I like the way a description starts, I stop reading it.)

I love the idea of a story where a person wakes up in the future. So I bought the book. The prologue starts off when the main character wakes up, but then chapter one goes back to before the long sleep and why it occurred.

I love the narrator voice and the fact that she's intelligent and funny. It's refreshing to have a Young Adult apocalypse/dystopian kind of story with a smart lead character. The book is also well-written and edited, which is another nice thing to see in a debut novel.

The only reason I couldn't give it five stars was because of the lack of futuristic technology. I was expecting a bit more. That still may come as the story continues, but from the part that takes place after Katarina wakes up... well, let's just say that envisioning futuristic technology may not be this author's strong point.

What she does well is the type of writing I really enjoy and appreciate. No time is wasted describing shrubbery and furniture and other crap no one cares to read about. You won't find yourself skipping paragraphs to get the good stuff. Plenty of action and dialogue, the way a story should be. It keeps you turning pages to see what's going to happen next. But at the same time, the narrative is flavored with the main character's thoughts, so you get to see what kind of person she is on the inside.

Overall, great story and I'm really looking forward to the next book in the series. I hope it comes out soon.

I'd recommend this book to people who like young adult characters in futuristic settings; especially if you like a strong (and sexy) female lead character.

?Joycedale? says

This sounded like a great read. And I really did like it.

Katerina has just been diagnosed with cancer. After reuniting with her ex. Having been through this with her twin brother Kris when offered a chance at a cure they jump on it. The catch is they'll be asleep for 2 yrs.

When Katerina wakes up it has been hundreds of yrs and Kris is gone.

After trying to navigate the new world she finds out there was a massive earthquake and they were considered dead after the hospital they were in collapsed.

She finds out Kris has been making waves and ran off to another planet.

This is what I didn't believe. Why wouldn't her mother and boyfriend push until it was confirmed? Why didn't Kris come back immediately to check on her? Did he even try to wake her up?

With the help of a odd crew of a ship Katerina sets out to see if she can find Kris.

Robert says

This is the first book by a new young author. Some of that rawness shows through in the book. However I think that this is a very nice start to what appears to be an extended series.

Like many science fiction stories it is hard to get all the details 'right' about future tech when we are all just guessing. I disagree with some of the actions in the latter half of the story based on my own beliefs of where the tech is headed. However it does stay with the theme of the book and one of the central character traits of the protagonist.

It is a short book, barely over novella length. The ending feels much more like the ending of a section of a book rather than the end of a book. I would have picked up book two to start reading right away if that was available yet.

Overall this is a very nice start for the author.

Laura Thomas says

Katerina and her twin brother, Kris, both have a fatal type of cancer. With a new drug called Hope, they just might have found the cure. Only drawback, they will have to sleep, frozen, for two years. They jump at the chance. The year is 2016.

Over 500 years later, Kat awakens to a strange new world. It appears they were assumed dead after a great earthquake, but signs show Kris awoke and was now gone. As she navigates the new world, she discovers Kris made some enemies and fled to another planet. Hiding her past, she manages to get a ride on a ship and sets off to find him.

I was surprised how quickly I fell into this story. Kat won me over with her sense of adventure and her fierce dedication to finding her brother. As I learned more about why her brother fled, the story deepened.

While categorized as science fiction, the world building isn't bogged down in detail. You easily get the picture. The pace is fast. The characters drive the story and those that enter the story as Kat finds her way are

varied and interesting. And there's secrets demanding answers that keep you anticipating what comes next.

I should warn you though. The ending is rather abrupt and it's obvious you'll have to read more of the series to wrap things up. I look forward to that.

I own a copy of this book. My review is voluntarily given.

Jaclyn says

"He's awake."

The Good

This is a novella setting up the characters and the world. I knew that going in so I also knew that it would be a short read to wet my appetite for the next full-length book in the series. Ashe sets up the characters of Katerina and Kris who are twins in their teenage bubble of friends and hobbies. The writing is delivered in a way that all the important information is provided, and not a lot of unnecessary detail. You can tell where the story is going just by reading the blurb, but I was surprised at everything that happened before the big life-changing moment.

There is a lot of room for potential in this series. Kat gets thrust ahead to the year 2518 due to what happens in this novella, and while I'm given a glimpse of what things are like in that year, I'm very excited to further explore what's going on around her in this new environment.

The Bad

Obviously it's very short, but I already knew that. I have the second one to dive into now so that's not a problem. I'm a very open-minded person so how technology and the 'how's' and 'why's' are handled in books have never bothered me. I've never had an issue with how it's done because it's all up to the author's imagination...futuristic sci-fi worlds are the construct of the one writing since no one can truly tell them that they are wrong. If you are a big stickler for how it's all done in a sci-fi book, I honestly can't tell you whether you'd be ok with it or not since I don't dive deep into those areas.

The Romance

There actually is a bit of romance in My Delicate Destruction. Kat has an on and off again boyfriend that she's really enamored with. It makes for a few bittersweet moments that tug at the heart a little bit.

Conclusion

Short but good introduction into the Wolfgang Series. It leaves me thrilled about all the room this series has to play with and grow. Recommended for those who enjoy YA, don't mind novellas, and like a good sci-fi read now and then.

Jennifer says

My Delicate Destruction is the first book in a new series by Ashe. I typically read only paranormal romance, but after reading the synopsis of the book on Goodreads, I entered a contest to receive a copy and won. I have to say I was pleasantly surprised at this little book. I was hooked instantly. The main character is introduced well and I felt kindred to her. Great detailing by the author, but not so much that you skip parts just to get past the tedious development. The only fault I have to this book is the length. The book is 109 pages long and stops right at the point when you are so hooked, that you'd stay up all night reading if there was more to read. That's the only reason I gave it 4 stars. I will definitely be buying the rest of the series and any other books she writes.

Zara Lethallan says

Alisha recommended this book to me awhile back, since I have a reading list a mile long. It takes me a while to read books that are not on my requested review list. But yesterday, I thought I would read and review this book this week. I love the cover to this book. If that is suppose to be Kat then she is uber pretty.

Have you ever been torn by book?

Well that is how I am feeling about this one. I love the story, character, plot, the main idea of the whole thing. I wasn't really on the edge of my seat with this book, I think it could have been dramatic if it started where she was waking up in the bod. But the way the author wrote it was great too, so really I am torn about that.

This is one of those books you can read in one sitting and be done in a hour. At least for me, that was the case. Its super short and is kinda like a pilot (you know the pilot episode they do in tv shows). It gives you the background information of the main character and what happened before she woke up. I am looking forward to reading what is going to happen next.

I really hope she finds her brother, the bond between them kinda hit me in the heart. I have always wanted to be close like that to my sisters. We had a bond a long time ago but as we got older it didn't work out. So reading how they were able to communicate without words kind made me have mixed feelings

I hope this review did this book justice and if it didn't then all you need to know is that I liked this book. If you you like the type of books where a character is frozen in time and wakes years later to find out the world she knew no longer exist. Then you will like this book too! Oh and if you do end up reading this book, leave a review and send me the link on facebook. I would love to hear your thoughts.

Larissa Campos says

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For starters the MC claims she studied her brother's cancer so much and she says that the chance of people related having the same type of cancer is minimal. You kidding? It goes against logic, if I do one

mammogram a year it's because my mom had cancer and so did her mother and aunt. Such bs spouting gets to my nerves.

Also the state-of-the-art hospital they are in isn't explored in 500 years after a disaster? With people
