



The Vampire's True Love Trials

Kristen Painter

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Welcome to Nocturne Falls, the town that celebrates Halloween 365 days a year. The tourists think it's all a show: the vampires, the werewolves, the witches, the occasional gargoyle flying through the sky. But the supernaturals in town know better.

Living in Nocturne Falls means being yourself. Fangs, fur, and all.

Vampire Sebastian Ellingham wants one thing: to marry Tessa Blythe, the Valkyrie he's fallen madly in love with. So meeting her parents seems like the natural thing to do. He's even looking forward to it, until he discovers they've already found her a husband. Now the only way to keep Tessa in his life is to complete a series of tests meant for a very different kind of supernatural. And failing means losing her forever.

The Vampire's True Love Trials Details

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From Reader Review The Vampire's True Love Trials for online ebook

Laura says

Sebastian and Tessa are ready to get married and move on with their life together. The only problem is that Tessa's parents picked out a husband for her. They agree to let Sebastian attempt as many trials as the other guy completed and if he succeeds then he gets to marry Tessa. If not she will have to marry the other guy and if she doesn't she'll be ostracized and stripped of her sword.

I really did not like Tessa's parents. Ok you picked someone else for your daughter but then you meet the guy she is with...that she loves...and he obviously loves her back....and on top of that is filthy rich and you still insist he has to win her. I just couldn't get past them.

Angie Hackett says

I bought this a while ago and for some bizarre reason I had completely forgotten about it.

It was well written and interesting. I thoroughly enjoyed this short piece. It follows Sebastian and Tessa, picking up from where their original book left off.

Sebastian finally meets Tessa's parents and, as tradition dictates as part of Tessa's Valkyrie heritage, he must complete a set of trials to win her hand in marriage.

I love the series of Nocturne Falls as a whole and I especially love these little glimpses into established characters from that series. I love the direction the series is taking. The scene setting is perfect and the author has set up an immersive, and believable world within the books.

Jo says

I really enjoyed this opportunity to hear more about Tessa and Sebastian's relationship. I particularly love them as a couple because of who they are and what they love in each other. They had both figured they'd be alone for many reasons, but those particular characteristics are the ones they view differently from others and love about each other. (Such as how many saw Sebastian as boring and anti-social, but Tessa found his intelligence stimulating and something she could relate to.) They both looked past the surface and got to know the other as a person and found they were actually quite similar and extremely compatible.

In this story, Tessa gets a reminder that she wasn't the only one who thought she'd be alone forever when her parents promise her hand to a man who isn't desirable, but the best they thought she'd get. In order to save both their relationship and Tessa from a couple of awful fates, Sebastian finds himself facing traditional tests that suitors must complete to gain a valkyrie's hand in marriage. As those suitors expected to be berserkers, the tests are designed specifically for them, not vampires. However unfair, Sebastian is willing to pass whatever tests necessary to get Tessa's parents' blessing. It is only through the love that they each have for one another that ultimately gains the blessing. While for most of the story I found Tessa's parents

(particularly her father) to be unnecessarily unyielding, her father's explanation of the tests and what he and Tessa's mother were looking for wasn't so arbitrary after all. The story features a HEA ending with no cliffhanger.

Amyiw says

I would DNF this but it is only 55 pages. I would tell my parents "bye, bye" and never see them again. Tell my dad that these stupid outdated challenges have nothing to do with love and family. "Tradition" wow, and "women are as strong as men", so one test is fighting a woman, yet we can give you away as your father. You as a daughter have no choice and we will take away your sword. Wow, fuck them and fuck them good! Now that they prove themselves, fuck them forever and tell them fuck you. Unluckily this book/series doesn't have cursing or sex. But I pretty much hated this story other than the town of Nocturne Falls which was only in the beginning of this book. I hate her father, I hate her father and I think she should too. This is a horrid, horrible man. I hated this book and I hated her for allowing it. I would kill them first, just take her sword and kill them rather than accept their crap. Sorry never see them again! This forced marriage and forced impossible task, well she left Valkyries behind before and she should leave them again. Also her sister telling the parents and not her that she did, and then the engagement that wasn't good enough. Man bad, this was bad, except the ending with Delaney and the new baby, which is not really part of this story.

One very small, very rusty star. So happy it was short, the only good thing about this story.

Sharon says

All I ever want to read nowadays are comfort reads. *sighhhh*

Finals Week= Reading this: Romance. Comfort. Fluff. *double sighhhh* This was just the perfect cozy read.

Judy Lewis says

ANOTHER FABULOUS FUN-FILLED ROMP FROM THE NOCTURNE FALLS SERIES !!!

Title: The Vampire's True Love Trials

Series: A Nocturne Falls Short

Designation: Book 5.5 of Series, Novelette(55 pages), Can Be Read As Standalone, NO Cliffhanger
(Originally published Oct 31, 2016 as part of the multi-author Taming the Vampire Collection)

Author: Kristen Painter

Reading Platform: Kindle Edition

My Rating: FIVE DIVINELY ENTERTAINING STARS*****

I read this story when it was originally published as part of the multi-author Taming The Vampire collection and absolutely loved it. I've been a Kristen Painter fan for several years and literally devour everything she writes but her Nocturne Falls Series is one of my all-time favorites. All the releases in this collection, novels as well as shorts, can be enjoyed as standalones but to enrich your experience, I highly recommend reading all the books of the series in chronological order. The series features a large diverse cast of supernaturals as

well as humans but each book primarily features one couple finding love. Many of the characters have recurring roles and even crossover into Painter's Jayne Frost series so I'm sure you can see the benefit of reading the books in order. The Nocturne Falls series is a paranormal romance based on all manner of supernatural beings who live and work among humans in a town aptly named Nocturne Falls where it's Halloween every day of the year. And they celebrate it big time since it's the town's main source of income. How could you not love it with names like The Scream Shop, Hallowed Bean, Howlers, The Poison Apple, Illusions, Insomnia, Ever After, Mummy's Diner and The Black Rose D & B (*snicker* a Dead and Breakfast rather than a Bed and Breakfast *giggle*), and that's only a few of the establishments in this wonderful town Painter has created for us. This woman's talent and imagination are just off the charts! She's bloody brilliant! And did I mention it's located in Georgia. Oh yes, and I live in Georgia which makes me love it even more, not that I need another reason because there are plenty of reasons to love this book solely on its own merit. The story is exceptionally well crafted, well executed, well edited, well developed and beautifully written with a third person narrative. The characters are engaging, endearing and outrageously, laugh-at-loud funny. It's sweet, cute, exciting, imaginative, humorous and romantic with just the right amount of danger, intrigue and suspense. And of course, it wouldn't be complete without a little dollop of angst. I first became hooked on Kristen Painter's work when I read *The Vampire's Mail Order Bride* which was the first release in the Nocturne Falls Series and the rest, as they say, is history. I was totally addicted for life!

We first met vampire Sebastian Ellingham and valkyrie Tessa Blythe in *The Vampire's Fake Fiancee*, the fifth release of the series. *The Vampire's True Love Trials* resumes shortly thereafter and continues Sebastian and Tessa's story. I don't want to give anything away but I will say this... Handsome former reclusive vampire who has found the woman...um...valkyrie... for him and is finally free to tie the knot but must now win her hand as well as her parents' approval-check! Beautiful valkyrie who has finally found the man of her dreams but failed to tell her parents she had a fiance-check! A determined valkyrie mother and berserker father who want to see their daughter married-check! An arranged marriage-check! A set of impossible trials not designed for a vampire-check! Sweet romance, a dollop of angst and, as always, a whole lot of fun-check!

Did I like this book? No, I Loved it! Would I recommend it? You bet and I am! This book does NOT contain profanity nor explicit sex but it is just dreamy! Will I read this author again? Absolutely! Just as soon as she releases her next book! And finally, was I entertained? Completely! Fabulous entertainment and an awesome read!!!

Rachel says

You know Nocturne Falls books are my candy, but "Daddy needs to give permission to marry or else I face mutilation" thing is a little heavy for lighthearted books, yeah?

Denise says

Sebastian meets Tessa's parents and is promptly informed that they have already promised her to someone else - and if Sebastian wants their blessing to marry her instead, he'll have to complete the traditional feats of strength to prove himself worthy.

Much as I enjoyed spending some quality time with the delightful denizens of Nocturne Falls again, I very much wanted to punch Tessa's father with his outdated bullshit.

Margaret Hasemann says

October in Paris !

It seem that after all the trouble they have been through appearing before the vampire counsel in Amsterdam regarding Sebaton's ex-wife, Evangiline, Paris might have been a cheerful distraction. At least it could have been if he and Tessa weren't meeting her parents to try and stop an arranged marriage that was sprung on her without warning. It seems her parents choice of husband is a berserker who has passed a series of seven trials that are traditionslly set by the parents of a Valkyrie. Now Sebaton must face the same ordeal. But since he isnt a berserker her father sets a task that could end up with Sebaton dead if he doesn't use his magic, Tessa married off to soone she doesn't love if he doesn't, and both of them miserable no matter how it turns out. - What's a guy got to go to do, just to get approval to marry? It's an entertaining read to find out! -

Lisa says

This book was amazing just like all Kristen's books are. I devoured it. It was so nice to see Tessa and Sebastian again. Boy, they've been through a lot, but don't think it's over because it's just beginning. At first I hated Tessa's parents but soon understood them better. It's so hard not to write without spoiling it so I won't say much. I loved the berserk custom in this story. Kristen's characters always come to life and feel real. I might even want to see more of the parents in future books. The Hugh and Delaney scene was a nice surprise. I just wanted more. Lol

Marjo says

Meh. It was all right. The "winning the parent's approval" trope is not one I'm a fan of, and it feels especially forced in this case. It didn't really add anything to the characters, or the setting. It just sort of exists.

I might be having series fatigue, but I'm not getting the same enjoyment from the most recent entries as I did from the earlier titles. I am now on a self-imposed break, since that's all that's the last Nocturne Falls story published to date. I'll see how I feel by the time the series updates.

Ashley says

This was very short, but I had to take a break from it because of the super macho 'you will do this because I am your father and I said so' attitude from Tessa's father. It was AWFUL. I can't stand to read people that have that much disregard for other people.

Cally says

I found her parents pretty gross, to be completely honest. This is going to be a slightly spoilery review, but there is no huge mystery that I'm going to give away, so I don't think it will be much of an issue.

Her mother is a Valkyrie and her father a Berserker. For them, traditionally, the Berserker completes the 7 feats of strength to win the blessings of her parents and be able to marry the woman he chooses. She is his reward. It's actually stated as such in the book

A chill swept Sebastian. "You can't be serious. You would expect her to marry a man she's never met and doesn't love?"

Magna nodded. "It's always been our way. If a berserker is willing to sacrifice for a woman, he is rewarded with her hand in marriage."

Some guy who is never introduced, Gunther, has asked for her hand and completed three trials. Because she isn't like most Valkyries her parents seemed to think that was good enough and he should be rewarded with their daughter. Of course the man she loves, is involved with and WANTS to marry should have to complete all seven, because her opinion of things doesn't mean shit and her parents seem to want him to fail so she can be married off to some guy she doesn't know. Because tradition. They do manage to argue him down to three feats because it's all Gunther did, but since it had to be argued you can tell her parents weren't happy about it.

If Tessa decides to tell her parents to shove it and marries Sebastian without their blessing, her sword will be stripped from her. I don't remember all of what that entails since it's been awhile since I read the previous book, but it's obviously a BIG deal. The sword is a part of her and having it stripped is 'very unpleasant business'. But really, who gives a shit if her sword is forcefully ripped away from her, or if she is torn away from Sebastian and forced to marry someone she doesn't like, love or even know. Because TRADITION!

Honestly Tessa is treated like shit by her parents and nobody really bats an eye. Sebastian makes some halfhearted attempt at it but he doesn't really succeed and it's really gross that at the end everything is all swept under the rug.

I've never given a book in this series under 3 stars, so I clearly like it, but this one was just... gross.

Tasha and Megan Mahoney says

This was a bite size (see what I did there?) visit into the world of Nocturne Falls.

Vampire Sebastian Ellingham wants to marry his beloved Valkyrie Tessa Blythe but her parents throw a huge spanner in the works. If Sebastian wants to marry her and not lose her to an arranged marriage then he has to take on trials. The problem is that these challenges are designed with Valkyries and Berserkers. not Vampires.

This was a quick listen but Kristen Painter fitted an awful lot into The Vampires True Love Trials.

Jessica (a GREAT read) says

Two DNFs in one week, that's terribly, terribly sad to me. But it did mean that I got to hop over to a TBR

book that's been waiting oh so patiently! Thank goodness I have the kindle app! Since I finished book six in Kristen Painter's Nocturne Falls series yesterday, I thought I would move along to the novella that follows, The Vampire's True Love Trials!

In this short little story, Sebastian and Tessa are finally done with all the nasty business regarding Sebastian's ex-wife. It's all over and done and since they are in Amsterdam, Sebastian thought it would be the perfect time to extend the getaway and even proposing! Just as he's about to pop the question, Tessa's parents call to tell her a berserker named Gunther has completed a set of trials and has won the right to propose. Naturally, this doesn't sit well with Tessa or Sebastian.

It's a basic meet the parents kind of moment except the only way Tessa's parents will accept the relationship that Tessa and Sebastian want to have is if Sebastian completes the same set of trials. The only thing is the trials were created with berserkers in mind instead of vampires and if Sebastian were to fail any of them, then it's game over and Tessa will marry the faceless Gunther.

This was just a fun, short little read that lets you see more of the Nocturne Falls world! Made fun since it let us see a returning couple get a little more complete with their happy ending and oh wow was there a surprise twist at the end! Not so much of a twist, but a surprise all the same!

I almost expected that we'd see this mysterious Gunther, but that wasn't the case, which I guess makes sense. We don't need to see who this wannabe contender is since we're all rooting for Sebastian to win anyway! The read was a fast one and I was just happy to be back with the Nocturne Falls gang! Though not everyone was there, being with just two of them is always enough for me! If you're already reading the series, don't skip this novella for anything because that surprise at the end was a fun little one that might have you questioning things in the books ahead!

Overall Rating 5/5 stars
