

The background features a complex network of white nodes connected by thin white lines, set against a gradient background that transitions from dark purple at the top to a bright pink at the bottom. The nodes are scattered across the frame, with some forming larger, more prominent clusters or shapes.

Aftermath

Written by Clara Kensie

Published by kctv7

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Aftermath

By Clara Kensie

Aftermath Meaning

Charlotte survived four long years as a prisoner in the attic of her kidnapper, sustained only by dreams of her loving family. The chance to escape suddenly arrives, and Charlotte fights her way to freedom. But an answered prayer turns into heartbreak. Losing her has torn her family apart. Her parents have divorced: Dad's a glutton for fame, Mom drinks too much, and Charlotte's twin is a zoned-out druggie. Her father wants Charlotte write a book and go on a lecture tour, and her mom wants to keep her safe, a virtual prisoner in her own home. But Charlotte is obsessed with the other girl who was kidnapped, who never got a second chance at life--the girl who nobody but Charlotte believes really existed. Until she can get justice for that girl, even if she has to do it on her own, whatever the danger, Charlotte will never be free.

Please. Please don't let that happy, almost fantasy looking cover fool you like it fooled me. I completely understand why that cover was used for this book, and even though I read the synopsis, for some reason I thought this book was going to be a happy story. In a way, you can say it is. But in the same way, you can also say it isn't at all!

This is a serious story about a girl who was kidnapped, held for four years and then escapes by a twist of fate. But when she gets home she realises a lot has changed in four years and she won't ever be able to have the life she had back then. Please. Please don't let that happy, almost fantasy looking cover fool you like it fooled me. I completely understand why that cover was used for this book, and even though I read the synopsis, for some reason I thought this book was going to be a happy story. In a way, you can say it is. But in the same way, you can also say it isn't at all!

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What really surprised me, and maybe impressed me too, was how clean this novel was. It must have been hard to write this novel in such a way, to be handling what could've easily become a very sexual topic and keeping it clean. Because in those four years, Charlotte (the main character) was raped and abused day in and day out. Yet, Kensie manages to write about this in a clean manner and really make the reader feel for what has happened to her. I think what most stood out to me about her recovery when it comes to the abuse is the way that Charlotte describes people looking at her. She either says that they manage to see her, or they have the look of pity, or they don't see her at all. Instead, they see all the nasty things the man who kidnapped her did to her. It's scary how she can tell when people are truly paying attention to her or seeing something else when they look at her. But it was incredibly clever for the author to be able to transmit the emotions Charlotte or someone who was

Aftermath

abused could feel in a clean, but so meaningful, manner.

My heart went out to each and every character in this novel. I felt for Charlotte's mother, who must have been devastated to lose her daughter and forgot how to function as a mother for the rest of her family because of it. I felt for her father who did everything possible to find her. I felt for her stepmother who was trying to be there for Charlotte when she was someone entirely new to her, who she didn't know or want to understand at first. I felt for Alexa, Charlotte's twin sister who lost both parents (in some way) when she lost her sister, and makes sure any kids she sees on the street is being supervised because she is worried they are going to be snatched as well. And of course, Charlotte. They're all hurting, in their own ways, and the author managed to convey that in the tiny details of their actions, rather than what they said.

This novel was so heartbreaking, but it was also hopeful. I cried several times towards the end because I saw how twisted the story really became. Although this is a character driven story and mostly straightforward, don't think there can't be any plot twists. That's what made me the most impressed with the author. Because there were two plot twists at the end of the novel, and seeing as I wasn't expecting any, I was completely surprised. But of course, when you read them, it seems like it makes complete sense because the author has left clues throughout the novel. It's just impossible to put them together until it's too late and the plot twists have been revealed.

I found it incredibly hard to write this review because for once, I didn't really know how to relate what I'd felt while reading this book in words. I've tried my best. But the best thing that you could do is go and read this novel for yourself. Because it's not just about those people who have been kidnapped and returned home. It's about all those children and people who haven't been found ever again. It's about all those who have ever been abused or sexually assaulted and are moving on or trying to push through. It's about so much. This is a novel worth your time.

Gif Summary: [image error]

This review and others can be found on Olivia's Catastrophe: <http://olivia-savannah.blogspot.nl/20...>
...more

Aftermath Definition

This book!!! It's powerful, emotional, gripping, hard-to-put-down with lots of twists and turns you won't predict. AFTERMATH will leave the reader thinking about these characters and the choices they made. How well do you know your community? How well do you know your brother? What would make a "seemingly normal" person kidnap a young girl and hold her prisoner? What happens afterward?

I read this book in a day. Three weeks later, I'm still thinking about this family—how each one found different ways of coping with the kidnapping and everything that came from that. The choices they made, the before and after. Human beings can endure a lot, but this...it's a parent's worst nightmare. Yet through the journey, readers will find hope. It's a lifeline we all need.

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Beautifully written, I still have images of the cage, the house, the school, and "home" in my head. Scenes will stay with you and there are moments that will make you gasp and may even bring you to tears. Have some tissues ready, just in case, but whatever you do, don't miss AFTERMATH! It's a must-read. ...more

Charlotte Weatherstone was abducted when she was 12 years old and held captive in Alan Shaw's attic for four years. When he suffers from a stroke a paramedic happens to hear Charlotte, she is discovered and found in a wire cage.

From there it's Charlotte trying to cope with life, realizing that she's free and her Keeper won't hurt her anymore. That while she was gone her family broken in many ways and all the while she's trying to solve the location of a girl that Alan had prior to her, a girl he killed. Charlotte Weatherstone was abducted when she was 12 years old and held captive in Alan Shaw's attic for four years. When he suffers from a stroke a paramedic happens to hear Charlotte, she is discovered and found in a wire cage.

From there it's Charlotte trying to cope with life, realizing that she's free and her Keeper won't hurt her anymore. That while she was gone her family broken in many ways and all the while she's trying to solve the location of a girl that Alan had prior to her, a girl he killed.

It's a heartbreaking story. I am not a huge crier in general and certainly not with books but I teared up and the last portion of the book I had an entire waterworks show. This is a raw story, one that makes you feel for Charlotte and see the devastation around her. How she's trying to be 'normal' and how her

Aftermath

family in spite of being broken is also trying to be normal for her.

This book was so raw. One that just sucks you in, I nearly read the entirety of it in one night because I wanted to know how this family worked itself out and I wanted what the end [or rather beginning] held for them.

What a heavy start to my morning by finishing this, but wow... what a gripping and heartwrenching way to start my morning.

Thank you, Clara Kensie for the opportunity to read this!

Website - Facebook - Instagram ...more

Aftermath Synonym

This story was intense and definitely has a ripped-from-the-headlines feel to it. As a parent, child abduction is my worst nightmare, and there were moments when Charlotte's story was incredibly difficult to read. I cried, my heart breaking not only for what she endured, but the damage it did to her family in her absence.

Charlotte's return home, while joyous, is only the tip of the iceberg. For 4 years the memories of her family, the hopes and dreams she shared with her twin sister, are what kept her going and helped her to survive. Now, everything is changed. Not only is she faced with recovering physically and emotionally, she must also learn to navigate her new family dynamic.

I appreciated how Clara Kensie didn't romanticize Charlotte's homecoming, nor did she get gratuitous with the details of her captivity, instead choosing to focus on the feelings and emotions of the characters. Lex was my favorite! She infused even the toughest moments with humor and love.

This is a story about survival, family, and most importantly, hope.

I look forward to whatever Clara Kensie writes next!

Thank you to Merit Press for providing an eARC in exchange for an honest review ...more

I cannot stop thinking about this book. When I started reading Aftermath, I had NO idea what I was in for. Clara Kensie wrote an addicting read filled with suspense, questions, and intense emotion.

After being kidnapped and abused for four years, Charlotte has been found. This novel is about what comes next... what happened during those four years and how Charlotte, her family, friends, and community have changed. I honestly am not sure I can put into words how much this book made me think and h

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think and how much I loved reading it. Even though the novel is told from Charlotte's point of view, each character was so well written ... their actions, feelings, struggles, their hopes and fears. There were moments I hated characters and then moments I forgave them. And I'm not sure how she did it, but Clara continually kept me on my toes throughout this entire story. Seriously. Just when I thought nothing else could throw me, my jaw would drop from something new.

I highly recommend this read. Add this one to your must reads list.

*However, I will warn that it should be considered a mature YA read because it does deal with some sensitive topics. ...more

Aftermath Records

Read this review and more on my blog.

The Book Return Blog

'Aftermath' is a young adult novel about Charlotte. She is kidnapped from a football game when she is eleven and is held in her kidnapper's attic for over four years. She survives by imagining that her twin sister, mother, and father are leading a wonderful life without her. She imagines that her twin sister is living everything 'double' for Charlotte. Her kidnapper has a stroke and falls down the stairs. The EMT's then find Charlotte in a cage in the attic.

The Book Return Blog

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When Charlotte is released, she is reunited with her family but soon finds out that they have not been leading the life that Charlotte dreamed.

I really liked the premise of this novel. As the name implies the story focuses less on Charlotte's captivity and more on the damage that it caused Charlotte and her family. I liked how Charlotte's state of mind is explored through her warped thinking and her small habits (such as taking the stuffing out of the stuffed bears everyone gives her).

This story could have been very twisted and disturbing but instead is uplifting and at positive. The pace was very quick and I read almost the whole book in one sitting. The writing style was also very easy to read. I loved the characters, particularly Charlotte's twin sister Alexia. Her pain that resulted from Charlotte's ordeal was very real.

This novel also came across as believable and held many similarities to the Jaycee Dugard story for me. 'Aftermath' was very well written and I loved the approach it took. Definitely one of my favorite books of the year and one of my favorite YA books of all time. I feel like a lot of young adult novels are a fun read but not very deep. This novel was just the opposite. It made me appreciate the little things in my life and is something I would recommend for anyone interested in a kidnapping story that is not too graphic. It will definitely make you appreciate the little things in life.

Read this review and more on my blog.

The Book Return Blog

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Prize: Win (1) hardcopy of AFTERMATH by Clara Kensie (INT)

Aftermath

Embed Code: a Rafflecopter giveaway

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SaveThis review was originally posted on The Book return... [...more](#)

I'm ridiculously proud to have read and provided a cover quote for this stunning new title from 2015 Rita winner, Clara Kensie. *Aftermath* is a ripped-from-the-headlines story about survival and healing and the power of family. The thing that really stood out for me is that -- despite the situation that Charlotte has endured? This is ultimately, a story of hope. Love, love, love!

Aftermath Trailer

AMAZING story! Review to be posted very soon!

Brilliant and utterly unexpected.

I fell in love with Clara Kensie's writing a few years ago when she wrote her Run To You Series. So, when I heard that she was writing something new, of course, I had to get my hands on it. And let me tell you, I was not in any way disappointed.

Aftermath is refreshing, unique and so unexpected. Aftermath is well written and utterly captivating. It is a story that is not only intense, but will grip you the entire time. This is a story about survival and what happens next. Brilliant and utterly unexpected.

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Aftermath is refreshing, unique and so unexpected. Aftermath is well written and utterly captivating. It is a story that is not only intense, but will grip you the entire time. This is a story about survival and what happens next. How do you move on when you've experienced something horrific and terrifying? Is it possible for life to return to normal and if so, what is normal?

Aftermath is raw, captivating and is a story that will take you one incredible journey. It is a story of hope, survival, and healing. That being said, this story does deal with some pretty tough subject matter, and I applaud the author for how real she was with it.

Once I picked up Aftermath, I could not put it down. I was not prepared for what I was reading or for the journey that I was about to go on, but I had to continue. I had to keep going. I had to know what would happen next. As I've said throughout this review, this is not an easy story, but in the end, it will leave you with one very important thing....Hope...

I was provided an ARC copy of this book, in exchange for an honest review ...more

Aftermath 2014

What a read! Just when I thought the drama had peaked another swell rolled in!

Charlotte was kidnapped and held by a monster for over 4 years. During that time, she held onto the thought that her family was safe and happy. However, she learns the truth is much more complicated.

It's hard to rate a book that explores awful content. Can I say the book was wonderful, despite the horrible things that happen within its pages? This is something I've struggled with before. It's hard to describe how a miserable story touched me, made me feel and gave me something to think about.

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I liked that this book explored some of the realities of trauma. Grief is different for everyone and comes in many variations. Every member of Charlotte's family grieved in their own way. I liked that the author didn't make it seem like one way was better than another, despite the fact that some characters' grief was more healthy than others. That was up to the reader to decide. Grief is deep and personal and fluid. There is no right or wrong way to go about and the process is painful and damaging. Aftermath really tackles what that might look like.

This book was so difficult to read. It talks about extremely difficult and explicit subject matter. The main character's struggle through the stages of grief is real and heartbreaking. Know yourself and what you can handle before you choose to read this book. When you read it, be prepared for some tears of your own.

About the Author

Winner of the 2015 RITA Award for Best First Book

Today, Clara is the author of dark fiction for young adults. Her debut, the super-romantic thriller *RUN TO YOU BOOK ONE: DECEPTION SO DEADLY* is the winner of the prestigious RITA Award for Best First Book.

The *RUN TO YOU* series was named to several Best Books of 2014 lists, including RT Magazine Editors' Pick. The two-book series was originally published as a six-part serial by Harlequin Teen in 2014 (First Sight, Second Glance, Third Charm, Fourth Shadow, Fifth Touch, and Sixth Sense). By popular demand,

Aftermath

the six-part serial is now available as two full-length books: DECEPTION SO DEADLY and DECEPTION SO DARK.

Her next book is AFTERMATH, a dark, ripped-from-the-headlines contemporary about a girl who returns home four years after being kidnapped, only to find her family has fallen apart in her absence. To fix her broken family--and help find the body of her captor's first victim--the girl must first heal herself. AFTERMATH is a story of hope, healing, and triumph over tragedy, perfect for fans of ROOM and THE LOVELY BONES. Available November 15th 2016 from Merit Press.

Clara's favorite foods are guacamole and cookie dough. But not together. That would be gross.

Follow the Tour

November 9th

A Reading Nurse & The Unofficial Addiction Book Fan Club - Welcome Post

November 10th

Zerina Blossom's Books - Guest Post

YA Obsessed - Review

Emily Reads Everything - Review

November 11th

Mama Reads Hazel Sleeps - Review + Favorite Quotes

Reading To Unwind - Review

The Bookworm Central - Review + Playlist + Favorite Quotes

November 12th

The Lovely Books - Review

Never Too Many To Read - Review

Sweet Southern Home - Review

November 13th

Ink of Blood - Review

Buried Under Books - Review

Olivia's Catastrophe - Review

November 14th

The Silver Dagger Scriptorium - Guest Post

The Book Drealms - Review

The Bookish Angel - Review

November 15th

Book Bite Reviews - Review

The Book Return - Review + Favorite Quotes

Â This review was originally posted on Emily Reads Everything ...more

Aftermath Review

This book follows Charlotte who has been kidnapped when she was a young child. Charlotte kept going at her kidnapper's house by thinking of her loving family assuming they were doing great and had moved on without her. When Charlotte is finally found and released she has found out that her family has completely changed from when she was abducted.

First I love Charlotte as a character. The author did an amazing job creating a teenager who has been abducted and found. I felt like the emotions that This book follows Charlotte who has been kidnapped when she was a young child. Charlotte kept going at her kidnapper's house by thinking of her loving family assuming they were doing great and had moved on without her. When Charlotte is finally found and released she has found out that her family has completely changed from when she was abducted.

First I love Charlotte as a character. The author did an amazing job creating a teenager who has been abducted and found. I felt like the emotions that Charlotte was going through were very well represented by the author. I loved how the author would describe what Charlotte was doing as well as thinking because sometimes you want to put on a front to move forward. Also, I liked how the author handled all the gruesome acts that must have happened to Charlotte, we get to see bits and pieces of what happened to her and it is not overwhelming to read. Charlotte is a very strong character even if she doesn't always see it, the author did a great job showing the strength that Charlotte possess.

I could not believe the twist towards the very end of the book. I did not see that coming at all and it tore out my heart and stomped all over it. I felt so connected with Charlotte at that moment in the book I wasn't sure how she was going to go on with her life. It felt like the entire book was building up to a large event and the book did not disappoint.

The side characters in the book were perfect. I enjoyed reading about Charlotte's twin sister as well as her parents. They each suffered in different ways when Charlotte disappeared and handled the situation differently. The author did a great job showing how each coped with what happened and how guilty they each felt. I loved by the end of the book we get to see 180 degrees in all of these relationships.

Things I didn't love in the book was I felt like the author could have expanded more upon Charlotte's recovery. I felt like the author picked a few major issues to talk about, which probably kept the book shorter, but I felt like she was going through so many emotions I would have love to read more about what was going on Charlotte's brain and how someone can recover from such a trauma.

I would suggest this as a weekend read or a vacation read. I found this book hard to put down. I wanted to know what was going to happen in the end and if Charlotte would be able to succeed in life. This story was so gripping I couldn't put it down. It is a book that you need time to digest and think through.

Aftermath

I received a copy of this book from the Fantastic Flying Book Club for the purpose of providing an honest review. This does not effect my opinion of this book. ...more

Okay, so my official review will be on my blog but as for now I just want to put here how amazing this novel was.

I had cried, laughed a bit, smiled, cried more, wish something had happened, cried a lot more.

This is the best novel I've read all year, tying with The Architects song by A G Howard.

The writing was well, and the characters well-formed.

I can't wait to read more from Clara Kensie and I hope everyone who sees this reads this novel because ... seriously. Best. Book. Ever

Aftermath Band

Bottom line, this book is both heartbreaking and hopeful. We need more books like this one because this topic is more real than we sometimes treat it. You can see my full review at Gabriella M Reads.

Find my full review at <http://aliteraryvacation.blogspot.com>

This might be one of the most heart-breaking yet touching and hopeful novels I've read in a good long while! From page one the reader is thrown into a crate in a locked attic room with Charlotte and from that moment on you feel every emotion - fright, anxiety, confusion, anger, and, yes, even happiness - with Charlotte and her family as they navigate through this new world created by her kidnapping. I did have to put it down from time to time as the subject matter can be hard to read (let's face it, it is every parent's worst nightmare!) but I always picked it back up and continued as the story is told with such sensitivity and compassion and is an important story to look at in order to be able to approach the subject matter with clarity and empathy. Find my full review at <http://aliteraryvacation.blogspot.com>

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One of the aspects I appreciated most about Aftermath was just how delicately the story was told. Given the horrid abuse, both psychologically and physically, Charlotte experienced the narrative could have easily become too graphic and salacious, but instead is presented to the reader in the words and views of a young girl who has experienced this abuse, as she might describe it. As I imagine would occur in someone who has experienced such atrocities at such a young age, we get to learn more about the long lasting and far-reaching after effects of the abuse, such as PTSD, guilt, gripping anxieties and even dissociation from herself in order to avoid dealing with what happened to her, then the details of the abuses themselves. I, for one, appreciate the subtlety displayed when discussing the details...you will know exactly what horrors happened to this poor girl without having to read anything too graphic.

Another aspect I really found well done was the mystery surrounding "The One Before", the girl who Charlotte's kidnapper used as a threat to keep her complacent and obedient. I found that adding this mystery and giving Charlotte this goal of finding out what happened to her and making sure the girl's family knew the truth, kept the story from becoming overly heavy with Charlotte's experiences and giving some hope and drive for the character as well as the reader. This aspect really kept the story moving.

Aftermath is by no means an easy read. It digs right into that pit of fear we all have and exposes those nerves we would all rather keep buried. However, I think this is a really important book to read in order

Aftermath

to understand and appreciate what someone in Charlotte's situation goes through and feels, and to help us understand the healing process and how to best interact with someone who is dealing with this sort of pain. It's hard to say you "enjoy" a book where the characters go through so much pain, but I am in awe of Clara Kensie's ability to present this story with such tenderness and I'm excited to see what stories she brings to us next.

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Aftermath Def

â€œPleasantview.â€ Locked in the attic of my keeperâ€™s house there was nothing pleasant about my view.â€

Where do I even begin with this startling book?â€ I tried my best to avoid other reviews and blurbs regarding this book, because I knew when I signed up for it that it would be better to not know too much to start.â€ That wouldnâ€™t have been a problem, though, as there are so many surprises along the wayâ€ so I wouldnâ€™t have felt prepared if I had read every review and snippet available before hand.

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This is so much more than a book about a girl who survived being kidnapped. This is the story of all the relationships we donâ€™t even realize will be affected when someone is gone, and just how deep our loneliness and despair can go when something traumatic happens.

The entire book is just one punch to the gut after another, though tempered with moments of hopefulness.â€ You come out on the other side knowing that you need a hug, and wishing that you could give one to some of the characters.â€ Maybe almost all of them even.

It isnâ€™t an easy read by any stretch of the imagination.â€ There are triggering topics but the author handled these so gracefully and sensitivelyâ€ and they arenâ€™t graphic or disturbing for most people.â€ Sheâ€™s written with a hand that is acutely aware of the depth of human depravity while still imparting the strength of the human spirit.â€ Kensie is definitely adept in the ways of the thriller and Iâ€™m very much looking forward to what she comes up with next.

Recommended for a mature audience/17+

Two more of my favorite quotes:

â€œHope is made of air and wishes.â€ An empty box wrapped in shiny paper.â€

â€œSome stories wonâ€™t have a happy ending.â€

4.5 stars and my thanks to the publisher for the review opportunity! ...more

Thanks to <http://edelweiss.abovethetreeline.com...> Author Clara Kensie and her publicist for allowing me to read this ARC, in exchange for an honest review.

I don't rate very many books a 5. But this is one of the very select few that I will. I got approved to read

Aftermath

this ARC this morning. I just finished it, 15 minutes ago. I feel like I should mention, this will be a trigger book, if you have triggers to things such as rape, molestation, violence, this book may not be for you. I will add, Clara wrote it in the most tasteful way possible. Thanks to <http://edelweiss.abovethetreeline.com>... Author Clara Kensie and her publicist for allowing me to read this ARC, in exchange for an honest review.

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This book is raw, and full of emotions, whilst reading it, my heart was hurting, I felt a heaviness creeping up inside of thoughts (they will be very hard to shake). I know that sounds like the makings of a terrible book. But this is anything but that.

This book is exactly how I imagine a family would feel if this were to happen to their child. The heart wrenching way this family fell apart, while Charlotte dreamed of her perfect family, and one day reuniting with them. The spot on emotions when Charlotte gets home, and realizes that nothing is at it seems, and sort of feels like a prisoner all over again. The glimpse into "Stockholm Syndrome". And oh my goodness, the gut punching plot twists in this book, are incredible. This book is insane (in a good way) I really have no other way to describe it. This book releases November 1st, 2016. You can pre-order it now, and if you do not want to wait, you can apply for an ARC at the link posted above.

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