



## Envious

*Katie Keller-Nieman*

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## **Envious** Katie Keller-Nieman

Is friendship worth protecting when your best friend is with your soul mate?

I am not like everyone else. I have dreams, visions of past lives, that haunt even my waking hours. My past lives are filled with danger, deceit, and fleeting moments of love. And they are beginning to rule every moment of my present one. Since meeting Eric, they have only grown stronger. They are telling me something I cannot ignore: that he and I belong together.

I know it sounds crazy, but I can't help believing these visions are real. There must be a reason for them. But what does it mean when they show me horrible things? What does it mean when they tell me not to trust my best friend?

I may not have much, not the greatest family or many friends, but I do have a best friend whom everyone adores. Aurora is kind, pretty, and popular, and we have been inseparable since childhood. Since she began dating Eric, though, things have changed between us. Aurora doesn't deserve Eric, or my friendship.

But what if I'm wrong? What if I'm crazy? Is believing the impossible a sign that I am losing my mind, or could ignoring these visions be dangerous?

## **Envious Details**

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Author : Katie Keller-Nieman

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## From Reader Review Envious for online ebook

### Caitlin says

Evil cliffhanger. Just evil ;-)

This book was a pleasant surprise! I enjoyed this book from start to finish. I have to admit, the beginning was confusing. But the story unravels itself nicely, and I soon understood what was going on.

The one qualm that I had with this story was with with Aurora and Cassandra's "friendship." They were supposedly best friends since childhood, yet they never hung out or even really talked to each other, even before poop hit the fan. I think it would have added to the turmoil and the suspense if a picture of friendship had been painted before things went south.

I loved the story line between Todd and Cassandra. That, to me, was the best part of the book. Their love/hate relationship that we can all relate to in families. (However, I have never had fights with my relatives that were quite that extreme ;-)) I loved to hate Todd. I would love him one minute, and hate him the next. His relationship with Cassandra is actually the part of book two I am looking forward to the most.

Cassandra also is very obviously sick. I hated to see her struggling with her eating disorder throughout this book, and I hope the story ends with her having gotten some help. That was such a small part of the story as a whole, but something I hope is touched on for those reason and struggling with the same.

The author writes beautifully and with amazing detail. The story had me biting my nails and wondering what the next page held.

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### Laura says

Thank you to the author, Katie Keller-Nieman, for gifting me with a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review!

Reading this book... it was like slowly watching someone go insane. At the beginning, the main character, Sandy, was, for the most part, sane. Her previous lives were getting to her through and her emotions were VERY extreme. Like very extreme. I was almost uncomfortable reading and living her emotions because they were that crazy. And taking into account all her dreams that she believes are past lives, I can imagine the stress. The author did a very good job of portraying her accurately.

The concept of past lives was also fascinating. In school, we just finished studying Hinduism so it was interesting to see reincarnation in a book. It's never confirmed in the book whether or not it's true that she did live past lives but that was actually a nice change.

I don't know... this book was just so different. The insanity part keeps tugging at my mind while I'm writing this and won't let me go. I've always wondered what it's like inside the mind of an insane person. This book gave me quite the glimpse.

As for the main character's best friend... well. I mean, how were they even lifelong friends? Aurora was clearly controlling her every move and Sandy realized it but didn't really do anything about it other than get upset and start going crazy. I guess it goes to show how completely insanity can take over your life. Her

mind just couldn't handle the stress.

Which leads me to the ending! HOW CAN YOU LEAVE IT LIKE THAT? Like WHAT THE HECK? The ending accomplished what it set out to - I cannot stop thinking about what happens to her. If you're reading this book and considering quitting, just read until the end... it's crazy.

The Final Verdict:

This book is so perplexing and consuming! Sandy's story fascinates me and I honestly can't stop thinking about it. Sometimes she did get on my nerves and I had to set down the book for a few hours. The flow between the chapters also caught me off guard.

4 stars

Quotes:

"Sandy, when are you going to grow up? You're eighteen years old."

"You've made that brutally obvious these past few weeks. You're not perfect. No one expects you to be. But that doesn't mean that you can't be a good person anyway."

"I don't care if it's normal!" I yelled through dry tears. I spoke harshly, hoping my words would penetrate his thick skull, 'I know it's real.'"

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## **Gisele Siegmund says**

### **captivating**

I liked the premise of past lives and present. Things are not what they seem, and one can't help but hope for the best. The only thing I wasn't crazy about was the all of a sudden outburst from Todd, other than that I look forward to the sequel.

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## **Wanda says**

### **Rattling**

This book will keep you wondering throughout its entirety. Cassandra keeping having dreams of her past lives.

This book goes from past to present several times.

At first I thought about deleting it, but The further I read the more I had to read.

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## **Adrienne says**

I won this book from Goodreads.

I went into this book not knowing what to expect. Cassandra keeps having flashbacks of her past life. Her and Eric are just MADE for each other, but Auroa keeps getting in the way.

I have never, in my life, come across a book that is a fictional version of my life. There were too many eerie similarities between me and this book. I knew a girl that was envious of me in middle/high school. She stole the guys I liked. Who also shared the names of the characters in this book! I mean, it is freaky.

This book jumps between present day and they year 1205, or some other past date. The visions Cassandra has unlocks certain truths about Cassandra's present life. I really enjoyed the raw emotions in the book. Cassandra seems a little off balanced, but that is why I can relate to her. I was once that paranoid, and naive girl too.

I felt the ending kind of just left me hanging. I also felt some parts of the book were out of place. However, I still enjoyed what I read. Even though a few chapters did not seem to fit in with the story.

I am glad I won this book on a whim. The writing is excellent and at some points humorous.

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### **Kathryn Packer says**

WOW! What an emotional rollercoaster! I loved the darker element and chaotic feel! The story of Sandy and Eric being reincarnated throughout time and injecting Aurora as the inbetween bestfriend was genius! I loved how different and complex it was. Not to mention that ending! Wow! I am still reeling! It is not eased in it is a bandaid ripped off quick and fast and then slapped around. A very different kind of read that is so worth taking the risk on! I can't wait to see what happens next!

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### **Kelly Smith Reviews says**

Every so often, you come across a book whose story is so enveloping that you look up from reading to see that hours have passed without your knowledge.

Envious, by Katie Keller-Neiman, is that book.

Sandy is a college student who is in love with her childhood best friend's boyfriend, Eric. Doesn't sound so engrossing, I know. But this is no story of simple schoolgirl crushes and jealousies.

Aurora is the perfect college belle. Why she wants to be friends with plain Sandy, no one knows. But when Sandy meets Aurora's boyfriend Eric for the first time, things become at once more clear and cloudy.

Visions of their past lives now haunt Sandy, and she realizes why Eric seems so enthralled with Aurora. It's a story of a love and deep envy that goes back to the year 1205. It's what could kill Sandy...again.

This is a book with vivid narration, a relatable and deep heroine and a great cast of secondary characters. Every person is important: from Sandy's drug-addicted cousin, Todd, to Eric's roommate, Tony.

Aside from the mystical elements of reincarnation and magic, this is a psychological novel. Sandy is paranoid, shy, scared and can't recall when the last time she ate was.

You will feel for her and root for her.

All in all, this is a love story, a story about standing up for yourself and fighting for what you want. It's something anyone over the age of 16 should read.

5/5--excellent!

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### **Maureen says**

In reading the book, it was hard to get into the book but kept reading and it end up being a great book and a great finished and looks like there maybe a book 2 in the future.

With the story line of Todd and Cassandra was good also. Their love/hate relationship that we can all relate to in families. (However, I have never had fights with my relatives that were quite that extreme ;-)) I loved to hate Todd. I would love him one minute, and hate him the next. His relationship with Cassandra is actually the part of book two I am looking forward to the most.

Cassandra also is very obviously sick. I hated to see her struggling with her eating disorder throughout this book, and I hope the story ends with her having gotten some help. That was such a small part of the story as a whole, but something I hope is touched on for those reason and struggling with the same.

Over all great book and read as an honest review , the book was given free for the review. Will read another book by the author also.

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### **Christopher says**

I won this book from goodreads.

To be honest I thought the book had a difficult start (in my opinion), before it took off. It defiantly has a unique premise as a whole, even though I wished it focused more on the memories/visions over the romance but as they the book progresses they combine very well.

Cassandra, Aurora and Eric are the books main characters and are linked though some past event (which is found near the end of the book). The two girls both have feelings for Eric, but only aurora is dating him. Aurora has this strange hold on Eric. Even though if Eric is away from aurora, he is himself. Eventually Cassandra realizes this and tries to get Eric over Aurora.

The book can best be summed up in two word, those are love triangle.

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### **Angelina Kerner says**

Book Title: Envious

Book Author: Katie Keller-Nieman

Source: I was given a free electronic copy of this book by the author, in accordance with the terms of For Love of a Book's Advance Reader Opportunity Program.

Rating: 3 stars

This is a novel about a young girl in college who at first thought that she was crazy. I mean what type of a teen girl wouldn't, after having day dreams and dreams or visions of what seems to be past lives? As the story goes deeper into Cassandra's psyche and she comes close to real bad encounters, we realize that no, she's not crazy, but in fact she did live all those lives. The ending which is a cliffhanger proved it.

The story is well written and I find that Katie chose a perfect name for her character- Cassandra. When Cassandra finally tells someone about her visions, she's not believed, just like Cassandra of Troy. People did not believe her prophesies and I'm thinking that maybe, just maybe, Cassandra of Troy was an inspiration for the author when it came to her own Cassandra. If, not, well now she can say that she was the inspiration. ;)

It takes a while to get into the story and it helps that it's well written. It took a while to realize that she didn't start showing from their first life but from the life before the present. I still don't know Aurora's motivation for the reason behind what she did. It couldn't be just jealousy and if it was just jealousy... having them be reborn again and again to only be made her 'dogs' were not really in her favor unless she really did love him. However, she didn't know that Cassandra would be in the mix... so that's confusing. Book 2 should reveal the motivations behind Aurora. Also, it was funny how Aurora was the evil girl. Usually, Aurora (name) is good for characters so it was a nice little twist.

This book is recommended for readers who like soulmates, challenges, past lives, magic, and romance. Also, readers should be okay with reading about alcohol and drug consumption, violence, and sex.

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## **Maryann Breedlove says**

The story will twist and turn you Like vines around a tree.. you're not sure which tendril will take you next.

WOW, and WOW again! Great novel from a new young writer with a stunning imagination, Katie Keller-Nieman.

Although the story is set around a college and college age people I did not have that "oh so young adult feeling". Mrs. Keller-Nieman produced a work which will grab and hold (sometimes breathlessly) adults regardless of age.

I detest reviews with spoilers so I present to you my review without them (I Hope):

Sandy (aka Cassandra, Cassie and Sandra) has quite a problem on her hands. It seems she is in love with Eric, her best friends, Aurora, boyfriend.

Sandy is struggling with her perception of herself while walking in the shadow of Aurora's beautiful blond voluptuousness. Granted, Sandy has issues.. she has visions and dreams of past lives where the 3 of them are always entangled, she has painful headaches, trust issues which cause crazy mood swings and she can't seem to eat without getting sick. In fact, Sandy seems to be a bad tempered, envious, young woman full of a angst and self doubt while Aurora is the bright, bubbly, confident best friend. Or is she?

Eric, well now Eric is the typical college guy.. except when he is around Aurora. Eric is sure he loves Aurora... hmm at least he thinks he's sure. Aurora makes him a better man... he needs her, doesn't he?

As the novel evolves the reader drifts along with the story while the under currents shift the flow. When I say drifts I do not mean the story drags.. I mean it gradually dawns on the reader things may not be as they seem. This novel twists around the characters and situations like vines creeping around a tree. The author has a clean, smooth and uncomplicated style which keeps the pages turning and the fervor building and building amplifying the tension tighter and tighter... until...

ahhh.. this is a must read yourself type of novel..

\*Note\* I did not realize when I read this novel it is NOT a stand alone. I slid over the edge of the cliff, feet dangling holding on for dear life; I am saved by a soon to be released sequel..

MaryAnn Breedlove from the Kindle Book Review.

“The Kindle Book Review received a free copy of this book for an independent, fair, and honest review. We are not associated with the author or Amazon.”

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## **Dianne says**

Edgy, emotionally volatile and chaotic. Katie Keller-Nieman's **ENVIOUS** is not an easy read, but it is both intriguing and unique. Prepare to spend a few hours with your nerves on edge as we live within Sandy's mind, a not completely likable character who appears to be on the edge of her sanity at times.

Sandy is in love with her best friend's boyfriend, a young man she "knows" has been her soulmate throughout time, as her visions tell her, again and again. There is also one person standing in their way to what Sandy believes to be their destiny, Aurora, her best friend in her current incarnation.

Her bitter jealousy rages within and often boils over in her outward actions or temperament. Is she the only one who knows what was meant to be throughout the centuries? How can Eric be so blind to both her feelings and what she perceives as Aurora's treachery? Is Aurora truly evil or has she been cast that way in Sandy's mind as time again she feels manipulated by her "best friend?"

Katie Keller-Nieman's tale is dark, brittle and will require a strong constitution to get through at times as Sandy's life doesn't so much as unfold, as it seems to be torn like meat from a bone. Only great writing can cause such emotional turmoil in readers or raise so many questions that could have a multitude of answers. My head is still reeling from that ending!

Series: Envious - Book 1

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Available from: Amazon

For Reviews, Giveaways, Fabulous Book News: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

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## **Dr. Cole Marie Mckinnon says**

I found this book to be a page-turner from the outset. I could relate to the story because I have had a best friend for fifty years, since we were babes. We actually experienced to a lesser degree what Keller-Nieman's characters experienced. I found the story to be clear, cogent and realistic.

I highly recommend this book and look forward to reading the next one.

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### **Megan says**

Overall, I really enjoyed this book. But to be honest, the first five chapters were torture. Also, the prologue was mostly pointless. I was confused why it was giving so much backstory about her cousin when he doesn't matter for a while and the relevant parts are covered again anyway. The main character starts out so whiny and pathetic, seeing her life as complete crap because her best friend's better. It was obnoxious, but then you get a glimpse of the real plot, and my interest was instantly piqued. I love how the story would flash to the past, and the transition was good. The cliffhanger at the end was frustrating, but that's to be expected. Guess I'll just have to get the sequel.

I was a First Read winner, and I would like to apologize to Katie Keller-Nieman for the serious delay in my review. My newborn son didn't give me as much time to read as I had delusionally hoped for. Also, thank you for the bookmark!

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### **Dacia says**

I won this book from goodreads, I found myself wanting to read this book every night before bed. I also found that I didn't want it to end once I was finished, would love to read the continuation. I was left with so many questions!! What happened between Eric and Cassandra? How does Todd's story end? Does Mike and Aurora get what is coming to them? Why does Cassandra have a problem eating? I want to know more!!

I love how the story flips to the past lives that Cassandra believes she has lived and it wasn't boring like other books I have read flipping back and forth.

Great Book and Wonderful story line.

Thank you for the book!

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