



Betrayal

M.L. Guida

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Scythe must save his brother's soul before the next full moon, Heather is determined to prove her sister's innocence, but to do this, they must trust each other. Heather Bowen, a drug and alcohol counselor, has always been able to see auras, but now she's being haunted in her sleep by a red-eyed man who's peddling a psychotic drug to her clients. After her sister becomes his next victim, Heather is determined to prove her sister's innocence. Life as she knows it becomes more unpredictable when the new counselor, Scythe Angel, arrives. It doesn't take Heather more than a first meeting to determine this larger than life man is commanding, pushy, determined and downright sexy. However there's something about him she's not sure she can trust, no matter how she finds herself drawn to him. Scythe knows he can clear Heather's sister's name, but to do it he must confront his elusive and dangerous brother who seems to be bound to the dark side. With his own wings on the line, Scythe has to discover a way to save his brother's soul before it's too late. An arduous task for Scythe becomes even more complicated by his unearthly attraction to Heather. For both of them to succeed they will have to learn to trust each other or fail; losing everything they hold dear.

Betrayal Details

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Author : M.L. Guida

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From Reader Review Betrayal for online ebook

Alyson LaBarge says

I have been very excited to get to read and review Betrayal: Angels of Death. Not sure why...guess I have a thing for tall, dark and brooding with wings.;) By the time I finished it, I was all set to find my own angel honey. Yes, it was *THAT* GOOD!

The Good: I really loved the primary characters in Betrayal: Angels of Death: Scythe, Blade, Rafael, Michael and Heather. Ms. Guida does an excellent job fleshing out each one of them and I bought them all - hook, line, and sinker. I felt like I was Heather and when she had to deal with all of her baggage (said with a French flair), well, I was in pretty rough shape. Any book that can make me feel that much, is tops in my opinion.

The Bad: Ummm... Was there any Bad? Only Bad Boys! lol

The Snuggly: Hmm, my favorite part of a review. There was plenty o' snuggly in ye olde Betrayal. *Hot, rip-your-clothes-off* snuggly. (Does anyone have a fan available?) Seriously though, this is an adult book with adult situations so no-no to the under 18 crowd.

Final Thoughts: When you read a paranormal romance, you may or may not get a lot of deep personal and illuminating emotions. Betrayal: Angels of Death gives you all of that and more. If you like my favorite vamps of JR Ward's Black Dagger Brotherhood and you like angels, then you should love this. Totally a 5***** star book!

*I received a complimentary copy of this book for a book tour. This does not affect my review in any way.

Anna (Bobs Her Hair) says

2.5 out of 5 stars...Fair but Unfulfilling

Betrayal, the first book in the Angels of Death series, has some fascinating elements. Ms. Guida explores religious thought by integrating the concepts of forgiveness and penance.

Full review in April 2013 issue of InD'tale Magazine.

Karen Sebeika says

Intro to series

Great intro to the series loved meeting all the character and getting their backstory can t wait to read the next book

Laura Wolf says

Different. But enjoyable.

Goblin says

Posted originally at: **Once Upon A Book**

Note: **I was given a complimentary copy of this book in exchange for my honest review.**

WARNING THIS REVIEW CONTAINS SPOILERS!

Betrayal was a enjoyable romp around in a paranormal urban fantasy setting. It didn't quite reach my favorites, but I can say that I'd probably read the next book in the series without hesitation.

To give one an idea of what I mean, I'll start by explaining from what I found in the first chapter. From page one we are brought into the story, sensing the urgency of what is going on. And we are introduced to our main characters through the unique cold-description of the ugly "truths" surrounding Heather's ex-drug addict sister and her horrific murder at the hands of a villain who haunted her very dreams. There are a few over all themes I want to say existed through the book. Betrayal (of course), guilt, addiction; she wrote some of these parts so well that it certainly lead me to believe that she had dealings with an addict in her life or a situation that made me believe that she knew what she was talking about.

M.L. Guida wrote the characterizations in this story quite well. I was able to develop a decent feel of her creations, and ended up liking them or hating them. Without a doubt she engages the reader especially with how she wrote her good versus evil characters very clearly! I detested Blade like I was meant to, not feeling any sorrow for his plight. And vice versa, Scythe was a good guy to the hilt and I enjoyed watching him puzzle things out.

I think what I enjoyed the most however, were Guida's no-holds-barred descriptions. They held me captivated more solidly than anything else! Let me explain a part that I really enjoyed later on in the book which, as you read may seem very strange. There is a part in the book where poor Heather comes face to face with the demon that is stalking her very-- real-- nightmares. In this encounter she almost has a brown-note accident in her pants. It's not that I enjoy reading about bodily functions, but it truly brought home the fact that this nightmare was real, so real and terrifying for Heather that her body almost rebelled in a way no one wants to imagine, ever. I appreciated that, I appreciated a book that didn't make things pretty just to make it easier for the reader. The bad guy was supposed to be frightening, the atrocities committed were meant to be unimaginably evil. Demons are not *just* sexy eye candy with do-me-now smiles. That is as most urban fantasies would have you think. Demons are meant to be aberrant beings capable of committing unspeakable atrocities without any sort of remorse or reason beyond their corrupted desire to do so. It was nice to be reminded of that fact, a lot of books neglect to do so by "telling" or fading to black when it comes to the gore, not so in this book.

As for the love scenes, I should also mention that there were some hot and steamy love scenes! Guida writes the passionate parts well, and I enjoyed them immensely. There was a part or two that also made me giggle and roll my eyes, when you read you'll see what I mean! It was in a humorous way, certainly. But maybe

definitely bordering on being a romance caricature.

Alas, along with the highs must come the lows. I have to share some of the parts that sort of made me go “eh”, it's only fair as your reviewer here at **Once Upon A Book** to justify my star rating. There were quite a few editing mistakes that made me take pause. I can normally skip over one or two typos, but when it keeps happening the mistakes get so jarring that it starts taking me out of the story line thus preventing me from truly immersing myself in the universe.

Heather could be so obnoxiously (or stupidly) stubborn at times! So, say if I were to learn that angels and demons existed and that they have über-powers that could knock me dead in a blink. I can't say that my first reaction would be to reject help from the only being that could possibly aid me in protecting myself/those I love. Also if I were to learn said being who was sexy-as-hell, offering to protect me was an Angel of Death, slapping him in the face would pretty much be the last thing I would do. Not to mention insisting that I, a mere-human extraordinaire, could never destroy what I had been told I would never have the power to? Heather also had this horrible guilt complex thing happening, it just seemed to stretch too far at times. I understand that guilt was basically the underlying motivator for Heather's entire life, and this is actually a crux to solve at some point, but I seriously wanted to smack her at times because of it. Especially when said Angel of Death was present at the death of your sister, how could you blame him for murdering her? Imagine how many deaths the poor guy would have to ferry to their final place, your sister being one of heaven-knows-how many he's had to escort. He blatantly explained that humans had free will, and that he could not interfere with the happenings because it was the big G's way simply made me face palm here and there at the ridiculousness.

The painting scene was probably the most out of place scene in the book. And I just found myself saying aloud, "There's probably a better time for this. You know, when you aren't on the look out for the cops after you had just escaped them." And there was a point where I was made to feel uncomfortable, Scythe ended up pushing the sex issue after so much had happened to this poor woman in such quick succession? Talk about understanding (sarcasm.) The resulting sex scene was quite steamy, and very titillating. But again, “Timing people!” She had just come out of the hospital with a severe body wracking case of shock.

The final thing that sort of had me going, “wth” was Heather's reaction to her dog. This was probably the most irksome of things that occurred for me. If she had reacted that way to the first murder she had witnessed or after seeing her sister's decapitated head, it'd have made sense. Now there is a possibility that this was Guida's moment to let us see Heather's poor human mind snapping at this last straw, from everything she had recently been through. But at the time I read this, I almost wanted to laugh at the hysterical image of it. Scythe wastes his resurrection powers on a cocker-bloody-spaniel! And then they sit in the room, surrounded by white lacquered in grotesque red, having a conversation as if nothing just happened. The horrible death threat notes smeared on the walls with the now newly-resurrected puppy's blood, and Heather is *STILL* insisting she can take care of herself. Ugh!

In the end *Betrayal* earns itself a **3 star rating**, bordering on a 3.5. I know it seems like I pointed out a great deal, but there really was more good than bad. This book while not reaching my favorites list still managed to entertain me throughout. And I'd certainly recommend it to others if they wanted some fluff to pick up and a decent sex scene. So grab a copy and check it out, you might enjoy it!

Becki says

Betrayal

Although some parts were slow and there were some distracting proof reading errors, it was still a decent read. The hero was good, but there were times when I didn't like the heroine. But in the end I did get my HEA. The other books in the series look interesting so I will read more.

V.A. Dold says

How freaked out would you be if you started having horrible dreams of people you know dying and they are actually true! And now you are a suspect in these horrible events. That is what is happening to Heather. Enter the angle of death Scythe, who also turns out to be Heathers angle-mate. Scythe has an evil twin brother Blade who is causing all these deaths and he must be stopped.

I liked the fact that Heather was not happy at all about being claimed by Scythe without any say in the matter which I found very realistic. This was a very enthralling read that kept me turning pages and now I am forced to wait for the next book.

I recommend this book to all mature readers.

Mellissa Monteforte says

This turned out to be a fantastic book and very much enjoyed how the plot played out and the characters blended together and created such an amazing story. Many of the situations each of us can find some relation to and it was great to be able to find something good from tragedy. They not only understood themselves and learned forgiveness is needed to gain peace but to allow themselves a chance to heal and know they are not alone. very inspiring.

Valerie Mcqueen says

My review of Betrayal by M. L. Guida

Rating 4*****

This book was provided free from the author in exchange for honest literary review.

Heather has thrown herself into her work as a rehab manager full force. She has tried to guide her sister Rosemary into the correct path but due to the horrible events from their childhood Rosemary's road hasn't been as easy. Recently Heather has been plagued by several clairvoyant dreams in which she watches those she cares about die one after the other. What she doesn't know is how to prevent or save them. If there is a way

The Angels of Death have landed here on earth. Twins born to serve God and his Archangels, they come to collect souls and escort them to their proper location. Only one of them has now gone rogue and his brother

is the only one who can save him.....if he can be saved.

This book was very fast paced . Loaded with action and suspenses around every page. I can't imagine how Heather held everything together. Her world literally fell down!!! But then out of no where comes this amazing man who shows her what she really has been missing in her lifelove. The question is can she open herself to be loved given her childhood and her Hell on earth events surrounding her. Excellent drama on all levels with romance thrown in as well. It is an easy read, but kind of eerie at times. Blade is just plain ruthless at times. I would read this quthors work again, overall solid novel!!!!

Michelle Relta says

i really like it !!!!

Nelly Ramos says

Angel of death

This book are me angry and happy at the same time. I didn't know which one I was feeling sometimes. Heather and Scythe make a wonderful couple. Scythe is trying to save his brother before his brother (Blade) becomes full demon. The woman his brother is trying to kill is his mate (Heather). You should give it a try because is really good. I can't wait for the second book. I want to read about Blade. I just couldn't put down is really that good.

Lisa says

Well, I really wanted to love this book. It was full of hot, steamy romantic type scenes and a lot of suspense and intense emotion. The characters, while unrealistic in the nature of what they are, were believable and likable for the good guys, and the bad guys are the type you love to hate. I will say that I did not dislike it, but I had kind of a luke-warm feeling and a lot of this had to do with the editing. Now, this may not be an issue for others as much as it is for me and if you are not that distracted by it, by all means please read this book because the story itself was awesome.

I was able to visualize what I was reading and the descriptive details were enough to make me actually FEEL what was happening in the book. Overall, the story was excellent in terms of characterization and descriptive detail, and I really felt drawn to the story itself. Hence, my rating. The editing to me is a huge thing, and I had to deduct one star. However, it is a testament to the storytelling prowess of the author that I was not able to walk away from the book due to the editing.

The book had a little more erotic content than I would like, but it did not detract from the story at all and I still found the story enjoyable, and would recommend that you read this book if you want a paranormal romance that is something new and different. In terms of paranormal romance, we expect vampires, werewolves, you know the usual suspects. This was so different. You will just have to see for yourself.

Susan says

"Betrayal, Angel of Death" is not your normal angel book and is recommended for mature readers as there are parts that are a bit ertotic and could be disturbing to some. M.L. Guida pens her characters strong in this well written fast paced story. This book will keep capture you right from the beginning and keep you enthralled to the end. I highly recommend this book to all mature readers.

This review is based on a complimentary copy which was provided for an honest review.

Michelle's Paranormal Vault of Books says

Visit my blog for more on this, have a first chapter there, and a giveaway. Michelle's Paranormal Vault Of Books

No Spoilers.

Oh, I loved this book so much. It was refreshing that there is no cliffhanger to make you mad, then wait for a year for a sequel. I am guessing this is a series, and am very happy about that.

I absolutely loved this book. It was not your average angel book at all.

Let me ask you this, would you be totally freaked out, if all of a sudden you started having dreams that showed people you know, going crazy, killing someone, then taking their own lives? Played out in your dream like you were really there? Yeah, this is what starts to happen with Heather, our main female character. When her sister is the next victim it really strikes home for her.

Then to make matters worse, when Heather tries to go stop it, she is always too late, and she becomes a suspect for these horrendous crimes. The glowing red eye man in her dreams is flaunting what he is doing. Then she meets a silver eyed man with long black hair, gorgeous body, who happens to look like the red eyed man in her dreams. She is confused at first, but Heather sees auras, and his aura is pure white, meaning purity, and not a touch of evil. Nothing like she has ever seen before. The man in her dreams has a black aura, meaning evil. So Scythe our silver eyed "good" twin has come into Heathers life, finding a connection to his "fallen" evil brother. See Scythe is an Angel of Death, and until Blade his twin "fell" he was also an angel. I will let you discover why on all of that.

This book was very fast paced and kept me turning the pages. I found it realistic when Scythe claimed Heather as his angel-mate, and she resisted being "owned" at least at first, which I found something that would be a realistic reaction. Not just an instant gushy love right away. They have a hard road ahead, trying to stop Blade, before Archangel Michael kills him. Scythe wants to reach Blade, and save his soul. The action in this book is non-stop, but we have some steamy romance thrown in, but it's nice that the focus is not on the romance, there is a story to tell, and it's told very well.

I will warn you, there are some points in the book that are disturbing; about Heather and her sister Rosemary's past. And a pedophile father that does the unthinkable to his young daughters. There are some explicit sex scenes in this book too, but it's not over the top, or anything, but certainly for mature readers only.

I found that Heather is a very strong female character to be able to endure her childhood, it's unthinkable what her sister had to endure to ensure Heather's safety, and made me really like Rosemary, whom we do not get to see much of, as you will discover in the opening of the book, Rosemary is Blades next victim that Heather "dreams" about, and tries to save. I really respected Rosemary, for looking after her younger sister when they were kids. There is an underlying message to this story that I found to be a good message. This book is very well written, and I look forward to seeking out more of her work. I will definitely read the next books in this Angle Of Death series. I hope the next is soon.

I highly recommend this book for all mature readers.

5 out of 5 stars for me.

*I received a complimentary copy of this book for a book tour. This does not affect my review in any way.

Nyghtengale says

Angels of Death with long hair, tan skin, muscles and a motorcycle sign me up. Does this book break any new ground in the paranormal romance theater? No, but its still a very good read. I would recommend to my friends. Scythe is a well fleshed out character who can see the good in bad, still willing to fight for what he believes in, even if it goes against Michael the Archangel.

Heather was a very strong female character, not you usually whining fair. She was tough almost to the point of being stubborn. She not only had to learn to trust but accept help when you are overwhelmed. No matter how tough you are you still need help sometimes, especially a human going up against a devil alone.

Blade as bad as he was still made me want to hug him, so much pain. Scythe being his brother despite wanting to help, only seemed to make that pain worse anyone with siblings can totally relate to that feel. Especially when you feel it was you sibling that wronged you.

This is a very entertaining read with so spicy scenes between Scythe and Heather. I am very curious what the author will do with Michael he is so cut and dry he almost seems like a demon himself instead of the head angel. You think of angels as benevolent, but everyone coward before him except Raphael who is my new favorite Archangel.
