



## **Darkness Before Dawn**

*Sharon M. Draper*

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He's a "lemon drop wrapped in licorice": tall, dark, handsome, and as smooth as his silk shirts and leather jacket. He can discuss everything from art to world events, he's traveled the world, and he owns a Jeep, a condo, and a jazz CD collection. But best of all, twenty-three-year-old Jonathan Hathaway, the new track coach and the principal's son, has his golden eyes set on Keisha Montgomery. In her senior year of high school, still recovering from the suicide of her ex-boyfriend, Keisha's thrilled to have someone treat her like a woman rather than a girl. As Jonathan tells her, she's a butterfly ready to try her wings -- much too mature for high school boys, whose only deep thoughts are words from rap songs. Jonathan makes her feel alive again; he seems like the answer to all her dreams and the cure to all her nightmares.

Gifts wrapped with silver ribbons begin to mysteriously appear on her doorstep, and Keisha is swept off her feet. But events take a terrifying turn, and suddenly darkness overwhelms her life.... As Keisha struggles to put her world back in perspective, she learns the power and the danger of silence, and discovers the secret gifts that had been waiting for her all along.

## **Darkness Before Dawn Details**

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Author : Sharon M. Draper

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## From Reader Review Darkness Before Dawn for online ebook

### Trevor says

This book was about a girl named kisha. She was dating Andy who killed himself because he was super depressed. She had to live on and remember those thoughts which made her sad and she never wanted to date anyone again. But later on she met a guy name Jonathan Hathaway he was the perfect man had everything she ever wanted. Come to find out he was a rapist who tried to lure young girls in to his apartment which he did to Kisha. She cut his face and got away with luck but that just made it worse for her. Later on she was depressed about the Jonathan thing and didnt go back to school for 2 weeks she was so imbarresed about it. Although she was sad she went back to school and lived on with he life to finish off highscool and go back with her friends. In the end she became a speaker in the Graduation and left the bad memories behind her to life a happy life.

I choose this book bacause it was the last one in the series and i wanted to finish it up.

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### Mz. says

Another heavy issue...I'm surprised the Dad kept his composure the way he did.

Keisha pissed me off, but I got the allure, I'm happy that she had a different outcome, but I wish she would of truly did something about it...

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### Jesseca Evans says

After reading all three of the books, I felt like I'd known the characters forever and it's heartbreaking that there's no more. I am so sad that the story is over...

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### Shelby H says

this book is about a girl named keisha and how is is doing after her ex boyfriend andy's and andy's best friends death, keisha senior year and everthing is going good for her she has a lot of friends, she is looking at college and she is talking to a guy named jonathan hathaway but not ever thang is right with him.

i like how it pull's you in and won't let you go

if you like books on love, family and friend then you will like this book

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### Megan says

Darkness before Dawn  
Sharon M. Draper

276 Pages 1230 Avenue of Americas New York, NY 10020  
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Imagine your boyfriend and you are fighting over the fact that he still is stilling mourning over his dead best friend. You understand his pain, but you are tired of him not giving you the attention you desire. You storm out crying--breaking up with him. Then everything else is a blur.

Keisha Montgomery, a senior, thought that everything would be better after the funeral of her boyfriend, Andy's best friend, Robbie. She knows that Andy has been through a lot and she encourages him to join the School Show. Andy accepts and proceeds. During the show, Andy did an inappropriate strip – don't worry his pants were still on but that made Keisha flip. She stormed out breaking up with him.

In Darkness before Dawn, Keisha-still upset at Andy-discovers something over the phone with her best friend, Rhonda; that her ex-boyfriend was suicidal. Keisha cries and cries, frightened if all of her beloveds were going to disappear like Andy and Robbie. While she takes care of Andy's younger brother, Monty, she meets her new track coach, a twenty three year old, Jonathan Hathaway, the principal son. Would Keisha be able to fall back in love with the tall handsome coach?

Extraordinary and capturing, this book showed me, how unfortunate people's lives can be. Lucky, Keisha was a strong woman who fought for her rights and her dignity. This realistic fiction novel, symbolizes the brave women that survived these horrible incidents. Not saying it's a good thing, but those incidents help those unfortunates to grow and show the fortunate of the lives of girls all over the country.

Draper's style of writing imprisoned me with her sorrowful words. She creates a journal in my head;containing the feelings of Keisha's words burn. Every Page, every word, shows her steps in recovering after being sexually abused. Reading her emotions makes me, want to bring Andy back to protect her. But what's the fun in that?

Just like the title, Darkness before Dawn, the darkness devours the light; her bright future gets demolished by her darkness past. Can Keisha's light overshadow her dark past or will her dawn-future- die just like her beloved Andy and Robbie?Either way, Keisha, grows or her life would never be the same again.

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**Debi Kolbi says**

This book is one of the book that takes place in hazelwood high #3. The antagonist of this book keisha. she used to be andy's girl friend on hazelwood #1. she was so angry after his death.

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### **Karissa Kennedy says**

This book is a really great teenage book. It follows after the book Tears of a Tiger, but the main character is now Keisha Montgomery. This book follows her life and her new situations. In Tears of a Tiger, her boyfriend Andy kills himself after drunk driving and killing his bestfriend. In this book is shows Keisha trying to recover from Andy's death, which is hard for her even with support from family and friends. While taking her mind off of things she joins the track team where the coach and pricipal's son, Johnathon Hardaway, starts to see Keisha. Her parents do not want her to date him but she continues to see him. Everyone tries to warn Keisha about what kind of guy he is, but still she does not care. So finally one night, on a date between the two, he takes her to his apartment and tries to have sex with her. Keisha does not want to and Johnathon gets mad and tries to kill her. She tries to run away and calls her parents from a phone who came from a person she ran in to. She tries to apoligize to her parents and now feels so ashamed where she refuses to go to school anymore. Her friends try to comfort her and tells her he does not work there anymore. Thankfully she returns to school and continues on to graduate. This book is very touching and is very emotional. I would definetly recommend this book!

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### **Stephani says**

this book really went even more deeper into teen's feelings on death , well in this case two deaths in 1 year , this book connects to the book "tears of a tiger " if you had read my other review on that book you would have seen the grief these kids had to go through , but in this book andy had took his own life , and his ex-girlfriend which they had broken up a few days before , really had to feel more pain then andy did when his friend robert had died , she didn't know what to think robert was her friend also and now andy had taken his life , because everything was going wrong in his life , he couldn't cope with any of that. in this book it really goes into , different feelings with one person , her as a girlfriend , best-friend and was almost like a big sister to Andy's little brother which had found him dead , Andy's girlfriend felt as if she had to be strong for everybody , because nobody knew how to react she mostly felt like she had to be strong for his little brother , because his little brother really didn't understand , in the mix of all that Keisha lost herself , didn't really speak to anybody and when somebody did or when she spoke to someone she just broke down , she was to busy holding up for others she didn't really look at her feelings and how bad she really was hurting , Keisha really did love him . this book dives really deep into the hearts of teen girlfriends , ex-girlfriends , feelings and hearts and how they really don't seem really there , for example Keisha comes back to her senses but really doesn't believe it , she more denying his death , and she loses herself all over again and finds comfort with her a coach , this is anyway this book expresses ways on her girls find comfort with someone that really doesn't understand what the whole thing. her friends remind her that there's no reason to run away from the problems and that there all dealing with the same thing . this book i redmond if anybody wants to tear a bit and understand what these teen girlfriends have to deal with when a lost comes across .

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### **Fatima Omar says**

I really liked this book. The fact that Keisha thought Johnathan was a good guy then he completely changes

up on her. Johnathan is a psychopath and its a good thing that he has been sentenced to jail for 30 years. Keisha thought that the flowers and necklace was from Johnathan when it really wasn't. i like how Leon never brought it up even they were from him. the crush he has on her is so adorable. When Jalani was new and they brought her into there little circle shows what great friends they are. I was completely shocked to find out that Rita was almost raped by Johnathan also.It was normal they was she isolated herself from everyone after what happened.Edna,the old woman that found her when she ran away from Johnathan,was very special to Keisha. This book is really interesting to read and so are the other books by this author. Keisha graduated as class president,shes going to college, and Johnathan is serving time in prison. Perfect way to end the book.

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### **Anna Francesca says**

If the other books in the Hazelwood High series had the vibe of Law & Order for Teens, this book is the Lifetime Movie of the Week edition. It is predictable and melodramatic. I'd only suggest it if a reader became ultra-attached to the characters in the first two books and wanted to know what became of them. Otherwise, one would do better to imagine their futures than to spend time reading them here.

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### **Brian says**

A girl named Keisha is on the track team, and her new coach is a young twenty three year old man named John Hathaway who is the principal's son. This was after the death of Keisha's ex-boyfriend. Keisha is attracted to John because of how he makes her feel, he makes her feel like an adult and not a little girl. So they're relationship started getting more intense and Keisha thinks he's the perfect boy for her until something happened one night. John invites her to hr house to have "dinner", and when she walks in she fell more in love with him. He had scented candles set up all around the house and she loved it. So they were sitting on the couch and then they started kissing, and it got more intense and Keisha didn't like where the situation was headed. She had to stop him and tell him she's not ready for it. So John got angry and when she felt like there was something wrong she headed towards the door, and right before she could even escape he slammed the door back shut so she couldn't leave. Right then he attacked him and Keisha fought back. Finally, after all the fussing she cuts his face with a neck.

I think this book is good for anybody who likes to read about drama and likes suspense. This is a very capturing book and it can keep you busy reading when you're bored. This could also let people know that when there is an obstacle in your life you should try your best to forget and live life the best you can. The way Keisha overcomes her fear of what happened and to go back to school, it was very brave of her

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### **Elida says**

Elida Almaraz

Title:Darkness before dawn

Author:Sharon M. Draper

Darkness Before Dawn by Sharon M. Draper is a about a girl named Keisha who's sad after the loss of her boyfriend Andy. Keisha can't get over the fact that Andy committed suicide. It is her senior year and she's

hoping for a better start. However it isn't until she meets the principal's 23 year old son when things start changing.

I liked this book I feel like I can make a text to world connection because there has been cases in which girls fall for a teacher and don't usually say something about it. I feel that Keisha was able to handle the situation right. Keisha started falling for her teacher but once she saw that he wanted to take advantage of her she was able to get out of that situation.

What I liked about the book was that Keisha always had people that had her back when she needed it. What surprised me was that Keisha wasn't the only victim but there were other girls that had gone through the same thing.

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### **Shakia Washington says**

I love how realistic this book is. The author made their conversations seem so natural. Not every word is spelled correctly. But that's natural it was spelled how people say it in real life. I think that the author had a very creative way to discuss a serious matter. She did a good job showing young folks about false images and love. The only thing I didn't like is that the book wasn't longer because I was so interested, other than that I loved everything about this book. I recommend this book for anyone who enjoys a real mystery. Even if you don't like mystery or suspense I guarantee you will fall in love with all the characters in this story. You will feel as if you're standing with the characters as the story unfolds.

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### **Bre says**

I remember when I was in junior high and would always see this book in the library but I avoided it to get other books lol. Now that I'm 23, I've finally ordered it and read it. I really didn't know how to feel about this story. The reason I say this is because I felt like the author was tackling wayyy too many issues at once when it should've been more about Keisha's storyline. I don't know if I would've enjoyed this book when I was a student in school. Keisha was too gullible when it came to Jonathan and the narration was sort of cheesy. I can't really see myself reading this book again since I'm in my adult years (I still love ya fiction) but it would be good for teenage girls who are trying to date and to learn about these men who are too good to be true.

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### **Heather says**

Great book about teenage issues.

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