



Read the Flower: The Beautiful Beginning

Alexandra Lanc

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Twenty-year-old Lorine's life is about to change forever, and she doesn't even know it.

Weighted down by the death of her father, her overbearing mother, and the sadness of her little brother, Lorine has less than high hopes for her family's trip to France. But all of that changes when she is invited to visit the illustrious Chateau du Jumeaux – a premiere nightclub that only the most privileged attend. Lorine jumps at the chance to do something for herself, but gets more than she bargained for when she discovers the terrible truth: the chateau isn't a nightclub at all, but a feeding ground for perhaps the most ruthless of beings, the creatures known as vampires.

Read the Flower: The Beautiful Beginning Details

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Author : Alexandra Lanc

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From Reader Review Read the Flower: The Beautiful Beginning for online ebook

Destiny says

I absolutely enjoyed this book, despite the chills it gave me. Alexandra Lanc really draws you into the mind of the main character and you can almost share her pain and agony as her life becomes a fate worse than death. I love the characters and I am excited to get to know them a little more in the next few parts; I just hope they come out soon!

Wendy T says

A very good Young Adult novella. I like the mystery this book had and the cliff hanger ending is making me anxiousness to read part two.

Jackie Lane says

I've loved the Clara Claus books so far. What a departure from her usual genre. I'm excited to read this book when it is released.

Having finally read this YA Novella, I must say I was intrigued. I think Alexandra's writing is fabulous and the story unfolded seamlessly. I love the idea of fan participation and I think that is what sold me on 5 stars vs. 4.5. It is sometimes difficult to review/judge something that is written that is short, but there was so much content in the Novella, you actually could bond with the characters.

I am anxiously awaiting the next part of this book to see what happens between Honore and Lorine. How the changes that are happening to Lorine will affect her going forward and what will become of the two of them. I am still waiting to figure out the twins angle and will be waiting for the next installment.

Hopefully we will find out more about Josh, Lorine's mother and Rick.

Alexandra, thanks for making your dreams a brilliant reading reality.

Karin says

A very gripping YA story. I'm anxiously awaiting Part 2 of this book.

Samantha says

Imagine you are 20 years old, on the brink of starting college, and about to spend spring break in France. Sounds great? Maybe not after you throw in an emotionally abusive mother, uncaring step-father, oh and don't forget the vampires you never expected to exist.

I just received a free ebook version of this breathtaking novella a few hours ago in exchange for reviews, and while I meant to merely read a few pages tonight, I could not put my ereader down and read the whole novella. The main character, Lorine, is the perfect balance of a female lead: not whiny or weak that you hope some other character will distract you from her nor so independent that you think they will snatch the author's pen away from them, but a normal girl who has moments of both strength and weakness. Lorine is someone people can relate to and understand. The secondary characters of her brother, mother, and step-father are clear and believable. They are a family with issues that are better than some, but definitely worse than others. The mother specifically I felt was shown very well through her dialogue and movements. Onto plot, it was fast paced and gripping. I felt I was in France with her, and when Honore spun her through the nightclub, I felt I was living the fairy tale with her. And, when the fairytale ended, my heart beat just as fast as hers did in uncertainty and shock.

As the first of a series of novellas, this was a great beginning. I had never heard of reader's participation publishing before, but I am definitely a huge fan now. So far, it's a great idea and brilliantly executed. When all the novellas are out and they become a book, if they continue successfully as I eagerly hope they do, I would say the author should even consider making a series of the book and doing the novellas for each. Either way, 5 stars to this great beginning.

Crystal says

I think it was alright for a beginning. I didn't like how the sentences seemed to run on and on. Some instances the author could have made a very long sentence into two. Looking forward to the second part.

Danielle (Dannie) says

This was a great short story! I really like the idea of the fan participation part ... That was something new for me! Lorine's vacation becomes something she never imagined it would become. The characters and the plot were really well done, especially for a short story. It was definitely a very interesting book to read. I look forward to reading the next books in this series.

DISCLAIMER: This book was gifted to me by the author (through the Goodreads) website in exchange for an honest review. The opinions expressed here are my own, and no money or other compensation was provided for this review.

Natshane says

Is it just another vampire story?

In this short novella, Alexandra has managed to remind me of why Vampires are being crowned as the fearful creatures of the night, bloodsucking has never seem so intimidating!

This is a story of a holiday gone awry for a young teenage girl who is just embarking on her life's journey. Lorine was just starting college when she went on a holiday trip to France with her family to fulfill her

mother's dream of rekindling their relationship before she move away. Neither Lorine nor her family knew that the mysteriously alluring stranger that they met in a cafe will be the one who destroys them.

Alexandra has painted a fine detail of a wonderful Paris Setting and that was what awed me. Having never been to France, I can at least imagine myself there! I do appreciate the effort that Alexandra put into describing the settings, and most of all I do love her appreciation towards art!

Now delving back into the main story. Lisez la Fleur captured my interest because it comes in a whole package! If you are looking for horror, you've got to have a taste of French Vampires who does not deny their own nature. If you are looking for romance, perhaps there's a possibility! And if you are looking for family dramas, there is something going on between Loraine and her mother. Another aspect that I love about the novella is how Alexandra has captured the sibling ties between Loraine and her younger brother, Josh. You fall in love with them instantly!

A great short read and highly recommended!

Reviewed by,
Natasha Anne
Dreamland Teen Fantasy

Bruna says

Loved this! This first part got me hooked, I love the way that the author is letting us pick what happens and the writing in this is amazing. I can't wait for the next part of this!

Laura says

3.5 stars

Looking forwards to seeing what happens next in this series.

Joselyn Moreno Burke says

Wao, super like it and higly reccomend it if you likes vampires and loves a little twist of terror

it having me gasping for more and couldn't put it down for long

the story will charm you and trap you in a form you will love it and want even more of it

Lyn (Readinghearts) says

This is the first book that I have read by Alexandra Lanc, and I am impressed. I have never seen an author put out a book in small sections and ask for reader input to the next section. It is both a fun experience and a frustrating one. Fun because the story was really enjoyable, frustrating because I have to wait until July for the next part. All in all, though, I thought the author did a good job of introducing us to the main characters and the story line. I also liked the fact that she found a natural break in the story to end this section, leaving the reader both satisfied and wanting more at the same time.

Hurry up July!

Nickcole says

Stars: 4

Overall: I really enjoyed reading this book. It was quick and the story was really intriguing at times. My only cons is that it wasn't long enough and the mother was a complete bitch, but i'm guessing there is a reason for everything. The last 2 chapters are also what really drew me into book. It was like i was reading about the same type of vampire , just in a whole new way. I really can't wait to read the next part and find out what happens to Lorine. Hopefully she starts sticking up for herself and becomes a semi bad ass. =)

Characters: Lorine & Honore

Page Turner: Yes ; I didn't put it down

Series Cont: Yes

Recommend: I HIGHLY recommend this book.

Emma says

A young woman, almost ready to head off to college, is going on one last family vacation before she leaves. She's got a very cute little brother, a frustrating mom, and a boring step-dad. Her biggest dream is to become a painter and get custody of her brother and give him all the love and affection he deserves that he isn't getting from their parents. Sounds like quite the long shot, and she knows it.

While hanging out in France, she meets an attractive man who is almost too attractive. He's captivating and keeps staring her down. When he invites her to a nightclub that is located inside a castle, how can she refuse?

Yeah, it's about vampires. But it was first written right after Author Lanc read Stoker's Dracula, so I rather enjoyed them. The main character, Lorine, isn't that fascinating to me but she isn't terrible. I had trouble relating to her, I guess. Her brother is definitely cute. Her mom is well written, and her step-dad has no personality whatsoever, though that might have been intentional. The vampire is great (view spoiler) And I'm in love with the castle. Let's just say there's an unexpected twist to it that, had I spoken French, I may have predicted.

This story does something that I haven't seen before in a work that costs money. It's being released in parts and the readers get to help tell the story. Read the book, then go to her website and vote on a poll about something that will happen in the next part. The next part is being released in July, supposedly with the

readers' wishes in mind.

At the end, the author explains that the reader-help was inspired by fanfiction. As in, it's like the readers are writing fanfiction because we get to say what will happen. It's also kind of like reading fanfiction, since it comes out in chunks and we have to wait months to get the next installation, but anyway.

I have to admit that I was intrigued by the poll at the end of the book. I looked forward to it, and, well, I was disappointed. I wanted something big like, "Should Lorine live or die?" I won't say what the question was, but it wasn't anything like that.

Ultimately, fascinating story and any other parts that I read will not be counted additionally towards my goal of reading 55 books this year.

3/5 GR stars.

Review originally posted on my blog.

Jacquelyn Smith says

4.5 Stars

I was on an emotional heat wave with this story, sad, mad and by the end out right scared.

Lorine's life was sad and pathetic, after her father died.
Her mother remarried and her little brother Josh became a problem.

While on vacation to Paris, Lorine's world turns into a living nightmare, one that will make you sleep with the lights on!!!

I can't wait for book two great read!!!
