



## **Finding Strength**

*Shevawn Michelle*

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“Just one more thing before I go, know that I am proud of you. I’ll be waiting in the wings when our time to reunite comes.”

Life is full of surprises. Sometimes those surprises are wonderful and sometimes they are horrific. Raising her beautiful daughter, Lindsey, on her own with the unending support of her best friend and her husband, Anna was happy.

Until one night...she wasn't.

Tragedy struck, tipping Anna's world into a downward spiral of despair. Her world turns dark and bleak and she sinks further into depression. Her friends try to pull her from her pit of misery, but it's Jacob Caulder that saves her, bringing her back into the light.

Life is good again, although memories still haunt her. The one missing link to her existence is no longer there, but Jacob helps her along the way, giving her back something she's lost.

They say we are never given more than we can overcome.

Once again, life rips Anna's world apart, leaving behind shattered remains. Guilt and shame plague her and it seems impossible for her to crawl out of the deep hole she finds herself in once more. But she has no choice. There is someone else that needs her to be strong.

At the darkest time of her life, Zak walks in and becomes the savior that she needs. Finding her strength, she overcomes the heartbreak of her past and learns to blossom again.

Will life find another way to bring Anna to her knees and keep her there once and for all? Or has fate deemed she's given up enough already?

## **Finding Strength Details**

Date :

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## **From Reader Review Finding Strength for online ebook**

### **A.C. Wilson says**

How can one person stare into the face of death and dance with grief so many times in one lifetime? There's more to this story than death and loss, of course. There's a thin thread of steel left when your world is torn away. Underneath there is a final understanding of love, life's purpose, and the true things left at the end. Take a chance on this story and definitely get your tissue box.

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### **Itsy Bitsy Book Bits says**

Ugliest. Cry. EVER.

It all begins in Chapter 1 when the main character Anna experiences a tragic loss. However, on the same day she meets Jacob, who becomes her rock and helps her find the strength to carry on and live.

“Live for her, Anna. Live for you.” His gaze turns pleading, his eyes burning into mine, searching my soul. “Live for me.”

Jacob, along with Anna’s best friends Amy and Shane, pick up the pieces that is Anna’s broken heart. Anna finds love with Jacob and the two have baby Braxton. As Anna begins what seems like her happily ever after, a second tragedy strikes. Once again Anna must find the strength to carry on and live.

Shevawn Michelle takes the reader on an emotional trip making this book hard to read through the tears.

There is no where to hide, no way to escape the torture that feels like a thousand knives ripping me apart. I do the only thing I can, I close my eyes and hold on to my little man while the tears flow freely from my eyes.”

This story is written as if Anna is remembering her life but at the same time you get the feeling that Anna is waiting for the final tragedy.

It’s in these final moments, I realize just how important every single thing that every happens to you, good or bad, is in your life. We are all on a path, we all have choices. Those choices eventually lead us to the place we are intended to be, no matter how much we fight it, or try to deny it. We can try and change our course, but in the end, we still end up exactly where we are meant to be.”

Shevawn Michelle gives us hope throughout this story. Encouraging everyone to dig deep in themselves and find the strength to live.

“If there is one thing I have learned, I know this for sure now, life goes on, whether you want it to or not. There’s no stopping the hands of time and there are no do overs. There are other lyrics memories that you carry with you and the rest is up to you.”

I struggled with just how stars to give this book. 1 star? Just because I cried and cried. My heart broke for Anna. But really that’s no reason for only 1 star. I didn’t hate this book just my own tears. 5 stars for exactly the same reasoning, my feelings. Thank you Shevawn Michelle for an emotional, heart breaking, inspiring story.

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### **Leanna says**

Wow just WOW I really loved this book. It had me crying right away from the beginning and many more times until the end. So grab some tissues and dive on in. With so many sweet moments of love and courage I truly felt for the main girl Anna. I'm so impressed by her continuous strength and perseverance and found myself rooting for her to finally catch a break. Although I can't even imagine the deep amount of pain she had to endure thanks to this author and her amazing details, I really did feel Anna's pain and sadness. For example, after suffering a loss, Anna says "Every breath was a little less resistant to find its way to my lungs" and that quote really got me. This is exactly what grief feels like.

Anna suffers a very painful loss and is immediately deeply depressed and barely surviving. Lucky for her she has the best friends anyone could ask for. They feel and see her daily pain and lend her so much support it is beautiful and heartwarming. Just as she is seeming stronger and much less depressed life decides to again throw her a curve ball once again crushing her spirits. Will Anna be able to stay strong and keep moving forward? Can her amazing friends and family be her rock once again; will that be enough to pull her out of the dark place in her mind?

This is the second book I've read by this author and I'm hooked on her writing style. She writes smoothly, sweetly, and uses the perfect amount of details. She writes books that are full of deep emotions causing us readers to feel deeply and often. To me this is a sign of an excellent writer.

I received an arc of this book for free in exchange for an honest review.

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### **Lexi says**

Wow...the feels. What a great emotional ride Finding Strength was. From start to finish, this book had me glued to my Kindle.

After a tragic accident, Anna must find the strength to overcome and grow from her experience.

This was a very unique story and I loved that about it. Yes, it is a love story, but it is so much more. You get to be there though all the emotions of Anna trying to move on. You are right there alongside her and her friends through this time.

I don't want to write too much, because it is so hard to not give away anything. I will say that this is a book that everyone should read. The struggles and strength this book show is amazing.

Thank you Shevawn for writing such an amazing book!

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### **Gloria says**

I was given an ARC in exchange for an honest review. I can't even tell you what this book did to me. It was heartbreakingly beautiful. This book was well written and the storyline is powerful and so so moving. I promise I'll never look at life the same way again. If I took one thing away from this book it's never take anything for granted and live life to the fullest. I promise once you open this book you will find the same motivation to love and always always tell those around me how much they mean to you .... 1 other tip have plenty of tissues, you will need them

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## **Monica says**

Finding Strength indeed!

A story of heartache...

The narrator captured every emotion.

You have to find the strength to endure and move on. Very inspiring story.

Your light will shine!

I was voluntarily provided this review copy audiobook at no charge by the author, publisher and/or narrator.

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## **Sweetpea says**

Aptly named, Finding Strength is a story of heartache, loss and moving on. I was immediately drawn in to Anna's very emotional and gut-wrenching story. The narration was beautifully performed and really made the story come alive.

I loved Finding Strength and it shows us just how resilient the human spirit is. I would highly recommend this but make sure that you have plenty of tissues on hand.

I was voluntarily provided this review copy audiobook at no charge by the author, publisher and/or narrator. This review is my honest opinion.

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## **Shevawn Michelle says**

My life has never been easy, per se. Sure, I have had some happy times, but more times than not, it seems life was out to get me. To take me down paths no one should ever have to face. From the time I was twenty-nine, life took a turn for the worse and all I wanted was to get off of the ride. I have gone from being on the highest mountain, to being in the deepest, darkest abyss. A place I wish on no one.

If there is one thing I have learned, it's that life isn't always fair. It's what we choose to do with the hand that we have been dealt. How we learn to overcome or not, to move forward or to stay behind. One thing I know for sure, we must learn to overcome, survive, and to live and love. We must find our inner strength and grab onto it, no matter what form it comes in.

But I have also learned, that even then, sometimes it's just not enough. And no one knows that better than I do. My name is Anna, and this is my story.

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## **Maari says**

This is one of the most difficult reviews I have ever done.. & I am still not sure what to say.. It has been a bit since I finished this book & just idk.. You best have tissues!! and not just a few or even a half of a box, you will need a fresh supply, because Ms. Michelle holds onto you and keeps you in touch with your emotional side & does not let you go until the long after the last sentence.. If you love ugly cry reads, then this one is definitely for you!!

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## **Shannon says**

Finding Strength is my first ever 5 star read! My heart hurts with both sadness and love. This story really is ...such an inspiration! Anna is beyond any character I have ever read about. Her strength and love for her friend-made family is the kind of love everyone should strive for. Thank you Shevawn Michelle!

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## **B. Benfield says**

This book is WONDERFUL. Grab your tissues! This book took me on an emotional roller coaster, but it is truly inspiring. The author did a wonderful job of detailing the emotions and the entire story in general. As I was reading, I could picture the characters and what was going on in that exact moment. This book will really make you look at your life and realize that no one is promised tomorrow, and you need to live every day like it's your last.

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## **T.M. Payne says**

Book: Finding Strength (Finding Strength)  
Author: Shevawn Michelle  
Publication Date: 3/8/2016  
Reviewed by: Tammy Payne-Book Nook Nuts  
My Rating: 4 Stars

New to me author.

Let me start with the good:

This book literally had me in tears by the end. I honestly it is one long emotional roller coaster but so enjoyable to read. Anna goes through hell then sees some light only to be pulled right back into the dark. She thank goodness has the love of family and friends. This book's title says it all. Finding Strength.

The not so good:

The book has serious I won't say editing as many editors don't both to proof a book. This book however needs a great proofreader to give the author all the missing words that are abundant in the book. I truly wanted to give this book 5 stars as just the story-line itself deserves that but there are so many errors I feel I honestly cannot. But this 4 star is a strong 4 star. As I would still highly recommend this book for those who

want a true tug on your heart, make you ugly cry book.

I purchased this book from Amazon.

Finding Strength

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### **Angela Cruz says**

This is a contemporary romance with tragedy. This is a stand alone, but I would love to know what happens next for Braxton, he has been through so much. This is a book full of emotions, have a tissue box ready. I recommend this for mature readers, there is sexual content but it is not graphic. Is there a limit to the anguish one's heart can handle? I would guess it would all depend on the person. The author captures the rawness of grief so well that at some points of the story I even felt Anna's pain. She described it in a way for those whom have never experienced grief could understand. I know the pain and was still mesmerized by the accurate descriptions.

Even though death takes from us, the world does not stop turning, life continues. Anna knows this all too well. Life is hard at times and all she can do is to try. Anna has a great support system that she pulls most of her strength from. But there comes a point when she has to stand alone. Is she ready... yes, but she will stumble along the way. Grief doesn't discriminate, it chooses blindly. All Anna can do is choose to move forward, not allow her grief to completely consume her. Memories need to be made, bonds need to be strengthened, we are never promised tomorrow, so Anna lives for today.

favorite passages.

"We must find our inner strength and grab onto it, no matter what form it comes from."

"My soul turned black with pain and has left me with nothing but a huge gaping hole."<3

"The warmth from his hand, as if searching for a way to my heart."

"Anna, you look breathtaking," Shane says, Amy nods her head in agreement to the point she looks like one of those bobble head dolls."

"It's only because you are my center of gravity."

"I know they will take care of each other, but I am human, and I am selfish." <3

"I scream to the heavens why until my voice is completely gone." <3

"Then again you can't really break something that was already broken."<3

"I'll be waiting in the wings when our time to reunite comes."<3

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### **Michelle (Michelle's Book Ends) Shealy says**

"You have been the joy of my life, and you have brought me so much happiness. I wanted to leave you with something that will always remind you of me. When you think you are forgetting me, read the words on the pages. When you feel alone, you'll find me within the bindings. I'll always be with you, wherever you go in life, I'll be there....."

Anna is about to face the hardest thing that is ever going to happen to her. There is no way to make it ok and she's never going to be the same. This book had me crying just a few pages in. After a tragic accident Anna has the love and support of people who try to help her live again. The thing is can she find a way to live again? She asked herself the same questions a mother in this position asks. What could I have done differently? As if it will change the outcome. This story is about finding her way through the maze and the wake of destruction. It's not all tears and grief. There is a love story and a story about life and happiness mingled in. It's about life, sweet and funny and sad. Its about where you get your strength from and is not always in the places you expect.

You will dive right into Anna's life with her friends Amy and Shane. Jacob is set to become a new love from the moment she meets him.. You just fall into the story right away. The author captured the reality of tragedy very strongly. A very emotional story. Well worth reading. If you know what it's like to love and to have lost it's a comfort to have this story surround you. It is also a bridge to understanding someone you perhaps know that has been through this. There are times you want to reach into this book and give Anna a hug. This book shows what a real friend is like. We should all be so lucky to have an Amy in our lives. This book is about what its like to be a mother, a wife, a friend, a sister. Its about what happens when we lose the very things that give us a reason to live.

This isn't just a story about losing something. It's the story of survival and how to go on. For some of us that is everything. The story goes back and forth over time and how Anna came to be where she is now. Wonderful look at how people affected her life. Even though it was heart wrenching I loved this story. Well written. Extremely well versed as to the pain in this reality. Kind of like you know the truth when you read it. The story flowed and stopped and started again. The way life does. Well written characters that you will keep in your heart and remember. It will give new meaning to you about where your strength comes from during the hard times. During life.

I may have used a lot of personal statements here rather than story line detail. I don't want to give it away because I want you to buy this book and read it. What its going to offer you is going to be more than any words I can put here. Writing this review was a bit harder than usual for me. Such an emotional story. I probably crossed the line from a professional review into a more personal review because honestly this book is that. Personal.

Thank you to Shevawn Michelle for the ARC and for touching me in a way that most writers only hope that they can.

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### **Renes Getaway says**

This is one of the most emotional stories that I have read in a very long time. 10 stars and about the same in boxes of tissues. Full review coming soon.

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