



# Remake

*A.J. Sand*

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## **Remake** A.J. Sand

Erica's charmed life changed in an instant with a devastating act of betrayal.

And so with her secret, she ran. From everything and everyone, including the person she loved most in the world.

Now she's back to take control of the life she left behind, even if she's doing so with a lot of uncertainty. And even as that event from the past still hangs over her, unresolved.

But Erica knows a thing or two about survival.

She just wished she knew what to do about Bryson Ellis, the guy who has her heart but doesn't know her secret, and Matt Corso, the one who knows her secret and may want her heart.

Yet just when her life slowly comes together in other ways, she suddenly finds her strength tested again.

But this time...

She's ready.

And she won't run.

This follow-up to "Documentary" picks up with a new point of view in a story about what it means to love, forgive and never back down.

But it's also one woman's chance to remake herself.

This is NA fiction. Due to the sexual content, language and violence, this work is not recommended for readers under 17.

## **Remake Details**

Date : Published May 31st 2013

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Author : A.J. Sand

Format : Kindle Edition 306 pages

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# From Reader Review Remake for online ebook

## JMV says

I bought this book as soon as it came out but after hearing that it needed some fixing decided to wait. I'm not sure what they were but I really enjoyed E's story. It started out a little slow but I liked that it kept you interested to the end. I will read the next book written by AJ Sand.

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## GW says

Really enjoyed it!

In *Documentary*, we only got glimpses of Erica, and I'm so glad she got her own story! Bryce and Erica's story was so interesting to read, and I felt so connected to the characters. Bryson is definitely a perfect book boyfriend character. And so swoon-worthy. I just love love stories, sigh.

Also, so glad we also got some glimpses of Kai and Dylan again as well! *Remake* is a perfect title for Erica's story.

Also Matt was an intriguing character right from the beginning, and I just (may contain slight spoilers ahead:) (view spoiler)

And with the prologue! I was wondering the whole time *when* her character would finally come in play.

Looking forward to reading more in the *Documentary* series.

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## Ifrah Alia says

So when I found out that *Documentary* had a sequel I was excited. Then I read the synopsis and learned that *Remake* was about Erica which totally turned me off. Eventually I got hold of a copy of *Remake* and I read it because I'd been on a reading high lately and had nothing else to read at the time. *Remake* actually turned out to be better than *Documentary*. As much as I wanted to know more about Dylan and Kai, I loved reading Erica's story and learning about her relationship with Bryson.

Basically, the story picks up not long after *Documentary* ends, only now it's from Erica's POV. Erica and Bryson's relationship is one of my favorites. It was actually really refreshing to read about their love story because you don't really get to see the start and development of that relationship like you do in most books. Instead, Erica and Bryson are already madly in love with each other, they just happen to be estranged. It was nice to read a story about two people trying to mend a relationship that was broken due to unfortunate circumstances. Erica and Bryson's relationship had much more depth than Kai and Dylan's, which led it to me more emotionally touching and satisfying.

If you liked *Documentary*, then definitely read *Remake*. If you didn't like *Documentary*, still give *Remake* a try. If you haven't read *documentary*, read that then read this.

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## **Drue says**

### **Romqnce with Much More**

4.5 stars! Tough subject matter and a complex story, but A.J. Sand gets it so right. I've been waiting for this sequel.

There are elements of this series that lend themselves to the mystery genre. With so many characters that pop in and out, each contributing to the puzzle, I had to pay attention to what was being revealed. I like that in a book. I also liked that all the action was combined with Erica and Bryson's journey of finding their way back to each other.

Acceptance of the trauma. Acceptance of friendship, and the support that comes from that. Acceptance of help. Acceptance of love. This book is a big deal.

I liked the first book in this series, Documentary, just as much. I'm looking forward to future books. Erica's sister, Naomi, and her friend, Abel, must have books too! That said, there's no cliffhanger!

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## **DCT says**

I was so glad to see the continuation of this story that started in Documentary with Erica's journey. Seeing her growth and recovery from the dark days in Thailand back to her life in LA was uplifting and hopeful. I loved that the author took what could have been a very dark and traumatic topic and gave us hope, without taking away any of the seriousness of the topic of rape. I am so hoping that we will continue to get glimpses of her story, just as we were able to continue with Dylan and Kai's in Remake; I want to see what happens with Jeremy. Now the real star of this story in my opinion is Bryson. He is a real sweetheart; supportive and loving; providing E with an unwavering strength and love that she needed in her recovery-just the perfect boyfriend! I can't wait to continue with the next addition to this series.

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## **Karmen says**

ARC provided by the Author.

Move over Team Kai. It's now Team Bryson!

I was excited to continue Erica's story in Remake and find out what really happened to her in Thailand. Remake deals with the tough subject matter of rape. I thought Erica was a weak and broken in Documentary, but turns out she is such a strong character. She is really a survivor.

After her return from Thailand, Erica became distant with her friends and even breaks up with her fiancé, Bryson, without giving him a reason why or what happened to her. More than half into the book, I was screaming at Erica to "JUST FREAKING TELL BRYSON" already. But of course she was scared. She went through the emotions of being a victim: pain, scared, hurt and distrusted. She eventually does and Bryson couldn't have been more supportive \*insert swoon\*.

I really enjoyed how the story jumped from the past to explain what was happening in the present. Loved all the characters and happy to get a bit of “Team Dick”– Kai and Dylan in it too! Remake is filled with heartbreak, little mystery, some angst, hope and love! Of course, A.J. didn’t disappoint with her 2nd book and enjoyed Erica’s journey to heal in Remake! Looking forward to some Wes in book 3, Recklessly!

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### **Lucia says**

I needed to read this book, to learn how Erica's story played out. The problem with this book is too much unnecessary content; and I even like long books. At about 40%, I felt like the storyline was dragging, so I jumped ahead several chapters which put me at 70%. I started reading again there, figuring I'd go back and read what I missed. Turns out, I didn't even need to read that middle part. Sure, I missed a scene or two, plus an altercation at some night club, but I was able to puzzle together what I missed from references the characters made. Had the author tightened her storyline, this book would have warranted at least a 4 star rating. I'm still glad I read it because I wanted to see how E and Bryson's relationship turned out.

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### **Jennifer says**

Ok so it's 3am and I just finished this book and I absolutely LOVED it! I loved Erica and Bryson. I loved how strong Erica was and how all of her friends were supportive and stood by her side. There were definitely a few things that I thought "wow...didn't see that coming" but this book was great. This is definitely a must read. This series is really becoming one of my favorites. I can't wait to read Wes' story.

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### **Kimberly says**

Once again A.J.Sands blows it out of the park with another great read! This book definitely wraps up some of loose ends that everyone was anxiously waiting for answers on from book 1 (especially me!!!). The focus on Erica was great as although this is her story, most authors tend to drag the characters from their first book too much into focus and the reader tend to lose some of the pull of the current story line. Not so here! You find yourself getting pulled into it as if you living it beside Erica, not just reading it.

The portrayal of Erica as a strong survivor and not a broken victim was fantastic and right on! I look forward to more great reads from this author and can't wait to see what happens with the Elliot boys and Lek in future books. :)

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### **Nicole says**

First of all, I read a post by the author about the pressure of her second book, making impulsive changes, and feeling a lot of doubt and everything else that goes with that. And I want to commend the author on having a HUGE PAIR OF BALLS, and going for it. And I *did* love Documentary and I hate saying it, but this book just didn’t do it for me.

I liked that it covered rape, and this book really got to me on a level that was honest and raw. I related to

Erica just wanting to feel “normal” again, and wanting to hide. And I am seriously intrigued by the whole Trauma-Sensitive Yoga idea. I liked following the characters from the 1st book. Especially Kai’s male friends. I know I want to read more about the Elliot twins, and Leko, and Ribsby. But I felt my attention pick up at the Kai/Dylan parts, and it made me realize that for whatever reason it seemed like a really long read. I didn’t understand the intro, it could have been tied in better. And I wasn’t sold on the chronological switcheroo that kept going on. Also, I loathed Matt, and not in a good way, just in a disappointed sort of way. I did hate the Bunyan’s-- in a good way. They were a real ass-eating crew of misfits. That said, I don’t know if the ending was as good as it could have been. (view spoiler) I also appreciate the honesty of the ending, that there wasn’t some Lifetime Channel for Women moment involving a SWAT team or a dark hallway and a rusty knife. Although, I could have gone with that...

I am sorry Ms. Sand, I really did want to like this book. And it wasn’t so much as bad as just not spectacular. P.S. I am totally intrigued by this whole Wincest thing-- I don’t have TV, but that is some craziness. And a “mullet dress” love, love, love it! A “video involving a popsicle,” perfection.

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### **Marci says**

I read Documentary and enjoyed the story enough that I wanted to continue the series and read Remake. As soon as I realized it was out, I picked up a copy and started it immediately. Again, I like the story, but I really struggle with the writing style. I think this book was even more difficult for me than Documentary.

To quote Lily from the TV show How I Met Your Mother, "Where's the poop?" I kept thinking it over and over as I was dragged away from the present time into a recollection or dream from the past. I found myself just wanting the story to keep moving, get to a point...reveal something worthwhile! These scenes from the past were so incredibly lengthy and randomly placed at times, it seemed, I found myself skimming them mostly. For example, while I loved the recollection of how Bryson proposed to Erica, I honestly cannot fathom why it had to be so long and detailed! I mean, we can't understand he is romantic in a more succinct way? These breaks in the story were distracting and impeded the progress of the story, IMO. I just didn't feel like they got us very far in resolving the story. Obviously I missed the point of them, I was too focused on what was happening present day!

Oh, and again with the multiple nicknames for characters! There are already so many parties involved, it's too much! Example in this book is Naomi with Mimi, Maimes...there may have been another for her. Fitz's character had a few nicknames as well, sigh.

In short, I enjoyed the story, not quite as sure if I continue to the next, but probably if offered at \$.99 again. I do like the characters, the storylines are good, I just can't seem to get past the writing style, I just found myself skimming a lot to get to the poop.

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### **Loryn Smith says**

Brill read!! Never wanted it to finish. Can't wait to read the 3rd book!!

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## Court says

I reviewed this book at MustReadBooksOrDie with my friend Shelley.

As we mention frequently, our mutual love of A.J is how we became friends in the first place. So to say that we were epically excited about the release of Remake would be an epic understatement. I for one was not disappointed in the least..well, maybe I could've used a little more Wes Elliott, but there was plenty of Abel to go around so I shall get over it! (And Wesley sure enough is getting his own story this summer, too!) Now then.

1) Erica. When we first met Erica in Documentary I was really, really prepared to not like her. I thought we were going to have this insane love triangle on our hands and I let out a huge sigh of relief when that wasn't the case. I guess that is a typical, awful reaction for most people that men and women can't be just friends with one another. Erica deals with this all of the time. That stuck out for me, and I think you'll see this theme too. It was incredibly heartbreaking that everything happened because of her relationship with Kai (how it was perceived in Jeremy's eyes), even though she had a boyfriend. When things start happening in the present anything she's ever done with the opposite sex, no matter how platonic she comes under fire again and I wanted to jump in and defend her. There are a lot of heavy issues, and not everyone reacts the same way to the situations that she is involved in. The character growth that we experience through past and present scenes was incredible. Sometimes it is hard to expand over a large period of time (in this case we got a lot of scenes spanning 4 1/2 years) so I thought this was done very well and I always knew where we were in time. I don't blame her for leaving, but I was screaming at her a lot to tell Bryce what happened. TELL HIM, I said over and over. Why do these people not listen to me?! Okay, I'll stop..sorry!

2) Bryson. Man, oh man. I love him, like a lot. He made me laugh, cry, and swoon. My heart hurt hard core for him way too much. He was truly a victim of circumstance and wasn't given the opportunity to fight for what he wanted. Again, I can't blame Erica for having to get away from everything and unfortunately that meant everyone...including the love of her life. Not all men are understanding after a sexual assault, and that is a huge concern for anyone that their person will not see them the same. Even though he is popular even in Hollywood he isn't that guy. He is loyal, loving, honest even at his most vulnerable. Those are the moments that I cried, for him and for her. He tried so hard to be what she needed him to be without even knowing what happened and I sort of fell in love with him before he even had a scene. Men...this is the kind of man you should strive to be. Again loving, honest, loyal, and most of all letting your girl be independent but also knowing her well enough when not to. Being an equal partner is hot. Women...if you've got a Bryson already, hold on to him.. K lecture over.

3) The crew. Ohh...Emm...Gee. So, I say over and over and will continue to say over and over that I freaking love supporting characters in a book. This book is loaded with them. The bromance type relationships are my absolute favorite, and this crew is such a family. Still am a big Kai White lover, and love that his relationship with Dylan is still great, as is his relationship with Erica. Dylan and Erica's sister Naomi are the best girlfriends ever, but I still heart my boys. Wes and Abel are almost like the Smash Brothers, yet twins. My favorite line was something to do with "Hey, where's that guy that has your face." Or something. That's bad..(sorry AJ) If I find that quote, I'll fix it, but hopefully you get what I'm trying to say. Funniest moments always involve the crew, but this time around so did a lot of the most serious. Erica's realization that she was not alone in her journey to finding herself again was enlightening, long coming, but beautiful.

4) The story. Heavy issues, sign up here. Wow. I commend A.J. with the authenticity of the story. No, not everyone who deals with something like this is in the wonderful world of glitz and glamour and has a huge



support system that they run away from, and have a ton of money to do that...but...I was mostly moved by how she took the time she needed to heal. She did that for herself. She could have completely shut down, and would have been right to do so, but I thought it was incredibly powerful how she slowly brought herself back to life. She took teeny tiny baby steps to get there, so there definitely wasn't a feeling of her moving to fast to being normal and partying or being intimate. It was paced well and again well explained so that it was genuine. \*tear\* I also hope that some of the unresolved issues don't turn you off. I hope you read and see what I mean, but that very important moment that you will wait on doesn't come, for the person you want to inflict pain on, but in a way that is genuine too.

Due to some technical issues, the book isn't currently up to buy. As soon as it is, then we will definitely let you know! I am going to be waiting and watching for when Recklessly (Wes's book) is on our virtual doorstep, because I cannot wait for more from A.J. Sand!

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### **A.J. Sand says**

While you're waiting....

So, I'm not going to rate it for obvious reasons, but I will say this:

It was nice to move away from Kai and Dylan and their story. "Remake" is really intertwined with "Documentary," and I certainly have a style and I'm habitual in my writing, but hopefully it's a new experience for you.

It's shorter than Documentary, but that's not really saying much... isn't everything shorter? LOL.

There's no cliffhanger (praise the Lord)!

Some parts were hard to write.

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### **graceful says**

**Erica Evigan's life changed drastically with an act of betrayal that left everything she had in ruins. Now she's home to take back her control- among other things she lost that night on the beach. But things aren't ever that simple and Erica finds her strengths put to the test once again.**

**No more running.**

A.J Sand has done it again!

Erica's story will stay in my favorites for a long **long** time. I loved her character and how brilliantly she developed throughout Remake.

*...the frustrating thing about a physical violation was that what was robbed from you was still always in your possession, so there was no escaping, only adjusting.*

What I liked most about Erica was how she came across as yes a victim and she did all the things victims do, she went through a period where she was scared, fragile and alone but she came back so much more. After the first few chapters she completely lost the whole weak victim vibe I got from her in Documentary, she was here and she wanted to kick some ass!

**Bryson Ellis, oh baby.**

Bryson was so different from the book boyfriends/ex-fiancées/~~assholes~~/whatevers I usually read about. He wasn't a bad boy, he wasn't super smart or any of the other cliché types I fall for, he was a normal guy who was sweet and understanding and when it came down to Erica finally FINALLY telling him about what happened that night- he was so supportive. The 'You left.' scene almost had me in tears, it was so well written and so powerful! It felt like a sock in the gut.

*"You walked away. You were my best friend. I felt like I couldn't breathe."*

I can't say there was much I disliked about Remake; do I wish there were more Erica/Bryson scenes post the wedding? Sure. *Can you really blame me?* The only thing I often found bothering me was how some of the scenes felt a bit rushed and not explored as well as they could have been... but then the next chapter would flow smoothly and go really well and I'd be left thinking: Maybe it's just me?

All in all Remake topped my expectations. I was unable to put the book down and it fast became one of those books that keeps you up till 4am and makes you late for the plans you had at 8am.

**4.5 STARS**

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