



Unplanned

Alana Terry

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When Kennedy Stern's childhood pastor asks her to volunteer at his new pregnancy center, she carves time out of her rigorous college schedule to promote the cause of the unborn.

After receiving a disturbing call from someone far too young to carry a child in the first place, Kennedy can no longer blindly hide behind the pro-life platitudes she grew up believing. She resolves to locate the unknown girl but winds up entrenched in a mystery that grows more convoluted as it unfolds.

Soon, Kennedy finds herself a pawn in a deadly game of intrigue, at the mercy of those who consider a few innocent lives a small ransom to pay in exchange for personal and political victory.

Alana Terry has won awards from Women of Faith, the Book Club Network, Grace Awards, Readers' Favorite, and more. Unplanned was a finalist in the Deep River Books writing contest. The ebook version contains discussion questions for personal reflection or group study.

Unplanned Details

Date : Published May 13th 2015 (first published March 31st 2015)

ISBN :

Author : Alana Terry

Format : Kindle Edition 287 pages

Genre : Christian Fiction, Christian, Mystery, Fiction, Contemporary, Suspense, Young Adult, Thriller, Mystery Thriller, Drama, Business, Amazon

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From Reader Review Unplanned for online ebook

Beth says

Christian suspense. I'd like to rate this more highly, because I respected that this was about the topic of abortion. However, I felt there were far too many implausibilities and repetitious elements. For example, it's unbelievable that a crisis pregnancy center would begin operation with no trained staff, or that the main character would have been asked to man the phones with no training, and take the phone off premises. Also, no good reason was given for the main character's being abducted. It was mentioned many, many times that a drug would be ineffective, when in fact it would be effective but end up causing death to more than the fetus. I could go on, but basically I found myself turning pages just to get through the peril and try to understand the whys. I didn't find satisfactory conclusions.

Lydia Howe says

This book drew me in right away cause it's about a TCK (Third Culture Kids), and TCKs are one of those things in life that I'm passionate about.

There were times when I wasn't exactly sure what to think about this book. The cover made it look like a mystery or thriller, but then it started out with a really nice, calm pace. (I had nothing wrong with the pace - in fact I liked it a lot. It just wasn't what I was expecting from the cover.) But then part way through the pace really picks up and the adventure begins happening.

I was pulled into the story and intrigued by it. The book kept me wanting to come back for more. I felt like Kennedy, the main character, was well developed. I also connected with her, which isn't something that always happens, so that was a big plus.

The book dealt with some tough subjects, like totally not for kids. I thought it was well done, and even though there was TONS of information, it didn't come across as preachy, so that was really nice. There weren't a lot of unnecessary details, but there was enough to make it realistic and at one point I even was slightly sick to my stomach because of all that was going on.

I'm not sure if I can say I "enjoyed" this book, but it was amazing enough that I started reading the second book in the series as soon as I finished this first one. Way to go, Miss Alana!

Sharon Paavola says

Unplanned is the opening novel in Alana Terry's newest Kennedy Stern series. She drew me into the story immediately and I couldn't stop reading. Kennedy is a first year pre-med student at Harvard and away from her missionary parents in China.

She reconnects with old family friends and becomes a volunteer for their pregnancy hotline before she can bat an eye.. She has very little time to spare and no idea what she is involved with and no idea what to say if someone were to call on her watch. She receives a disturbing call which pulls Kennedy into an intriguing,

suspenseful, and frightening situation.

The subject of this book is abortion. The author doesn't preach or rant for one side or the other but gives the reader much to ponder. I appreciated her approach and feel that even though she is a Christian author her writing opens the door for anyone to read it.

This book grabs you on page one so fasten your seatbelt until the last page. I kept reading the next book in the series until I completed all of them. Tune in for my reviews on the rest of the Kennedy Stern series.

I was given a copy of *Unplanned* by the author for my honest review which I have given here.

Debbie Lockledge says

Good book, but too dark & too violent for my taste. The book made me sad to the point I couldn't finish it soon enough just so I could close it & be done w/ such a dark book.

Julia Wilson says

Unplanned by Alana Terry is a fast paced contemporary Christian suspense which I really enjoyed. At its heart the focus is pro life and recognising that God has His hand on us, even when we are still in the womb. God, too was at the centre. For some, trusting God is easy. For others, life can intrude. "What was the point in worshipping a God who wouldn't lift His finger to rescue these precious souls?" God sees us all. He sees us before we are born. His rescue plan may not be ours but no one slips away unnoticed.

The peace of God can descend on those who trust, even in the midst of chaos. God's peace does not announce itself loudly, but quietly and gently envelopes us, securing us in His arms.

The novel shows that sometimes we become so comfortable with God that we forget His awesome power.

"Had God become such an everyday part of her life, that there was no room left for awe?"

There is the theme of protection. Protection may come in the form of God (always) and people too.

Grief is a powerful motivating factor. Grief may consume souls who then act in a way that is contrary to their character.

Trust is another theme. "Something was tugging at her heart - an invitation to trust." We cannot go through life in isolation. We need to trust God and we need to trust others.

Family is important. Even though miles may separate, the reader can 'feel' the loving arms of parental love stretching out. How much greater is God's love for us?

Prayer is our hotline to God. He longs to hear from us. Sometimes we feel He is not listening. "Please, God. Aren't You listening?" Just because we cannot sense God does not mean He is not there. He has promised to never leave us nor forsake us.

Unplanned was a cracking thriller that I read with a racing heart to its conclusion. It was my first by Alana Terry but I shall be back for more. I was glad to see *Unplanned* is the first book in the Kennedy Stern Christian suspense series so plenty more to read!

I received this book for free. A favourable review was not required and all views expressed are my own.

Brittany says

Unplanned is set in America and follows Kennedy Stern, the daughter of foreign missionaries, as she adjusts to life back in the states as a college student. When I read the book's synopsis a while back, I don't know why I didn't put together the fact that this is the daughter who is mentioned as being away at college in *Torn Asunder*. If you have read the books set in China and North Korea, then this is a fun tie-in to them and I enjoyed hearing her perspective on growing up in the Stern household as they housed and prepared Secret Seminary students to enter into very dangerous missions. However, if you have not read the other stories by Alana Terry, don't worry, *Unplanned* stands completely on its own.

This book deals with the topic of abortion and comes from a pro-life viewpoint. But it is not just a simple storyline that attempts to pull a reader to one side of the debate or the other. There are many questions raised by Kennedy as she navigates the disturbing situation that she finds herself in the middle of. I think the author did such a great job of showing that Kennedy is a young woman who is questioning everything, including her upbringing, her feelings of apathy toward God, even the reasons she is pro-life. Some very good questions are raised in this book.

Packed with intense mystery and suspense, the twists and turns will keep the reader enthralled. There are a few violent scenes toward the end of the book, as well as a medical situation that is described in some detail. I do feel that these details were important to the story, and I believe the author handled them in the best way possible. I simply mention it for readers who may be more sensitive to this type of thing.

I really enjoyed this story and look forward to reading more in the series.

My thanks to the author for the complimentary copy of this book that I received in exchange for an honest review.

You can read this review on my blog at:
<https://brittreadsfiction.wordpress.c...>

Rebekah Tooley says

Wow! I loved this so much! Deals with tender subjects so probably best for older teen readers.

Hann Remraf says

review to come

Yo Leo Ficción Cristiana says

RESEÑA COMPLETA EN ESPAÑOL

In every book of Alana Terry there's a lot to process once you finish reading, and this time wasn't the exception. This novel puts into question the rights of the unborn in a unique way that feels real and not fiction. Furthermore, the novel moves at a good pace and has no parts in which you can take a break. Something that I liked was to know from some characters of other novels of the author; and although each of her books can be read separately and are perfectly understood, I think that the participation of other characters of her novels was a fantastic detail. I recommend this book to those who liked the movie-and the book- *October baby*, because they speak the same subject, but from the point of view of different stories.

I received a book from the author in exchange for my honest opinion, so this fact didn't influence the review

Emily says

After Kennedy signs up to answer phone calls from a pregnancy center, she finds herself talking to a very young pregnant girl. Kennedy determines to discover who this girl is in order to help her, but soon finds herself in danger because of her knowledge of the girl herself.

Unplanned was a whirlwind. I expected as much from Alana Terry, whose books have often brought me to stress or tears over the horrible situations the characters had to face. This one, however, also made a larger impact on my life because of its greater relevance to daily life in America.

In addition to the mystery and danger in *Unplanned*, Kennedy faces the controversy over abortion. Her beliefs are greatly challenged before she makes the decision for pro-life from her own knowledge and experience rather than her parents'. Making one's own decision out of one's own research was something the author stressed in the situation, something that is relevant to nearly everyone who reads this book.

One thing I noticed was that Alana Terry did a good job showing what a first year in college is like. Having recently experienced it myself, I can honestly say that Kennedy's experiences were true to life, making her more relatable to the reader.

The plot focused more on the issue of abortion and helping the pregnant girl than on the suspense. It is not preachy, but it was definitely not as full of action, torture, escapes, and suspense as previous ones, such as *Torn Asunder* (whose characters were mentioned in *Unplanned*).

Unplanned was a great book I would recommend to others.

I received a free copy of *Unplanned* from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Abby A. says

Well, that was interesting for sure. This book started out slow and concluded quickly. This is the first time I've read a book by this author and I have to say it was ok. I'll still read the next book in this series. So we'll

see how that one progresses.

??Trea says

I was under the impression when I started this book that it was a Romantic Suspense, but upon reading it, I found that my impression was horribly wrong! I would definitely classify this story as a New Adult novel, which I really hate, but this one was actually rather engrossing! There is a definite mystery element to the story, but it is a very rudimentary one. In fact, the entire story felt rather simplistic!

We only get broad strokes when it comes to Kennedy, we don't get a lot of detail when it comes to her thought processes. Most of the events that occur in the story are told to us, rather than shown to us, so the combination of the two make it difficult to connect with Kennedy overall. The topic the story focused on is rather saddening in itself, so lacking that emotional connection to the story makes it harder to enjoy. Supporting characters that weren't Christians felt superficial at best, and the Christian ones weren't as in depth as I'd like.

I believe that this is the author's first book, and it certainly reads like that, even as such a quick read. I liked the fact that the story was complete for the most part, but that there were enough loose ends to progress to the next book. I was entertained enough with this that I'll probably read the next book in the series at some point.

Daphne Self says

Goodreads has a 2 star at "it was ok" and that's what I thought of this novel. It's ok. If it was marketed as a young adult or new adult novel then the ranking could have been higher which is why I'm giving it 3 stars.

The theme is relevant and clean. The topic is brutally honest but slightly glossed over. The plot didn't have much depth to it but it did have a fast pace to it. The character needed a little more development, especially her rash judgement of people who had not lived where she had lived.

Because of how the topic was handled, how the suspense was resolved in a tidy way, and how what could have been a deep plot to explore but was only lightly touched upon, I would rank this as good young adult novel for older teens. Especially as a way to help them understand the sanctity of life and what it really means to be pro-life.

Melissa Henderson says

A heart wrenching story filled with dedication and determination. Would you know how to help someone in a crisis? What would you say? Who would you trust? From the first page of this story, the author takes the reader on a journey that touches the heart and gives hope for the future. Bring the tissues when you read this one. I received a copy of this story from the author and this is my personal honest opinion.

Lou says

Just when I think Alana Terry can't be better, she does it again!

This book is SO GREAT! I can't believe I read it in less than two hours!

Really addictive and full of meaning. I love the honesty of the words and I'm SO looking forward to read the next book!
