



The Gift

A.F. Henley

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August's goal in life is simple: make an impact in the music industry. An opportunity to work as the personal assistant to Doren seems to be exactly the kind of break he needs to accomplish that goal.

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The Gift Details

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From Reader Review The Gift for online ebook

Kelly Wyre says

Larger review incoming. Fantastic character development and a much more intricate plot with more magical-mysterious-other detailing, which I loved.

The Novel Approach Reviews says

There is so much to wrap your imagination around in this novel; all the mysterious and mystical possibilities lend a great slice of the metaphysical to the allure of the undiscovered secrets contained within the untapped parts of our brains. The musings of fame and the desire for recognition weigh against the price one is willing to pay to get it, and A.F. Henley has constructed a story that provides plenty of angsty moments to go along with the threat of danger that keeps the story moving briskly along to its climax, then allows the romance to carry the reader to its happy ending.

See the entire 4.5 star review at The Novel Approach: <http://thenovelapproachreviews.com/20...>

Amanda says

3.5 stars.

Lindsay Loulee says

I read a post that read this was different from the author's usual work. It is. But it didn't make me love it any less! Doren and August make a great story together. ^^

Lavender Wynter says

A small part of the full review:

Can I just say questions? I have a few for the author *laugh*. Will ask!

The novel had a bit of a slow start, but Mr. Henley used that opportunity to paint the major characters in wonderful detail for his readers, and I find that very helpful when the story picks up pace. I feel that I knew Doren and August so well that they weren't lost in the midst of all the action.

Mr. Henley did a superb job telling his readers just enough tidbits of information about the supporting cast to make me ask questions and keep reading just to see if he provided answers further along. Some questions he did, others he didn't, but I have a feeling the unanswered questions I have were most likely intentional. That's right, folks, Mr. Henley wanted to keep you guessing, and personally, I think that is a pro for this story instead of it being a con.

The full review can be found [here](#), but be warned, there are some spoilers.

Raphael says

Doren has a gift – the gift of music – and he's well on his way to becoming the "next big thing." But it's a gift that has a carefully hidden secret, and holds far more power than most folks could imagine. Not everyone is blind to it, however. And those that know crave that power to dangerous levels.

August is simple and unassuming, and more than aware of the differences between right and wrong. He has one goal in life – make an impact in an industry that seems to be slipping out of his reach. When he's offered an opportunity to work as a personal assistant for Doren, August is both thrilled and terrified. This could be the chance he's been waiting for – a way to prove himself worthy.

When a romantic interest begins to bloom between the two of them, that's when all hell breaks loose. Can a spoiled rock star be trusted with a person's heart? Can love conquer over domination and power-lust?

The Gift follows the path of a romance ripe with magic. Told from many sides, it is a story that leaves the reader to decide if the gifts that make one special are truly blessings, or curses, and if lives are merely a game of fate, or a series of manipulations that forge truer destiny.

If you love your m/m romance with a mix of danger and magic then „the Gift“ is the right book for you!

This novel is a true thrillride. From the first moment there is a constant feel of danger and it never really goes away, not even in the more humorous moments. And I talk about real danger here. Mortal danger. The threat doesn't come from jealous ex-lovers, a dubious past or something. This time the stakes are much, much higher. This is a fight of good against evil and the dark forces don't mind to kill whomever necessary to get what they want.

You will meet Doren, a diva and an ass. Sorry! Not my choice of words (points at August). But back to Doren, the rockstar on a fast track to a great career. He IS a diva but with his heart at the right place. One can not help but just like him.

August, I love him as much as I love Doren. He is determined and so innocent. And it is so cleverly written by A.F. Henley to make August of all people look for a job in the music industry – a business of lies and false friendships. And so August's heart and mind are at constant war between love and staying true to himself. And that internal fight is what drives Doren nuts. Our poor rockstar simply doesn't know what to do with his new assistant who is sending out such conflicting signals. The resulting turmoil of hearts is so beautifully written.

But those are their smallest problems. With Anton and Morana there are creatures of such evil that the only

thing you can do is hate them. Henley did a brilliant job here. Those two are not just misguided beings who can be brought back on the right path with love and understanding. They are pure evil. No compromise. They kill to get what they want. A life means nothing to them.

Another cool addition is Doren's band. In some wonderful scenes Doren shows that he is so much more than just a rockstar. He really is a good guy and his powers could be used to enchant the masses or throw every one into an abyssal darkness. And throughout the novel I feared what will become of this beautiful soul and hated the things that happened to him.

The story is fantastically written! It is fast-paced and even picks up speed until it culminates in a thrilling, dramatic climax. Very clever is the storytelling. It changes back and forth between the characters (without being written in the first perspective). Fear not, because it is not confusing at all and it helps driving the story forward a lot.

The magic in this story was very well written. It is always there but never too much. It is perfectly balanced with the rest of the events.

I totally fell in love with this novel and simply was not able to put it away until absolutely necessary (damn need for sleep). There are so many beautiful and terrifying moments that it is so hard to put the story aside. Mindblowing in every aspect!

If possible, I would give it ten out of five stars.

Cynthia says

To read my full review, please visit <http://onsilverwingz.blogspot.com/201...>

Surprisingly, the book is really action packed with clear bad guys versus good guys battling it out.

August and Doren both have special "gifts" or unique supernatural powers. The bad guys also have some sort of power and they use it to manipulate the MCs in order to possess the control of their special "gifts." The bad guys have the advantage of knowing they have supernatural powers while the MCs are still puzzling over unnatural events and refusing to believe. This part of the story is irritating for the readers because as the readers, we know more than the MCs and we want them to be on the same page and figure out the game sooner. In general, the book is pretty fast paced.

Doren's hired band members are also important characters. Unfortunately, they are introduced pretty late into the story and do not get a lot of page-time. These characters join into the fight and really makes a difference in the grand finale, however, they seem to be added in towards the end as an afterthought. Things would have been more cohesive if these characters are mentioned earlier in the story.

I love that the bad guys have a lot of personality too. Even though they are not as well developed as the MCs, they are believable. They fight among themselves and plot sinister plots.

Overall, I love this book. Once the supernatural stuff starts and it's obvious that the story is not a simple rock star with his assistant, I was hooked. I couldn't stop reading until I finished the book. The MCs get a HEA ending and I'm happy for them. There are still several lingering questions and loose ends unresolved by the

end of the book, but I'm not too focus on those. The book is one amazing, action-packed, mind gripping story about music, the oddities in life, and love.

review copy received in exchange for an honest review

Gwendolyn says

It got a little convoluted at the end there but still a 3.75 book.

Rissa says

This book sucked me in. I had to freaking finish. I wanted to know what happened! Lol. Now I'm behind on everything! :(

But really, it was super interesting. I loved the idea of gifts, I love the band and the different kind of gifts! I really liked August! <3 I enjoyed the mystery aspect as well! There are still some unanswered questions but nevertheless, it was a great read!

Carrie Stevens says

~*~My Thoughts~*~

So when I requested this ARC I didn't read well enough to realize that it was a paranormal romance. I'm glad i didn't lol. This is the first book I've read dealing with anything paranormal since Twilight. Now don't get my wrong i loved Twilight just got bored with the genre. This book was a pleasant surprise for me I loved it. The characters were great I loved Doren and Auggie. I loved the personalities and the way they were written. The villains in this book were just that i absolutely hated them. I couldn't wait for them to get theirs. I also liked how you got a bunch of different perspectives not only did you get Doren and Auggies sides you also get all of the band at times, plus the villains. All in all i thought it was a great book and I loved the story. A solid 4 star read.

Received an ARC from NetGalley for an honest review.

Sara Testarossa says

The Gift is a highly entertaining, exciting novel. I've never read anything quite like it before. It is told from many perspectives (though all in the third person), from protagonists and antagonists alike. I loved August and Doren, their interactions and journey in their relationship and the trials they face trying to stay out of the clutches of the love-to-hate Anton and Morana. The supporting characters were interesting too. I enjoyed the magic, which was different than the usual fare. An excellent novel!

Crystal Marie says

This is going to be one of those confusing reviews. You know the one's I'm talking about, where you loved the book and hated it at the same time? So get ready to sit back cause here's the fun part:

I FREAKING LOVED THIS BOOK!!! Oh my gosh, I loved how completely different it was. The battle between good and evil was just amazing! I really want to meet this author just from reading this book because it was that great. I completely LOVED the characters, all of them because they were just incredibly well written and I couldn't get enough of them. I think that I developed a bit of a crush on August, but that is perfectly fine with me! I really want to know if the author is going to turn this into a series because if they are, I want first dibs on the next book.

Now the next part:

I didn't like this book. I really didn't like the switching between all the POVS. When you read the book, you will understand what I mean. I had a really hard time following along with the story at certain times, and would end up flipping back a few pages to see who was talking now. While I do understand the reasons why the author did it, I also was left extremely confused.

Overall though, this book is a complete must read from me!

Reviewed by Crystal for Crystal's Many Reviewers

Copy provided for honest review

Jason says

Doren was born with a powerful gift—a gift he's managed to use to put him well on his way to becoming a star. But there is more to that gift than just musical talent, and as careful as Doren is to hide that fact, there are some who know of the power behind the sound, and all the ways they could abuse it.

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But all too often in life, simple becomes just another complication, especially when there are people whose goal is even simpler: destroy and dominate.

I received this book from NetGalley for an honest review. I want to start out by telling you that this book was like nothing that I expected. What started out as a cute, yet predictable budding love story turned into something unexpected.

We are introduced to Doren. He is a rock star and as most of these stories go, drop dead gorgeous. He has signed a contract with a record company that is ran by an evil narcissistic man that will stop at nothing to keep Doren under his control.

Part of Doren's contract was the ability to chose an assistant to only work for him and not the company.

From the very beginning these two are drawn to each other. August, trying to remain professional and Doren trying to get into his pants.

You read through the book. Drawn into the little love story that was developing and then BAM you are thrown a curve ball.

The people you know in this book are not what you seem. I do not want to ruin anything for you so I will tell you no more.

However, this is a nice story that let me wanting more at the end. There were a few issue I had with the book.

First, the sex scenes needed to be more. Maybe the author wanted a little ambiguity in there, but I as a reader wanted more descriptions.

Second, there are several unanswered questions that were left unanswered in my mind. There is one character in the book that I need answers from. Why did this person chose to protect Doren his whole life? There were some hints given, but I think that this character could use development.

Third, Obviously there is a good ending. We are left with a yearning of more. I need more of their story.

Overall, a cute, and very good read. There is a lot of potential not only with August and Doren, but the rest of the minor characters as well. The author does do a great job of surprising us. There are a few mouth opening revelations in this story.

The reason I am not telling you names, ect. is by doing so, I would spoil so much of the goodness in this story.

I hope you give this a shot and I thank NetGalley for allowing me this opportunity.

David says

I liked this. A little different but a whole lot interesting. Glad it was a stand alone though - it is nice to sit and make up your own ending for a story. In mind everything works out positively with August;s wondering but it does hint it in a fairly big way in the beginning.

Seiran says

This was an interesting read that's for sure. It's completely different genre that I normally read, but I liked it just the same. My small issue is the relationship between the MC's, it just didn't seem to be all that exciting, and no I'm not talking sex out the wazzu. I'm talking chemistry and the feeling of connection. But maybe that's just me. I did like this book, but it definitely story based as opposed to relationships based.
