



Beyond What is Given

Rebecca Yarros

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Lt. Grayson Masters is focused on graduating the Apache helicopter course, and the last thing he needs is his gorgeous new roommate Samantha Fitzgerald distracting him. While her smart mouth and free spirit are irresistibly irritating, he can't deny their off-the-charts chemistry, no matter how hard he tries.

Having just been expelled from college, Sam has no business digging for Grayson's secrets while she's hiding her own, but that doesn't stop her from trying to tear down his walls. Each barrier she busts through drops one of her own, though, and she's not prepared for the truth: another woman laid claim to Grayson's heart long ago.

Falling in love is something neither Grayson nor Sam can afford, and when that line is crossed and secrets are exposed, they'll learn that sometimes it's the answered prayers that will put you through hell.

Beyond What is Given Details

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From Reader Review Beyond What is Given for online ebook

Lana ❄️Dirty Girl Romance❄️ says

4 Stars

Orbit. That was the word for it. She was the Earth, full of life, raging rivers, erupting volcanoes, mysterious oceans, and breathtaking views. I was a satellite in her orbit, witnessing from a distance while she bloomed.

Rebecca Yarros and her Flight & Glory series has been on my radar for a while. In my usual way of doing things backasswards, when I got the chance to read Beyond What Is Given, I jumped on it, even before I read the previous books. With that said, I never found myself lost and had no problems getting into the story. BUT, I do wish I read the previous two books simply because I completely adored those characters in this book and found myself curious about their story. So I plan on going back and reading the previous books immediately.

I love a book that will tug at my heart strings and really make me *feel*; truly capture my interest in not just the romance but both the characters' individual growth. Considering the baggage both Sam and Grayson carried around, I certainly didn't expect anything less than I got, even if it was incredibly frustrating at times.

There are broken people in the world, Samantha. But you're not one of them. Dinged up maybe, but not broken, and definitely not beyond repair.

Sam essentially ran away from her home in Colorado after a mistake cost her everything; a mistake that still continues to haunt her today. Moving in with 3 male roommates to a different town, she's hoping for a fresh start. But then she meets Grayson, her new roommate that's less than thrilled to see her since he was expecting a guy Sam. Grayson is temperamental, broody, too gorgeous for his own good, and hiding scars that may run much deeper than Sam ever imagined.

The man has walls you'd need a miracle to break through."

Grayson's secret begins to come to light little by little, and you soon realized that the baggage that this man carries may be too much for even self-assured Sam. But you also can't help but fall for him completely. The push and pull dynamic between them grabbed me from the beginning. Grayson clearly wants Sam, but he knows he can't have her. His secret prevent him from giving himself fully even when Sam is quickly falling for him.

I love you, " she whispered against my mouth, and I was lost.

As much as I love angst in my books, and the angst here was thick. At the same time, I prefer the angst to come from the couple and not added from outside influences. What am I talking about? Grayson's family. Sweet mother of all that's holy but the last time I hated a hero's sister this much I was reading an Abbi Glines

book. I absolutely HATED Parker. And the further the book progressed, the more strongly I began to hate her. And that only got so much worse when the whole truth was revealed. In addition to her sticking her nose into Grayson's business there was also his father. All of it combined with the already heavy subject of Grayson's secret and Sam's past and it was almost too much. Don't get me wrong, the author did make it work, but for me it was just a little too much.

I loved the romance between Sam and Grayson, even if it was filled with enough bumps and turns to make for a hell of a rollercoaster ride. I've been thinking on my rating for a few days now and what I can definitely say is that I loved the writing and I truly enjoyed the story as a whole, minus a few minor quibbles (Parker being the biggest). Ultimately I liked how everything was dealt with in the end, and I absolutely adored the ending for the couple. While it may have been bumpy, it was all wrapped together without being too cliché or predictable and that's always a plus for me. Rebecca Yarros is definitely now an author I will gladly read in the future.

Samantha. You own me, body, heart, mind, soul, whatever there is to give, it's yours.

ARC courtesy of author in exchange for an honest review

For more reviews visit

L*Take Me To My HEA* says

4.5 stars. I. LOVED. IT.

Patrycja says

[yes (hide spoiler)]

Beverly says

A love story that rivals other love stories, that is what *Beyond What is Given* is to me. This story made me feel so many different things. It broke my heart in two, made me question myself and almost drove me to drink. I see people say that a lot and I laugh, but I don't think I have really experienced it until now. If it wasn't 9 am when I was reading this I would have definitely drank!

"One mistake doesn't define your life."

Samantha Fitzgerald is on the run from her past and her mistakes. Her life has taken a complete detour after getting kicked out of school. Her life has lost direction and she is struggling with her guilt and feelings of failure. Where do you go when the life you had planned goes up in flames, to your family. Since her only biological family, her mom, is in Afghanistan she decides to run to her chosen family. Josh and Jagger have a room open and offer her a place to stay in Alabama.

Grayson Masters is closed off and isolated, no one knows who the real Grayson is, even his roommates and closest friends. I have been intrigued with Grayson from the very beginning. He is always running home to North Carolina, he doesn't date, and is completely focused on being the best Apache pilot. I always admired his dedication, but didn't really understand it. Now that I do, I love Grayson, for serious, he is my favorite. Grayson is driven, compassionate, caring and self-sacrificing.

"She's all fire, and sass, and a touch of insanity, I'm pretty sure. But she does something to me, makes me see the world again."

When Sam moves in with Jagger, Josh and Grayson it seems like a recipe for disaster. At first the two appear to be complete opposites and despite their attraction to each other, are not fans of the other. Regardless, they can't help the pull they feel towards the other. From here, have your drink ready. I swear when these two started to fall my heart was breaking, but in the most wonderful way. I was in, completely invested and dying for more.

Beyond What is Given is not the kind of book you put down, no it's the kind of book you start and finish in one day. It's the kind of book you stop and breathe, but then jump right back in. It's the kind of book you rush to finish because you want to see what happens next, but then immediately regret rushing when you finish. This book gave me a massive book hangover and I just wanted more. If you haven't read this series yet, stop waiting and jump in!

The Flight and Glory Series features different couples, but are all related.

ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review.

Kelli C ~ Jack Sawyer's Heart says

3.5 Two Loves in One Lifetime Stars

Rebecca Yarros can definitely tug the heartstrings and get the emotions rolling. She has such a great insight into the "military" genre with her palpable feels for the men and women who serve and the bond with those who love them!

I fell hard for this author with Josh and Ember's forever love and she did not let me down with Jagger and Paisley. I had high hopes for Grayson and while I loved the "feels" and the heat...I'm not in as much love with the story as the prior reads in the series.

Sam and Grayson...both characters have heavy baggage...no they have anchors holding them hostage. While Sam is running from a past toward no certain future, Grayson is trying to make his own future anything other than what is expected. Attraction? Definitely, but why? Perhaps it was Sam's lack of anything, her freedom and fire that drew Grayson to her. Perhaps it was the constant, solid state of Gray that made Sam want more. Either way their time together is a constant struggle of past and future.

While I am 100% a lover of angst, I just didn't enjoy Grayson's family involvement. I struggled with the flow of the tale and the constant "right people/wrong time" concept. Dammit! How many times can someone say they are all in...they pick you...they want you? Too much uncertainty. Too much back and forth by the last half of the book.

Overall, I still really enjoyed the book. Again, I think Yarros can do PROFOUND love like no other. Maybe Josh and Ember and Jagger and Paisley just cant be topped in my opinion!

Jennifer Kyle says

4.5 Stars

"She's all fire, and sass, and a touch of insanity, I'm pretty sure. But she does something to me, makes me see the world again."

Do they even make guys like Grayson Masters? Seriously this guy is the bomb! Sexy, broody, Apache pilot in training, who has always been tight lipped about his home life in Nags Head, North Carolina. Grayson seems to live two different lives one at home with his family and one with his classmates and roommates. Samantha Fitzgerald, friends with Ember moves in with the guys as she works for a fresh start since her college stay in Colorado fell apart.

Grayson and Samantha's interactions from the start were intense, sexy and consuming. I loved these two together. Grayson helps Sam get back on her feet and Sam starts to bring a smile back to the stoic hottie's face.

"She makes me feel like I'm flying my helicopter. Free. Like I'm standing on the edge of something I can barely control, and it could be the most amazing ride of my life, or I could burn one into the ground."

Grayson opens up to Samantha about Gracie and his family. Samantha gets a front row seat to this pretty dysfunctional group and the misguided guilt Grayson has carried around for the past five years.

"I am so sorry for what's happened to you. For what's happened to both of you. Neither of you deserved any of this. From what I heard, I know that in his life, you are the love story. And I know that I'm

standing here in with a second-place ribbon stuck to my heart, but he's worth it."

There were several things in the story that fell under the drama-rama category. Things that should have been nixed before going to print (Things that I should really take a star or more off my rating for.) completely over the top drama that didn't stop from 58 percent on.

List of Over the top drama which is all spoilers...(view spoiler)

Truth be told, I totally fell for Grayson Masters and if aliens or the Kardashians showed up in the damn epilogue, I would have happily read on. Yes that's how hooked I was for Sam and Grayson, so please take that into consideration.

"He was at war with the two sides of himself. I could see it as clearly as if there were literally two of him. I just didn't know which one would be coming back to me. I was also too far gone to care. Maybe I could save both sides."

Grayson's love for Samantha stayed true even when constantly tested. As for the sweet and sexy things that came out of that man's mouth were just yummy.

"Between us? You have all the power. All the control. You always have. I'm hard for you the minute you so much as smile, or curse, or walk in the damned room."

"Show me."

Overall, Grayson and Samantha are my favorite couple of this series to date. However, the truck load of drama dropped on them wasn't. I enjoyed Josh, Jagger, Paisley and Ember's presence in the story and would love a fly boy of my own!

"I'm in love with you, Samantha. You own me, body, heart, mind, soul, what there is to give, it's yours."

Fanny says

" Ambos son las personas indicadas en un mal momento. Las posibilidades estan en su contra ... Pero Sam nunca se ha echado para atras frente a un reto ni a tomado la ruta facil. "

Beyond What Is Given es el tercer libro de la serie Flight & Glory de la autora Rebecca Yarros y narra la historia de amor de Samantha y Grayson (personajes secundarios en los libros anteriores).

Este libro era uno de los que mas esperaba poder leer, no solo porque la serie es increíble, sino porque Grayson, el protagonista masculino me llamo mucho la atencion en el segundo libro, ademas tenia la sensacion de que ocultaba algun secreto y ¡ vaya ! lo que ocultaba era bastante grande.

Desde el comienzo la historia empieza de una forma que es casi imposible que no te enganches desde el primer capitulo, tiene un inicio ligero, tierno y muy atrapante.

Segun fui avanzando me iba enganchado cada vez mas, cada vez que pasaba algo impresionante pensaba que nada podria superar esa escena pero luego pasaban un par de capitulos y volvia a ocurrir algo increíble y asi sucesivamente.

Tengo un nombre para las historias como estas, las llamo *enredaderas* porque te va a atrapando poco a poco, cuando necesitas un descanso te das cuenta de que estas tan enganchada que no puedes dejar la lectura a medias, NECESITAS terminarla.

Reconozco que hubieron momentos en los que la trama decayo un poco y tambien que algunos aspectos de los personajes me sacaron de quicio, pero al final fue una historia hermosa, profunda, dulce y con el toque justo de drama (aunque haya gente a la que le parecio demasiado dramatica).

Sam, la protagonista femenina fue increíble. Valiente, divertida, decidida, fuerte, muy simpatica y con una madurez que no muchas protagonistas tienen.

Grayson fue un buen protagonista, pero hubieron momentos en los que me saco de quicio con su indecision, ademas tenia tantas expectativas puestas en el, que en algunos momentos me senti decepcionada porque no era de la forma que yo pensaba que seria.

Me encantaria que la autora escribiera otro libro de ellos, como ha hecho con Josh y Ember, quizas cuando ellos sean un poco mas mayores.

Beyond What Is Given tiene el epilogo mas hermoso que he leído en todo el año!! es simplemente perfecto y admito que al leer el epilogo le subi media estrellas a la historia. * sonrojo *

Ahora a esperar por Hallowed Ground, que saldra en enero. Solo he leído el prologo y el primer libro y ya me muero de ganas por devorarlo, espero que tambien haya escenas de Paisley y Jagger y de Grayson y Sam.

" Cuanto dolor podia soportar una persona? De cuantas maneras se podia destrozarse un corazon hasta que se secase y muriera? Quería que muriera. Al menos los sentimientos que venian con el. "

5 Estrellas!!!

Claire Robinson says

1 - "Sometimes steady is just stuck." Star.

DNF @ 64%

I really don't know where to start with this one, I know I am going to totally be in the minority with my thoughts of *Beyond What is Given*, and the fact I haven't finished it is as much of a shock to me as it will be to all the reviewers that have given it 4 and 5 star reviews.

"One mistake doesn't define your life."

In all honesty, I had my doubts as to whether I was going to enjoy Grayson and Sams' story back at the 25% mark, I could not put down the first two books in the *Flight & Glory* series, in fact Rebecca Yarros' writing, characters and story-lines in both put me through the emotional wringer whilst reading and left me a hot mess for sometime after finishing them, and I just didn't have that feeling or feel the connection this time.

"The only constant is change."

My main issues are the pacing of the story-line, it is so slow to move along, I was approaching the 50% mark before anything of any real importance really happened (to me anyway). You know with this book like it'd predecessors, the true secrets and full backgrounds of both Grayson and Sam are going to be revealed as the story progresses, sad thing was I kind of worked out what they were going to be beforehand this time, and it dulled the impact, that and the overblown familial drama, interference and emotional blackmail on Graysons' side on top of everything else, and it just seemed too much, especially as it was all moving along so slowly as well.

This won't stop me reading more from the author, and this is just my own opinion of the book, if you love her writing (as much as I do) then I hope that the book works for you. I wish it had for me, I have been waiting a while for it, and it's a disappointment to me as a reader, that it didn't live up to the expectations I had on this occasion.

ARC generously provided via Netgalley, in exchange for the above honest review.

Aestas Book Blog says

::: FULL REVIEW NOW POSTED :::

So, I've literally been meaning to read one of this author's books for over a year and I'm so glad I finally did because ***I loved it!!!*** I finished reading this book with my heart racing and SO full of happy feels!!! Even though the story started a little slow and on the light side, oh-my-gosh did it ever get ***ANGSTY!!!!*** There was this whole complex "situation" going on that kept me flipping pages like crazy!!!!!! And I loved that the story kept surprising me too!! **If you're looking for a romance with a swoony, sexy Alpha hero with a heart-breaking past and quite a unique storyline, then definitely try this book!!**

I'm actually going to share the blurb with you first to give you an idea for the story...

Be careful what you wish for...

Lt. Grayson Masters is focused on graduating the Apache helicopter course, and the last thing he needs is his gorgeous new roommate Samantha Fitzgerald distracting him. While her smart mouth and free spirit are irresistibly irritating, he can't deny their off-the-charts chemistry, no matter how hard he tries.

Having just been expelled from college, Sam has no business digging for Grayson's secrets while she's hiding her own, but that doesn't stop her from trying to tear down his walls. Each barrier she busts through drops one of her own, though, and she's not prepared for the truth: another woman laid claim to Grayson's heart long ago.

Falling in love is something neither Grayson nor Sam can afford, and when that line is crossed and secrets are exposed, they'll learn that sometimes it's the answered prayers that will put you through hell.

Sam and Grayson may have gotten off to a rocky start, but it brought a smile to my face, because you could easily feel the sexual tension between them. There were definitely sparks between them, that's for sure!

His lips quirked up at the corners. Almost a smile. "Right. I'm not going to say that I'm not insanely attracted to you. I don't lie. Ever. Plus, I'd have to be dead not to realize the way you affect me. But I'm not in any position to act on it, and let's be honest — you're not, either. But I think we can stop picking each other apart and be friends."

"Friends that are insanely attracted to each other?"

But I was so curious about this 'other girl' in his life. Who was she? What was their history? And more importantly, what was their current situation like? *I needed to know*. But then when it was revealed, my heart broke even more for Grayson. I mean, what a difficult and emotionally taxing situation to be in. Like really, what an amazingly *good* guy. The strength with which he handled everything just made me melt.

Don't ask me why but tortured Alpha heroes have always stolen my heart just a little bit more than any other kind of guy. More than bad boys or rock stars or any others you can think of. But if you throw in a tortured past, my heart just goes right out to them. The contrast between the pain and vulnerability in these strong, good, protective men never fails to tug at my heart strings.

I will say though out of honesty, that I found the first third of the book to be a little slow. Not bad at all because I *was* enjoying it from the start, but I actually did put it down at one point (maybe around 17%) for a bit because I was looking for something a bit more *intense* at the time. Well..... All I can say is that I'm SO glad I picked it back up because around the half way mark (or a little before), things start to get *angstyyyyyyyyy!! Ahhh!* This whole heart-wrenching "situation" was brimming with it!!

"She's this wrecking ball who tears down my defenses and makes me feel, forces me to live. My need for her is about the same as my need for oxygen."

Now here's the thing, I've been debating whether or not I should mention what exactly this "situation" is in the review because I mean, it's a wee bit of a spoiler for those of you who like to know nothing. But at the same time, before I started reading, I personally had wanted to know what it was (I just like to know these things, don't judge) and I couldn't find reference to it anywhere soooooo, for those of you who just like the comfort of knowing, you can click the spoiler below. Totally up to you.

(view spoiler)

I really loved the way the second half of the book was like this non-stop ride with surprising turns, intense feels, and just a lot of genuinely difficult things for everyone to work through... hard choices with a lot of people's feelings on the line. I was totally into the story and completely emotionally invested.

“You kick-started my heart and brought me to life the minute you opened your mouth and dished my own shit back at me. You gave me something to fight for, a reason to see beyond the shit hand fate had given me, and start imagining a future. And when I think about my life, you’re all I see. You’re it. You’re my miracle.”

Oh, now just to address the whole series/standalone thing. This book is a standalone within a series of standalones. There are crossover characters between the books but the author has really set them up in such a way that you can genuinely read any book completely alone. Technically, there are two other standalones before this one and, while they are very highly ratings and I've heard amazing things about both of them (readers love them!!!!), I also haven't read either one personally and I was 100% fine diving straight into this book. The couples from the two previous books do show up in this book but I was never confused by anything I read so the choice is totally yours whether you want to read all three books or just this one alone. Again, I was totally fine reading this alone, but if you want them all, I've listed them below.

All in all, this was a great read, especially for fans of military romance! It had everything I could want in it -- swoon, hotness, intense feels, strong angst, a tortured Alpha hero, a strong heroine, and a story with twists and turns, and characters I fell in love with. It's definitely a new favorite!

Rating: 4 -- 4.5 stars! Standalone contemporary romance

Standalone #1: FULL MEASURES

Standalone #2: EYES TURNED SKYWARD

Standalone #3: BEYOND WHAT IS GIVEN

For more of my reviews, book news and updates:

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Molly Lee says

Beauty in tragedy, Hope within despair, and among it all...Love.

There are moments when I'm absolutely certain this author can't push the depths of my emotions any further, and then...

She releases another novel.

The Flight & Glory series is one of my all time favorite compilation of books. I fell in love with Josh and Ember's strength in Full Measures, fanned myself over Jagger and Paisley's passion in Eyes Turned Skyward, and now I'm losing it over Sam and Grayson.

Yarros' characters are crafted with the upmost care and true attention to human nature. She breathes life into them with action and passion and brilliantly placed dynamics. It's as if this isn't a work of fiction, but merely a documentation of real people's lives occurring just outside our own homes. The raw emotions she pushes into them are what makes them tangible and the effortless companionship created between each character is what continues to bring readers back to the pages again and again.

And Sam and Grayson are no exception. With each new duo of perspectives a new bond is formed between reader and character, and it is truly a beautiful experience. Sam is a spark-plug, readers have known that since the first novel, Full Measures, but, Beyond What Is Given invites readers into her mind and what is found there is nothing short of admirable. She is fierce, but in a way that is unique to her two female counterparts (Ember & Paisley) She is a firecracker embodied in a beautiful woman still struggling against strenuous circumstances outside of her control and her actions throughout her struggle are what make her incredibly endearing.

?Grayson. Ah, Grayson, le sigh. He is true to the Flight & Glory fashion, not just an incredibly sexy male (though he is that) but much much more. He's a stoic figure who breaks only under the right person's touch. And that person is Sam. They are alike in so many ways--both dealt raw and heavy hands from life--and neither one of them takes it sitting down. They find stores of strength through knowing each other and they're dynamic is explosive. Grayson and Sam are like gasoline and a lit match, all consuming and hot as hell, and it's hard to look away for even a second.

Yarros compiles these amazing characters right alongside vivid and engaging plot. She effortlessly weaves together action, heat, depth, and mystery, constructing a plot so on point readers will feel as if they've lived it themselves. With cameos from beloved Flight & Glory characters and that special look into the military world only an expert can give you, BEYOND WHAT IS GIVEN is the perfect third installment, packed with fantastic, real, and completely swoon worthy characters, intense and heart-tugging circumstances, and fanning yourself passion.

It's a wonderful addition to the Flight & Glory series that gives fans a new couple to fall in love with.

AJ says

Such a beautiful story!

4.5 stars.

The third book in the *Flight & Glory* series, these books are focussed around a group of friends who are training to be military pilots. They feature strong characters and engaging stories with just the right amount of drama, lots of feels, some laughs, and fantastic (and sexy) romance. And this book, featuring Grayson and Samantha, certainly lived up to my expectations.

While this book is technically a standalone, it does tie in very closely with the previous books in the series. Grayson is roommates with Josh (book 1) and Jagger (book 2); and Samantha is best friends with Ember (from book 1), and as a good friend to Josh and Jagger, she moves in with the boys as their fourth roommate. It's very much Grayson and Samantha's story, and while you can easily follow it as a standalone, you'll probably get more out of it having read the other two books in the series first.

Samantha is new to town, having just moved from Colorado. She made a mistake which threw her life into disarray, and she is hoping to make a fresh start. But the hope she had of moving on is scrapped when her past follows her and she is kicked out of College before she even makes a start.

"I've crumbled my entire future, shredded any hope of finishing college, and killed off who I used to be. And I don't...I don't know how to come back from something like that."

Grayson is a strong and silent tormented hero... *swoon*. A little quiet and closed off perhaps, but absolutely focussed on his future and dedicated to his flight training. But privately, he is nursing a devastating secret from his past. He has been through hell, and hasn't been able to drag himself out of it yet, and for five years he has lived his life consumed with guilt and hopelessness.

From the moment Grayson and Sam meet, they are attracted to each other, but with neither of them in a position to start a relationship – or even a 'friends with benefits' situation – neither of them act on their feelings. But their connection to each other cannot be denied and they become good friends, and even though they are both guarding their pasts, they are there for each other, they have fun and laugh together, and their friendship cracks their shells and starts to bring them back to life.

"There are broken people in the world, Samantha. But you're not one of them. Dinged-up maybe, but not broken, and definitely not beyond repair."

She shone like the sun, fiery, a little temperamental, and she was burning away the darkness I'd lived in for so long.

The secrets of their pasts are hinted at, and I had guessed the actual story with both of them before they're revealed, but it doesn't take too long before they're ready to open up to each other. The secrets of their pasts are tied in with the reasons neither of them have made a move towards something 'more', and their situations are definitely complicated, but they soon reach a point where they can't hold back any longer.

“I’m going to tell you every bad, ugly think about me. You’re going to tell me every bad, ugly thing about you, and then we’ll decide what to do about this insane pull between us.”

I licked my bottom lip. “Oh, you think there’s a pull between us? I thought we were just friends.”

His gray eyes sliced through me, cutting me all the way to my soul. “Samantha, if we weren’t about to discuss our deepest secrets, I’d lay you across the table, strip those sexy little capris off your ass, and bury my tongue between your thighs. God knows I’ve thought about it enough. How’s that for friends. Really, it’s more of a force of nature, but I’ll settle for you admitting that there’s a pull.”

My mouth was suddenly dry. I was never going to look at this table the same way again.

“There’s a pull,” I admitted softly.

Holy hotness!!! Yes, Grayson has a surprising (but welcome) dirty side, but this is definitely a relationship based on emotion, and I love, love, love the way things progress between them. Completely open and honest with each other, the strength of the connection between them is beautifully explored and though it’s slow, it’s done really well with lots of sweet and funny moments, a nice amount of sexy time and of course lots and lots of heart.

“Samantha, take the chance. No matter what’s happening between us, whether we’re friends - or more – whatever we decide, I will be here for you. I will not abandon you, no matter what you’ve done, or what you do. If you can still trust me, take a chance on me, and I’ll prove it.”

...

“You’re the only girl I want.”

But then just when they are finding their happy, their world is pulled out from underneath them again, and OMG, the feeeeeeeels! It’s shocking and super emotional, and though I had predicted some of the events, I still read with my heart pounding as it all unfolded. It’s angsty reading – but the good kind of angst – and Grayson and Samantha definitely have a difficult journey ahead of them. Their relationship is put to the test, and individually they are forced to confront the demons of their past in order to find a way to move forward, and their journeys are amazing.

“She’s this wrecking ball who tears down my defences and makes me feel, forces me to live. My need for her is about the same as my need for oxygen.”

All that they go through (past and present) is a heartbreaking reading, but it’s so beautifully written, I loved watching it all play out.

“You kick-started my heart and brought me to life the minute you opened your mouth and dished my own shit back at me. You gave me something to fight for, a reason to see beyond the shit hand fate had given me, and start to imagine a future. And when I think about my life, you’re all I see. You’re it. You are my miracle.”

Rebecca Yarros has a real talent for this kind of story. She mixes romance, drama, angst, heartache and heavy emotion without it overwhelming the story or reaching a point where you get irritated or annoyed with the characters. Yes, they go through a lot, but they handle it honestly and realistically, and I could empathise with both Grayson and Samantha and all that they went through. The emotion drew me right into the story

and I felt everything, and I love when a book does that!

I really loved this book, and am definitely looking forward to more from the series.

4.5 stars.

Wendy says

Looks like I'm on a Rebecca Yarros streak right now and this book, like the others I have read by this author, didn't dissappoint !! The angst killed me a little, but what can I say...I love torturing myself a bit ;)

Samantha has left her life in Colorado, because of a major fuck-up and now she is trying to make a fresh start in Alabama. Her friends Josh and Jagger (book 1 /2) offered her a place to live, with them and another guy. She is also trying her hardest to get into another college, which is proving to be a bitch. But Sam is nothing if not determined and she isn't ready to give up.

Grayson is a bit of loner. He is friends with his roommates Josh and Jagger but their friendship doesn't go very deep, because Grayson doesn't give away much of himself. He puts all his time into his studying, because he really wants to graduate top of his flight class. He comes off as a bit cold. But Grayson is carrying some heavy secrets himself and maybe the right person will be able to tone his broody demeanor.

When Grayson and Sam meet, he is struck speacheless, because he was expecting Sam to be a guy. He also wasn't expecting the shimmer of lust going through his body, while looking at her. He knows he shouldn't go there, he knows the best thing would be to ignore his feelings, but neither of them can ignore the sparks that fly between them for long...

One by one, secrets get revealed and while Grayson and Sam fall deeper and deeper for each other....something unimaginable happens....My heart freaking broke !!

Sam was such a great heroine and yes she may have been fooled a bit in her past, but as far as I was concerned, she really didn't do anything wrong. She was so sweet and caring and funny and I felt like shit, right along with her.

This book also had one of the most hated characters in it, I think. Usually the sisters are the good ones and in this case there sure were some of them, but Grayson's sister Parker wasn't one of them. I wanted to smash her face in so bad !!

Grayson's father was also a major asshole !!! Thankfully Grayson had a mind of his own, and he isn't afraid of fighting for what he wants :)

"This is not a temporary thing between us. There is no deadline. I. Am. Always. Yours.So go ahead and fall. I've gotten really good at catching you".

This book put me through the wringer, but I loved every single second of it !! I can't wait to read more by this author. I am definitely on a winning streak here !!

This review has been posted on Dirty Books Obsession

Jenny••Steamy Reads Blog•• says

Beyond What is Given is a sweet, loving, emotional story. Grayson and Samantha's journey was not easy and yet so very frustrating at times, many times to be honest. But their story is also sexy, funny, hot, and has some sweet moments that melted and warmed my heart. I loved the storyline. The previous books in this series gave us a head start into loving Grayson. But throw Samantha into it and I fell in love with this couple. Their struggles brought out so many feels I couldn't help but fall in love with them both.

Samantha was a smart, sassy girl who made some mistakes in the past which left her vulnerable and looking for a fresh start. She wanted to prove her worth and prove she could do it on her own. I loved Samantha's strength and determination to get her life back on track, she wasn't going to let her fears ruin the rest of her life.

Grayson is such a deep character, I absolutely loved watching this quiet passionate man slowly bring down his walls to let Samantha in.

With Samantha he found the strength to open his heart and let himself feel again. He was finally able to start putting his past behind him and find the comfort and love with someone who deserved him, something he didn't think he would find or have again.

Grayson and Samantha had such a wonderful deep connection, from the first moment they met you could feel the attraction between them. I loved watching them become friends then finally giving into the passion that was consuming them.

?lleskelle - teamSøren? ?I like big b00ks? says

??????3 STARS??????

“One mistake doesn’t define your life”

Samantha Fitzgerald is running away from a mistake that cost her everything, respect from people, her place at school. A mistake so heavy that she can’t apply to any university without getting rejected. Still, she tries her luck in Alabama, where her friends offer her a place to stay.

Grayson Masters is a loner in a golden boy package. He seems dedicated to achieve his pilot training, never indulging in partying or social activities a man his age should be, he doesn’t date either. He’s a bit of mystery.

Grayson wasn’t expecting the new roommate, Sam, to be a girl. Definitely not a girl that has his blood running. Full intent to stay focused on his goal to be top of his Apache Helicopter training class and whatever secrets are waiting for him at home, Grayson is trying is damnedest to ignore the pull he’s feeling toward Samantha.

“She makes me feel like I’m flying my helicopter. Free. Like I’m standing on the edge of something I can barely control, and it could be the most amazing ride of my life, or I could burn one into the ground.”

I really enjoyed the tension between Grayson and Samantha as they tried to know each other, trying to maintain a friendship despite their mutual attraction. The pull however was so strong, inevitable and I enjoyed every minute of it. I loved witnessing the brooding and secret Grayson opening up to Sam like he never did with his own friends. The evolution of their relationship going from friends to lovers effortless, but a slow burn nonetheless.

Secrets on both sides eventually will come to taint their yearning feelings, Grayson having scars he’s not ready to share. But opening up to someone for the first time, he’s soon confronted to his new reality, something that could probably cost him everything he’s building with Sam.

As much as I enjoy some angst in my books, the subject involved here, and the way it was stretched with Grayson’s little sister meddling, was a bit too much for me.

I couldn’t accept that people from his own family kept adding guiltiness and weight to his shoulders.

Overall I enjoyed the book, mostly the friendship to romance part and secondary characters but I was annoyed with Grayson’s sister—Parker. She was the designated bad guy of the book, wielding more drama than necessary.

Arc offered in exchange for an honest review

More reviews and book talk at :

You can find me here too 

Michelle says

Beyond What is Given is the third in the Flight & Glory Series, but can be read as a standalone. Having not

read the first two in the series, I can say that the author did an amazing job not spoiling the major plot points of the first two books, I feel like I can go into both stories without anything being ruined. And believe me, after reading this, I am so going to have to go back and read the first two books.

BWIG is the story of Grayson and Sam, one is a closed off and the other is trying to run from the past, both marred by past mistakes. Sam has left Colorado after being expelled from college for a fresh start, moving into a house filled with three guys, two of which are coupled with her friends... the third, well that's where it becomes complicated.

Grayson has lived a shell of a life for the last five years. Splitting his life between Alabama where he lives and struggles to be the best in his training and back home in the Outer Banks of NC, where a part of him has been frozen in time. No one knows his past or really anything about him, but once Sam gets under his skin, all of that begins to change. For the first time since his world stopped spinning, he's knocked off his axis and it's all Sam's fault.

Sam is in a downward spiral, something that Grayson knows all too well. He knows he can't fix his mistakes, or change his own fate, but he knows he can help Sam from falling into the same darkness. The only problem is that he finds himself unable not to fall for her in the process.

There is a lot of secrecy to both Sam & Grayson's past that need to be discovered for yourself. I can say without a doubt that Grayson's past is horribly sad and tragic. My heart not only broke for him, but for what Sam had to endure while standing by his side.

Parker.... Grayson's sister. I hate her. Even towards the end of the book I did not feel anything for her but pure hatred. So selfish. Even worse after everything is fully revealed.

I loved this story. Sam was this spitfire of a heroine that although a bit stubborn, I get where she was coming from for the most part. She was trying to be selfless and do the right thing and Grayson had a lot of closure he needed to find before he could prove to her where he stood.

There was no way not to love these two characters. Grayson, although he hid the most tragic and damaged parts of himself, was so honest. I loved that he said what he felt, even when it made him cringe. They had the best chemistry, the early moments were spectacular to watch unfold and then when they got past the bulk of the hurdles, and we got to experience them in all their glory.

I can't wait to go back to the start to discover the two prior love stories that I missed.
