



Gateway To Heaven

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Life is rough when you're gorgeous, rich, talented and so sexy the media won't leave you alone.

It was certainly the truth in Christian Lasher's case. He returns to the neighborhood of his childhood to escape the spotlight, hungering for a change in his creative endeavors. In the midst of his soul searching he meets Megan and is captured by the tantalizing hint of her hidden fires. Megan knows nothing about his wild, rebellious youth or his career as a rock star?and Christian would prefer to keep it that way.

There was much, much more to her than the role of a fragile victim.

Megan Shreve is a sculptor with creative depths and passions that tragedy had forced into the shadows. When she looks into Christian's eyes she sees herself for the first time as an exciting, sexy woman. She longs to discover more of herself in Christian's arms and in his bed.

Two passionate souls destined for one another?unless the stifling roles imposed by tragedy and fame rip them apart.

Gateway To Heaven Details

Date : Published May 1st 2008 by Whiskey Creek Press LLC

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Author : Beth Kery

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Genre : Contemporary, Romance, Contemporary Romance, Adult Fiction, Erotica, Music

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From Reader Review Gateway To Heaven for online ebook

Kim says

Free book at amazon! Wonderful read.

Sophia says

I chose this book because I thought the blurb sounded good and I was not disappointed.

Megan is the full time art teacher at the St. Pat's parish school in her home neighborhood near Chicago. She is a woman who carries on almost a shadow existence due to her past and everyone treats her as fragile and unapproachable to men because of being a childhood rape victim. Christian is one of the St. Pat's kids who grew up and became a famous rockstar. He comes home for the charity block concert every year with his band. This year, Christian has some big decisions to make about his music career so he has also come home to think. Then the day he is visiting Father Gregory on his tour of the school, he sees a beautiful woman with a student. It's the same woman that has caught his eye when he met her near his building and in the park where she was playing with her little girl. He felt instant attraction and now he meets her. Megan is equally taken by the tall handsome alumni that Father Gregory is showing around, but then is interrupted in the process of meeting him when her brother in law arrives to drop off her niece. Suddenly, the man stiffens up and behaves funny even though he helps her with her niece and the bag when she walks home. She discovers that he lives in her building. He comes into her apartment and in the process of talking discovers that she is just babysitting. Her niece is taken with Christian and on the spur of the moment he decides to accompany them to American Girl.

From there, their relationship begins to blossom. That is until Megan's sister interferes with snide accusations about Christian and drives a wedge between them. Megan had no idea that Christian is a famous musician/singer and he is terrified to hurt her when he finds out about her past. Can the attraction of seeming opposites and their past be an insurmountable obstacle?

The plot was that of a sweet, tender romance that was packed with passion. I loved seeing them work through things even if I felt the tension each time something new came up threatening to separate them. The pace is nice and though steady did not drag for me.

The characters were wonderful to get to know. I loved Christian and Megan. There was so much to them. There was such a difference between the warm, openness of his family and the closed almost dead feeling of her family. I wanted to smack Megan's older sister Hilary upside the head on a few occasions even though she meant well.

It was a good read that I can recommend.

Jane Stewart says

Weak 3 stars. Emotional and sexy, but not much plot. It's shorter than a typical novel.

STORY BRIEF:

Christian is a lead singer rock star. He wants a quieter life and to create a different type of music. It's lust and maybe love at first sight when he sees Megan. He ardently pursues her.

Megan lives a quiet life as a sculpture artist and teacher. Everyone walks on eggshells around her because she was sexually abused when she was three-years-old. She loves what Christian makes her feel - love, lust, passion.

OPINION:

This is sensual and almost entirely about their relationship. No other plot. So, the misunderstandings between them are the plot. There are several of these. For example: one person makes an inaccurate assumption and walks away, or walks away without explaining so the other person thinks the wrong thing. Some of this was ok, but one really bothered me (in spoiler).

(view spoiler)

The story is their back and forth until they finally get together at the end and know they love each other. This was nice if that's your mood.

The sex scenes were worthy of the genre.

There were a handful of errors that a spell checker would not find, for example "ever" should be "never," "hair" should be "her hair."

DATA:

Narrative mode: 3rd person. Kindle count length: 3,201 (369 KB) 228 pages. Swearing language: strong including religious swear words, but rarely used. Sexual language: mild. Number of sex scenes: 4. Setting: current day Chicago, Illinois. Copyright: 2011. Genre: contemporary romance, rock star hero.

Christine says

Did not really like this one. The switch in POVs happened too quickly for me to be able to connect. The story was there, but the execution was poor. What annoyed me was the heroine and her discussion of her breasts. There is some internal obsession with breasts in this story.

This did not work for me.

Crista says

This book was a nice surprise. It was a kindle freebie, but amazingly it was so good that I would definitely recommend it, (even if you have to pay for it)!

What is it about rocker heroes? There is just something about bands that intrigue me. Christian is the lead singer for the band *Lasher Down*. He has lived the high life as a celebrity, but he longs for "more" in his life. The band goes back to his home town to perform in a fundraising event and Christian meets Megan who also

grew up in the same town as Christian.

The sparks fly immediately when these two are introduced. Their romance begins immediately, but both come from troubled pasts which prove to be initial barriers to their HEA. I loved this short read. It had surprising depth for it's shorter length, and you come to really care for these characters.

A short, satisfying read that I highly recommend.

Jacqueline says

It was okay. Nice enough story. But I didn't really get sucked totally in. Some opportunities for angst were missed. I'm not a psychologist but I wonder if she would realistically have had more reaction to her childhood trauma than was portrayed here. Also a bit unrealistic that she could have gone so long without figuring out who he was if he was so famous. Some crazed fan would surely have come up for an autograph etc. Pleasant read though all in all.

Mitzi says

I thoroughly enjoyed this short story. Beth Kery's books IMO are so much more than your typical 'hot sexy book'. She draws you into the minds of her characters and as a result, the reader is able to 'feel' what the characters are experiencing....be it doubts, fear, or excitement. In this short story, Megan is an older virgin, a sculptor and works part time for her neighborhood church. She has had a traumatic experience that has led to her being treated special/sheltered by her family/parish. Christian is a rock star that has come home to perform a benefit concert for the same church he also attended growing up. They meet....Instant Attraction....Yet they are so different Or Are They?

Janet says

I can't believe this book was free. If the object of free is to entice me to try more books by Beth Kery, then it succeeded.

Very well done: the self-questioning rock musician and elusive art teacher. I want to use adjectives like innocent, virginal, naive -- she is all that -- but the reasoning behind her lifestyle is poignantly believable and her emotional and sexual unfolding is very well done.

Why 4 stars? I thought her mother could have been developed further. And the ending was a little rainbows and unicorns. In terms of labeling, to me this is not erotica, the heat doesn't rise to that level, but it is very hawt. Maybe it's my conditioning from the books I read but there wasn't a condom in sight and that seemed odd.

Kristen says

Solid 3 stars

For the most part I enjoyed reading *Gateway to Heaven*. The plot was fresh and interesting. There were times, however, I had difficulty connecting with the hero and heroine during the story. For whatever reason, they weren't able to make me a true believer in their romance. That said, I think most people will enjoy this story.

Katie(babs) says

Beth Kery's *Gateway to Heaven* was free on Kindle (now \$2.99), and since I've enjoyed Beth's books in the past, it was a given I would grab this one. Also, there are just not enough rock star romances and I've been dying to read a few. We need more rockstar hero romances, STAT! I also liked the idea that the supposed bad boy rock star isn't as "bad" as the reader is first led to believe. The hero, Christian Lasher, who has an awesome sounding name, has deep roots in the town he grew up in and where his family still lives. Megan, the heroine, is everything sweet and innocent, but Beth writes a major emotional twist to give Megan more dimension. Something very horrible happened to Megan when she was a toddler. Regardless of this shocking event, Megan has a great outlook on life. Her sunny disposition is what draws Christian to her.

Christian keeps his identity a secret at first from Megan because he's afraid his reputation will turn her off. Megan's mother and sister are very protective of her and think Christian will hurt Megan because it's a given he'll want to have sex with her. Megan is a virgin and it makes sense why regarding the horrible trauma she went through as a child. Megan wants to take a chance with Christian and finally engage in intimacies with a man like having sex because she knows deep down Christian's a good person who can give her what she needs. Christian also has some issues, but nothing too angsty. The reader will stay engaged as these two will come together and heal one another and hopefully have a wonderful future of laughter and love.

Gateway to Heaven is a lovely romance that has a nice balance when it comes to the sensuality factor between Christian and Megan. Because Megan is a virgin, Christian handles her with extreme care although he wants to consume her with his passion he's barely keeping in check. There's also a slight spirituality factor regarding one's faith and religion that gives the story more dimension. When Megan and Christian finally make love, it's very tender and equally hot. This was a very enjoyable read and one fans of contemporary romance will enjoy.

Emily says

Rock Star Christian Lasher spends a month every year returning home seeking solace and relaxation. This year is no different but much needed, then he meets Megan Shreve who is the exact opposite of him but exudes a sense of calm that he has never felt before. Wanting to be a part of her tranquility he pursues the tender Megan, what he doesn't know that inside her is a rippling tide of mixed emotions and a past that has

kept her from ever experiencing any intimacy.

Megan doesn't remember what happened to her, but she has spent a life of everyone walking on eggshells around her waiting for her to break. Until Christian walked into her life, she hadn't quite realized that she could have something more. Outside influences though are straining the fragile string between them and it will take courage on both of their parts to make it work.

I thought this was hauntingly beautiful. Christian often blows up without many words, he watches and spends most time in his own head waiting like a tiger on the prowl but Megan has him befuddled and tied in knots. Megan is drawn to Christian because he makes her feel alive, but communicating that to him is difficult and often she draws at other issues to hide what she is really feeling. I thought this was a raw read but so worth it. Like frosting and cake these two belong together, without one you are left missing something.

Dianna says

Megan lives in the neighbourhood she grew up in in Chicago, where she has a job running an art program for kids, and is also a sculptor. Christian shows up one day because his famous band is going to perform for a church fundraiser. Christian owns the penthouse apartment upstairs from Megan, and they totally hit it off.

Megan has Something Terrible in her childhood, and is trying to escape being treated like porcelain. There's an interesting exploration of how Something Terrible has repercussions for the people who love you, and how that rebounds on you, and how impossible and difficult it can make some relationships. That was the good part of the book and I could have gone for more of that.

Not so great was whatever was going on with Christian. He wasn't exactly a tortured rock star but he had his own problems, and seemed to spend most of the book unsure what he actually wanted to do with Megan. Or tell her, since 'actually, I'm a famous rock star' doesn't come up in conversation between them. And it's not like famous rock stars would be introverted about it, or anxious to preserve their secret identities on account of being super hero vigilantes after dark. In fact, Christian could have been an accountant with fundamentally the same relationship trauma, and it wouldn't have made much difference. Sure, an accountant isn't going to have Paparazzi Bitterness, but everything else would work.

Megan's story is too interesting and wins. Christian does win points for being caring and supportive when he learns about Megan's background. This book is fine, but not great.

Kelly says

I've read several of Beth Kery's books in the past and I really enjoyed both her writing style and her characters (RAWR! to sexy alpha males!) BUT I'm not a big fan of non-paranormal contemporary storylines. So, I went into this one with one eye on the door in case I needed to make a quick escape. Oh, guys. OH, GUYS! This book was outstanding. Christian and Megan's story was lovely and sweet and sad and I'm so, so glad I decided to step outside my werewolf-infested comfort zone and give them a try.

Megan has been shaped by a horrible tragedy that she really doesn't remember. It's defined her and made everyone treat her with kid gloves. Christian, on the other hand, doesn't know about her past. He simply sees someone he desires. To the chagrin of everyone around Megan, he goes after her and for the first time Megan sees that she doesn't have to be chained down by something that happened years and years ago. Of course, things don't go entirely smoothly for the two of them. When Megan finds out that Christian is a rock superstar, she has to deal with her insecurities and the way the media paints him.

A wonderfully written story, Beth Kery has given us characters with depth and heart. I can't tell you how excited I am to play in her world.

-Kelly @ Reading the Paranormal

C Joy says

This reminded me of "Wicked Burn", where the hero has a literary background. While the hero there is a playwright, Christian Lasher is a rock star, with depth to his lyrics and has a brain to match his charm.

I noticed Ms Kery's writing style is somewhat similar to the above mentioned novel, where she withholds a mystery about a certain character until the love interest finds out from other people. In this case, both the hero and heroine have secrets that spilled somewhere along the way. The author doesn't make too much drama of it, though.

Megan Shreve is a conservative schoolteacher with a past that makes most people treat her as if she were fragile. Behind that facade is a woman who longed to be desired, someone who burns, and is actually a strong person.

Christian Lasher wanted a breather and decided to go to his childhood town in Chicago and perform for his alma mater. Though he went to school with Megan, they didn't cross paths.

It's only now that they met that they felt the spark, and they live in the same condominium. Though this wasn't as heavy as "Wicked Burn" (that's my only point of reference since this is only the 2nd novel I've read from this author), I liked it in its simplicity. It's not a full-length novel and whatever questions the reader may have, all of them are answered along the way.

I hated how Megan's family smothered her personal growth, and I loved how Christian influenced her to have a normal life, and not let the past define her being. There were a lot of sensual touches, but only two major love scenes here. I don't want to go into the details, suffice it to say I'll still read this author's works.

Diana says

Loved it. More brainy, angst rock star heroes please. I've been sampling erotica and haven't been impressed until this one. Kery at least in this story gets the balance right between erotica and romance. Off to glom Beth Kery.

