



Fear of Heights

Mara White

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What are you willing to sacrifice for love?

Your family? Your freedom? What about your life?

She's a wealthy, forty-three-year-old Upper East Sider with a PhD – He's a twenty-three-year-old Dominican drug dealer from Washington Heights.

Kate Champion always did exactly what was expected of her. She was the perfect wife, the perfect mother – until the day she met Jaylee Inoa.

Their journey travels a path riddled with danger, deceit, scandal and loss – where nothing is at it seems. Yet Kate and Jaylee's passion for one another remains nearly unstoppable.

Will this daring pair of lovers from two different worlds triumph over circumstance? Can they deny the past in their quest to be together? Or is fear the ultimate navigator - a force more powerful than love?

Warning: *Fear of Heights* is not a standalone novel and must be read as book two in the **Heightsbound** series, after **Heights of Desire**. This book contains descriptions of: gang activity, graphic sex, violence, dubious consent, unprotected sex, infidelity, infidelity and more infidelity, questionable parenting and some dialogue in Spanish without translation.

Fear of Heights Details

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Author : Mara White

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From Reader Review Fear of Heights for online ebook

Mo (The Scarlet Siren) says

I won't lie...I didn't "get it" in the first book. I enjoyed it, but it didn't resonate with me.

Then I read this book. NOW I GET IT. Oh, man....do I get it. I feel like I've been sucker punched, but in the best possible way.

This series is a new level, a whole other world I never experienced.

Keep an eye out for my full review!

Donati says

What the fuck. I had no strong statement after reading this.

Honestly this book series has such events that is blacklisted and things like we don't expect. I like that the author does not make the heroine the-goody-two-shoes but actually makes her act on something unattainable. I do not like sad endings (endings where hero and heroine never get to be together) but i ended up reading this.

I was in the mood to read something typically different than usual reads. This particular book did satisfy me.

Ellen ♦ Book Bellas ♦ says

One of the most savagely beautiful love stories I've ever read. Kate and Jaylee's story is intensely raw and shocking and I couldn't tear myself away!

Mara White is a thought-provoking, challenging and amazingly talented writer. She deserves wide acclaim for her gritty, unpolagetic brand of fiction. FEAR OF HEIGHTS made me cry, cringe and yell at Kate's roller-coaster ride of a life. This story must be read after Heights of Desire, which is one of my favorite books. Both will challenge you and make you re-think what you believe is right and what is wrong. Nothing is black and white in the Heightsbound series, that's for sure.

If you are a fan of gritty, raw, adult erotica, this book is for you. Fear of Heights picks up after the rather surprising ending of Heights of Desire, and literally takes you on a breathtaking ride of twists and turns, love and hate, regret and happiness, and shame and pride. Is that enough emotion for you? The author has done a spectacular job of painting a picture of Kate, a woman who seems to make all the wrong choices, but who is compelled on her course of action, consequences be damned. This is not an easy read, but it is a very adult story, and some of you might hate Kate in the end. I did not.

There is a ton of raw sex in this book, but the dialogue and the action is so well-written, that the book is elevated above most books in this genre. We get to know Ideal in this book, who at first seems unredeemable, but who I grew to kind of like by the end. And Jaylee, who Kate is obsessed with in the first book, once again broke my heart, with his raw vulnerability and open sexuality.

Fear of Heights literally made me yell at my Kindle. Books don't often provoke such a strong reaction in me, but Ms. White is such a talented writer that I can't help myself!

This is not a typical romance, and deals with some very heavy themes. The plot is twisty and surprising and that is why this review is vague. This book is best experienced first-hand. If you are a fan of gritty, sexy, intensely emotional books, then Fear of Heights is a must-read. Bravo, Ms. White!

(*ARC provided by the author in return for an honest review.)

Jamie Roberts says

If you are seeking a story that is raw, gritty and filled with many intense emotional situations, then look no further... this entire story will just blow you away!

Ms. White has done an **AMAZING** job with *Fear of Heights*, which is the second part of Kate's journey. *Fear of Heights* took me to places that I never imagined possible. I honestly liked this sequel even better than the first book (*Heights of Desire*.) I **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** reading *Heights of Desire* before diving right into this one though, so you know exactly what is going on.

This story is told mostly through Kate's POV. I really enjoyed her character because Kate sometimes chose some thought provoking decisions, which caught my interest further as the reader to see what will happen next. I could not tear myself away from my kindle! I was **HOOKED!** Her decisions were not always the right choices to make. She was then sometimes forced to clean up the damages of those decisions, dealing with the repercussions by facing them head on.

Ideal is a character that I didn't like very much as I was introduced to him, but later on in the story I completely fell for him. There were also times I really loved Jaylee and times that he frustrated me to the point I wanted to toss my kindle across the room. I was constantly on edge in every scene involving Kate's family, especially with her husband. I could easily feel the tension form between Robert and Kate and how this also bothered their kids.

Kate's feelings started to slowly blend in with my own feelings in certain parts of this book and I **LOVE** when a story can draw out those crazy irrational emotions! To me, this is pure evidence of how well thought out and developed the characters are in *Fear of Heights!* As I was reading *Fear of Heights*, I really felt like the characters were everyday individuals, that I was just witnessing a part of Kate's journey through a movie or possibly a diary. The scenes all flowed along so well and the timelines all matched up perfectly.

The quote from the story below is a great example of how many people often feel emotionally on the inside. Everybody desires to be important or needed from time-to-time.

"I harbor an almost incapacitating weakness- a desire to belong to someone, to be their everything. Not just to be needed, but to be the one indispensable thing. The secret ingredient, the key to someone's very existence."

Fear of Heights is not a typical romance story. This book does have a bunch of romance filled throughout many of the pages but there's so much more involved with the story line. The book includes racial themes, differences in economic statuses, bribery, adultery, kidnapping and so much more. This story is one that I **WILL NEVER FORGET!** Read it, you won't be sorry!

I give *Fear of Heights*, 5 MIND BLOWING AND THOUGHT PROVOKING STARS!

XOXO

Jamie, The Book Enthusiast

Kim says

Another winner from Mara White! I was already hooked on Kate and Jaylee's story in *Heights of Desire*. It had the right mix of flawed characters, attraction of opposites and summer heat to transport me from wintry Sweden to New York City during a long, hot summer. The same is true of *Fear of Heights*. Beautifully written with finely tuned characterization, this is one of those novels where you'll both love and hate the main characters as they say and do questionable things in the name of love.

Fear of Heights picks up where *Heights of Desire* left off--with Jaylee in jail, his fate in the hands of Kate's husband, who just happens to be his attorney, and Kate pregnant with his child. Robert's issued an ultimatum to Kate--get an abortion or he'll make sure Jaylee never gets out of jail. Kate, unwilling to bend to Robert's demands, makes a decision that puts her and those she loves at risk. What follows is a riveting story of love, betrayal and the underbelly of live in the Heights.

I won't spoil the rest of the story for you, but needless to say, this is one pageturner of a novel. Bravo, Mara! I can't wait for your next novel!

Autumn says

"Love is triumphant, until we all fall down."

Darker, grittier and more heart wrenching than the first. Mara White is indeed an evil genius!

Full review on Agents of Romance...

<http://www.agentsofomance.com/events...>

Tarah Hodges-Wilkins says

Holy Crap.... Mind blown. RAW, GRITTY, and so unblieably INTENSE!! READ THIS SERIES!

I was not expecting the 2nd book to be so freaking awesome. I was blown away.

Twist and turns, you will never except, more betrayal, more everything!!

I was shocked at how much I loved and hated this book.

Let me be honest and say I wanted to punch, slap, kick and cause any kind of harm to Kate. She needed it.

Over and over again.

The ending truly blew me away. I sit there look at the last sentence over and over again, and all I could think was WHAT THE FUCK just happened??

Mara White is a mastermind! Truly incredibly. Loved it, Hated it and Loved it some more.

“I harbor an almost incapacitating weakness- a desire to belong to someone, to be their everything. Not just to be needed, but to be the one indispensable thing. The secret ingredient, the key to someone’s very existence.”

Renee says

I loved it all, every single word, page and I'm sad I finished

A woman who has everything meets a man who can offer her nothing but trouble. They meet and oh so quickly IT happens. I loved the way the author had the sense of taboo involved here. The characters were SO captivating that book one left me thinking of the Jaylee I picture in my dreams.

Once again this book is just SO well written. I loved that I felt the exact same pull with the characters that I did in book 1. The Kate and Jaylee love story just leaps off the pages. For me, I felt so tortured again. If they belong together even despite all of the obstacles, then they deserve happiness. I wanted Robert to go jump off the 59th street bridge and become ocean slug food. Never did I ever think I could feel more hate towards him than I did in this book. I would totally love a few minutes to hurt him.

There are times when I was yelling to Kate in my head over and over. Specifically when her and Janinie take off to Santo Domingo. That part of the book was screaming to me.

It was so spot on with the scenes and descriptions, making me feel like I was part of their runaway scheme. The next character that I must talk about is Ideál. He is a character that really confused me. I felt the love hate thing for him. Immediately I thought I wanted to kick him in the throat. I changed my tune and was a little more trusting towards him. When their friendship comes to be a more stable bond, there are some really big reveals. Sort of mind blowing.

PLEASE take the journey again with Kate and Jaylee. I urge you to read this series. Underneath the drama there is pure love and loyalty.

Serena says

5 BETTER THAN THIS STARS!!!

Fucking. Hell. As soon as I finished Heights of Desire I dove mind, body and soul IMMEDIATELY into Fear of Heights. Oh. God. I needed to know wtf was going to happen with Jaylee and Kate! I don't think I was prepared AT ALL for what I was about to experience....*cries*

Ok so I mentioned my heart and soul. Well, they are obliterated. I'm a bloody mess. This is one of those books that will stay with me forever. It's one of those stories that had me cursing, crying, raging and moaning through the whole book. Sometimes I did those things just from reading one chapter. I felt like I was losing my god damn mind.

Oh my god. I don't even know what I can say about Kate and Jaylee in this book. I was so livid with Kate. I was so frustrated. But I couldn't stop reading. I just wanted these two to be happy. Together or apart. I didn't know what the hell I wanted! Jaylee. Oh my god this guy. He is absolutely one of my favourite characters ever. He brings tears to my eyes just thinking about him. I keep replaying some of the things he said to Kate and I just can't. *sobs* I didn't think I could lust a thug so damn much!

Sex. Sex and more sex. All kinds of it. Cheating sex. Fast sex. Dirty sex. Mind blowing sex. Heights of Desire was just the beginning of Kate's sexcapades. Seriously, my jaw hit the bed. Repeatedly. I felt the searing, scorching hot scenes punch me in my g-spot and sometimes even my gut. I was shocked, not gonna lie. I felt a little dirty myself. Dirty never felt so damn good.

I think the BEST kinds of stories are the ones you can't stop reading, but at the same time you never want to end. And then when you do get to THE END you are stunned stupid and sitting there saying. "Whoa. Whoa. Whoa. WTF just happened?" Mara is a mother effing genius. Any story I have ever read from her has made me feel things I didn't even know were possible. Her gut wrenching story telling is like a drug. Once you start you are addicted and you may as well just sign over your life right the fuck now. Cause you won't get it back. It's a messed up, beautiful thing and I wouldn't have it any other way.

The Heightsbound Duet is one of those crushing, soul searing love stories that will stay with me forever. If you are looking for a book that will bring you to a whole new level and make you feel everything and THEN SOME you need Jaylee and Kate's story in your life. Buckle up bitches. Your life will never be the same.

Saffron says

4.5 "Forbidden, Dirty, Raw, Delicious Stars!!!

Being the lazy woman I am. I never reviewed the first book of this series. So I am gonna do it in this review. So the series has TWO books (to be read in order, of course)...

1. Heights of Desire
2. Fear of Heights: Book 2 of the Heightsbound Series

So the first thing you need to know about this series...It has FORBIDDEN LOVE, CHEATING, HOT SEX and A HOT DOMINICAN DRUG DEALER.

Personally, I am LOVE the latter two.

Oh and also, This book has the undertones of "Romeo & Juliet" and "Anna Karenina" with added sex and drugs. Yay!!! :DDD

Story: So, the story starts on a playground where 30 + years old Kate (our heroine) first lays eyes on 20 something Jaylee (our hero). She is there to drop her two daughters off at some sort of practice or something. Anyway, they see each other and fall in insta-lust. I will be the first one to say that I DO NOT believe in instal-love but insta-lust is a VERY real thing.

And on the same day Kate invites this guy to her home.

From then on, in the entire story she has made tons of less than stellar decisions and I never liked her much. I understood her. But she is so not my favorite character. So obviously, time to judge her a bit. There are three kinds of stupid fictional characters in my book...

...They don't know they are stupid so they can't help acting this way.

...They do know they are stupid, try to stop but can't.

...They do know they are stupid, try to stop and succeed.

Kate falls in the second category for the most of the story. She knows what she is doing is dangerous, wrong on all the levels but she can't stop. It's like she is under a spell.

Jaylee is unapologetic. He sells drugs. So of course he is not scared of consequences. He is volatile, possessive, passionate, violent, sometimes innocent, a little too optimistic about their love story, but other times cynical, foul mouthed with a million anger issues. For him, it is simple. He is in LOVE with Kate. But sadly, all he has to offer is his heart. He has no money and no future (except in prison when he gets caught).

Whereas, Kate has PhD, tons of money and a lavish home. Her husband, Robert is a DOUCHEBAG with all kinds of evil but she has two angelic daughters. But their love is hot and all consuming. They can't stop. No matter what. This ensues all sorts of disasters, twists, scandal and betrayals which is captured beautifully in these two books.

My Thoughts: Well to those who don't know...I dig angst. It makes me dreamy...and swoony...and so happy.

But this story is so much more than that. This story is about love that destroys you but you can't let it go. This story is about love that is dangerous but you don't care. This story is about stupid decisions but you can't afford to be smart. And this story is about passion and obsession that burns every part of you but you welcome it with your arms wide open.

There are no words to describe how much I loved this one. I felt everything...their passion, their mistakes, their violence, their love. I laughed and cried with them. They will forever be one of my favorite couples. The way these two books were written, I felt those two were alive, breathing and are cursed to hurt and long for each other till the end of time. OH GAWD!!!

Will I recommend this book? I will be the first to admit, this is not for the faint hearted. If you enjoy your stories dirty, raw, realistic and oh so passionate then this is the book you won't want to miss. Yes, this book might lead you to do serious injury to your kindle, yourself or anyone in your vicinity...but even then...I urge you to read this. You won't regret it. <3333

FYI - This series + Lana Del Ray songs is a deadly combination. I know this first hand, so save yourself and don't listen to her songs for a while after reading this.

Jody says

The Heightsbound Series comes to a dramatic and at times heartbreaking conclusion with this intensely emotional tale of star-crossed lovers that's full of twists and turns. Picking up where the previous book left off, Jaylee and Kate couldn't be further apart as he's in jail and she's left pregnant with an ultimatum from her husband that is a no-win situation. Her husband will get Jaylee out of jail if she aborts their baby and agrees to never see him again. Needing some time and space away to make this life-altering decision she takes her

sister's passport and credit cards and leaves with Jaylee's sister which is the start of a journey full of dangerous and unexpected events that keep you on the edge of your seat. From deadly drug dealers, to profound loss, to secrets and lies being revealed Ms. White masterfully keeps readers engaged in the forbidden romance between Jaylee and Kate that started with a simple look and continues down a rocky path.

From the opening scene Ms. White creates an atmospheric tale through the use of character-specific dialogue, vividly detailed surroundings, and an overall feeling of foreboding. Into this gritty world where even the glitzy parts have become tarnished new characters are introduced to make Kate and Jaylee's romance even more complicated. When another of Kate's bad decisions leads to her needing help the only person she can turn to is Jaylee's friend Ideal. This leads to jealousy and amps up the sensuality as Kate's missing Jaylee and Ideal is their to comfort her. As the story continues its twists and turns things get darker and what you hope will happen becomes uncertain. Kate's continuing her downward spiral in the name of love and her bad decisions are frustrating but you can't help but like her and admire her for going against the grain. For so long she was the dutiful wife unhappy behind closed doors with a husband whose cruelty is finally coming to light. This story is told from her perspective and you can understand why she's willing to sacrifice so much for Jaylee as he promises her happiness and freedom. Jaylee's suffering just as much being locked away with a future that seems lost. I fell for him in the previous story and continue my adoration here. His speech and thoughts are unique and it pulled me into his world completely as he tried to find something to count on while in jail.

This story caught me off guard with its intensity and gutsiness in not going in obvious directions. The author showed such maturity with this being her first series, talent beyond her years in immersing readers in her cleverly crafted world. I love stories with older woman/younger man themes and this one went way beyond that as it brought in race issues and class distinction. It added extra turmoil and made this forbidden romance even more so. This is a complicated story when it comes to right and wrong and morality. The characters are far from perfect and don't always do the right thing but you can't help being drawn to them. Readers looking for a typical HEA will be surprised as the ending is unexpected but memorable as is this series where BOTH books MUST be read to fully appreciate the dramatic and intensely erotic journey these two very different people undertake!

Jason Powell says

Ok. Good and bad about this book. Ready? Here we go:

Good: Fear of Heights, the first book in this series, will easily be one of the best books you ever read in either the erotica or romance genre. But this book, this book is one of the best you'll ever read, period. Immediately...IMMEDIATELY you're drawn into Kate's world, which is sad and exciting and scary and exciting. It's also a little dangerous...but exciting. In spite of the sadness and fear and danger, you will not want to leave, and will probably be upset when the real world demands your attention. The writing is so smooth and careful that you forget you're reading a story and instead feel like you're listening to a friend. You will love the ride this book takes you on. Read it.

Bad: you will question your whole understanding of love. If Fear of Heights made you doubt the black and white of right and wrong this book will... This book will put you in the shoes(and maybe the beds?) of the characters you love and hate and love to hate; and, take my word for it, though their world is a fun place to visit, you do not want to be them. The writing is so clear and vivid you will forget you're reading a story and instead feel like you're a witness to a tragic series of events. You will hate the ride this takes you on. Read it.

Natalie M says

4.5 angsty and completely frustrating stars!!!! To say I was nervous to start this book is an understatement. It's been a while since I read the first book, but for some reason that book stayed with me. That's saying a lot because I read a bunch and a lot of times I will read my own reviews to become familiar with the story and the characters again (I have an awful memory) when getting ready to read other books in a series!! From the beginning of FOH, it was like I read HOD yesterday. Even character and every feeling was right back with me and the nail biting commenced!!

My heart hurt for Jaylee and I didn't have a good feeling about his future with Kate. Kate, oh boy, she was a hot mess but I have to say, I really love her!! She is real, she is passionate and she's a fighter!! Of course, I was rolling my eyes at some of her decisions but I couldn't help but connect with her and feel for her too. When Ideal was introduced to the story, I wasn't expecting to fall for him the way I did. I was flip flopping with my feelings and ideas that I frustrated myself!! Now, I was never a fan of Robert and I can't say that changed much in this book.

What I do know is that I couldn't stop reading this book. Ms. White did a terrific job with this emotional story. Her words grab you and the story flows beautifully. I do wish things would have turned out differently, but I am happy for Kate. I turned to my husband for some of the Spanish translations and I was telling him about these characters. He constantly looked at me like I had two heads because I spoke of these characters as if they were real. To me they felt real... the story is real life and that's why both the characters and the story will stay with me. Thank you Ms. White for the opportunity to read your story and I look forward to your next project!

** The author kindly provided me with a copy of Fear of Heights in exchange for an honest review **

Arabella ~?AB?~ says

Possible spoilers ahead. In Book 1 Heights of Desire, **42 year old Kate a married mother of 2, meets a sexy 22 year old Dominican thug** whilst dropping of her daughters at ballet. They are immediately in lust and she invites him over to her house whilst her husband is at work. Now, whilst the fantasy is kinda sexy I just cannot fathom anyone ever doing this! I haven't been to Washington Heights, but the image I got was that it's the equivalent to the areas in London which houses both the estate gangs opposite the posh houses.

This woman's mind is completely taken over by her longing for this beautiful man. She doesn't even hide the affair from her husband, even though he's a bit of a douche, we don't really see this until Book 2.

Don't get me wrong, the writing was good, the storyline was good, but I thought that both Kate and Jaylee were totally unlike-able. Jaylee had nothing going for him apart from his looks and his charm. He is involved in a gang and immerses Kate into this side of his life with no regard for her safety.

Book 2 is pretty action packed, there is lots going on involving the gangs and Jaylee in prison. Kate's

husband Robert is a lawyer and blackmails Kate to stop seeing Jaylee in return for his help to free him. Kate is torn between the 'Love' of her life and keeping her family safe.

I had **major issues** in this book

1. Kate cheats on her husband **AND** her lover with a third person, she turns into a total slut.

and 2. Not only does Jaylee's best friend PUNCH Kate in the face but **JAYLEE PUNCHES HER IN THE FACE**

And he doesn't even apologise!!!!

I almost put the book down then, but I needed to know what happened.

Was it a happy ending...? Well, it was for me because I can move onto another book that makes me feel less angry.

H says

BITTERSWEET isn't the word... but it was oh so good.

Similar reads: The Education of Caroline, The Education of Sebastian, Arouse, Beauty from Pain
