



# **TAG**

*Shari J. Ryan*

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# TAG

*Shari J. Ryan*

## TAG Shari J. Ryan

What if your family had a big secret . . . a life changing secret. My dad, the bigwig CIA agent, was always on the run, whether he was being chased or doing the chasing. I missed him. Then my mom passed away, and my sister was murdered. I turned my solitude to strength because the alternative was too bleak.

But my luck seemed to turn: I met Tango. And while I want him more than I've ever wanted anything in my twenty-two years, danger lurks around every corner and I simply can't take the chance of it finding me. But his tattoos, his smell, his darkness, and his body— that marine has taken over my every thought. But, what if he too isn't what I think? A ticking time bomb isn't going to leave me much time to waver. Even the bravest person can be in need of a miracle.

Before she was gone, my mom warned me to know everyone and trust no one. But what was I supposed to do when I found out I am the one not to be trusted? Turns out, I was always the bait in this conspiracy.

In author Shari J. Ryan's New Adult novel, TAG, the canyons hold secrets, the waterfalls provide safety, and romance has a pesky way of showing up when you are sweaty and dirty and least expect it.

## TAG Details

Date : Published May 31st 2016 (first published November 3rd 2014)

ISBN :

Author : Shari J. Ryan

Format : Kindle Edition 264 pages

Genre : Romance, Romantic Suspense, New Adult, War, Military Fiction, Suspense, Contemporary  
Romance

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# From Reader Review TAG for online ebook

Jasmine says

3 TAG STARS ★★★

*“Know everyone. Trust no one.”*

Gotta admit that when it comes to romance-suspense reads, I'm a rather picky reader. For me, a good one needs to keep my interest piqued throughout and continuously causes me to be at the edge of my seat. While this read certainly had its own original twists that I didn't see coming, I couldn't find myself fully engaged with it that made me want to continue reading it in one sitting.

**TAG** starts off by introducing **Cali**, our heroine who witnessed her little sister being murdered right in front of her due to her being unable to reveal her father's location (who is an CIA agent in hiding). With the guilt that weighs upon her, she vowed to track down the guy and kill him.

In her path to seek revenge, she is forced to cross paths with **Tango**, a bodyguard and ex-marine that her father has hired from afar to keep her in check and ensures she isn't on a one-way ticket to self-destruction. Unable to trust anyone since her sister's murder, Cali & Tango would often clash heads but sooner than later, both of them started to learn that there was more to each other than meets the eyes.

I think the book definitely started off interesting and **Cali's character appealed to me for being stubborn and driven with a purpose**, who really didn't give a rat's ass about what people thought about her. I mostly empathize with her for having to deal with everything alone, having her dad being away and her mum and sister being dead. Part of me got really pissed that I couldn't fathom what kind of father would not be there for his daughter and chose his job over her.

**Tango was an okay alpha-male, nothing OTT with a nice sense of humor and definitely have the whole protective vibe going on with Cali.** But I'm usually more of a fan of super badass alpha-male and I didn't get that here :(

One of the things I struggled most with the book is **having to suspend a good amount of disbelief** while reading this, especially the fact that why Cali isn't with her dad since the bad guys are technically going after her because of him in the first place? How is leaving her behind suppose to protect her anyway? (view spoiler). Some things just came out a little too **unbelievable** for me especially towards the end and **I wasn't entirely sold on the connection between Cali and Tango** as it kinda escalated out of nowhere.

**Overall it was just an okay read for me.** The pace was a little too slow for my liking and sadly it just didn't warrant my attention long enough. However, it still had **some great suspenseful moments topped with some unpredictable twists** that I enjoyed. This could probably be the case of me being a picky reader but I would say that this read would still appeal to fans of this genre.

*TAG is a standalone read and can be read on its own.*

*~ ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review ~*

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## **Crina (Reading Addict) says**

Original post on <http://readingadd.blogspot.ro/>

I picked this up because everytime I'm eager to meet new authors and read awesome books, and this sounded really good, the cover was a turn-on, so...

This review will be a bit short and not because I didn't enjoy the book, but because I don't want to spoil it; and this being a mystery/suspense novel could be read without knowing too much. I think because I read it without paying too much attention to the synopsis or not knowing too much about it, made me like it so much.

TAG was a very good written novel, that held me on the edge of my seat for the whole ride and I enjoyed everything: action, plot, characters, twists and turns, dialogue. It was so well written and I have nothing negative to say. I didn't see that ending coming and some thing really surprised and shocked me. And sometimes I think I forgot to breathe, because this is a hell of a ride and from the second half of the novel I couldn't think what was going to happen, who was the bad guy, what was the main thing.

This book, like the two main characters, plays with your mind. Now says something and then does other thing. And it was so much fun and so much suspense and adrenaline. Plus, I really really liked Cali and Tango, and their stories. Both are strong and full of ambition and inner strenght, and I admired them through the whole book; because they haven't had a beautiful past and they are not having a nice life in the present. But things start to change, little by little... and when you reach the end you feel sad and relieved. Sad because they are leaving you and relieved because they are now safe and sane.

And another thing that made this book awesome and great for me was the writing style. It gripped me from the beginning and from the first sentence I knew that I'd love it. And I'm so glad that I picked this up even if I haven't heard about it, because it woth it and I just want to read it again :)) Yeah, that much I loved it! The writing style feel so natural and cursive and you feel everything; the characters are very well sketched and the whole novel is a beautiful jem that is waiting to be discovered.

Highly recommend!

Received this through NetGalley for a HONEST review!

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## **Ashley Gallegos says**

Secrets, action, and Tango. Shari always knows how to deliver the best book boyfriends! I LOVED TAG! It kept me on my toes and wanting more the entire time. My heart was beating constantly! Yes and yes!

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## **Kj says**

### **4.75 Tango-lovin' Stars**

Cali has lost everyone she loves. She's been on the run for the last year and everyone wants to use her to get to her CIA agent father. Her mother taught her to trust no one and after learning the hard way Cali truly trusts no one.

That is until she meets Tango Wright who is supposed to be a body guard. When sparks start flying Cali knows she can't trust him because the last time she let someone in it meant death for someone she loved.

Tango has a huge secret of his own and the whole time I was still wondering if Cali should trust him or if he was going to double cross her. I loved Tango but I never fully trusted him so how could Cali?

This book has a ton of 5 star reviews and it earned every one. The one thing I would change if I could would be the ending. It had a great ending but it was very rushed and felt thrown together. It just didn't feel quite as polished as the rest of the book. That being said this was a fantastic story and I devoured and loved each and every second of it. Don't be scared about what I said about the ending because you do get a wrapped up story, it's just not as lengthy as I would have liked.

I have purposely written this review to be very vague because I think it's one of those books that you need to go into blind. Almost any details that I could give would spoil this storyline. I'm also too lazy to go find graphics and write a lengthier review tonight ! Get clickin'! This book was worth every penny!

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## **Red Cheeks Reads says**

TAG for me was a bit of a perplexing but emotional read, it started off brilliantly enough with the Prologue having an eerie Hitcockesque feel to it full of shadows, murder and treachery, as Cali our tragic heroine tells us in her emotional point of view, step by step, the traumatic events that lead her into a world of isolation, self-preservation and revenge. As the story moved along however the plot seemed to waver and go in a direction that never really benefited or progressed the plot except to highlight the lengths that Cali would go to in order to exact revenge and the desperation she feels in her need to carry it out. The synopsis and prologue both hinted of an action-packed, CIA conspiracy extravaganza but what we get is something much

much different and just a bit more complex. It's a tale of revenge but with a message of finding absolution, it's a story of murder and betrayal from all sides with the entanglement of guilt and despair clouding the path to redemption and love for our two main protagonists

At times Cali's character came across as very self-contained, aware and strong and at others she exuded the attitude and sarcastic bite of a surly hormonal teenager but taking into account all that leads her on her quest for vengeance and retribution, I did feel slightly amazed that she wasn't as damaged as she believes herself to be. My only flaw with Cali's character was the missing connection, I would sometimes feel sympathy or annoyance with her or laugh at some of the witty repartee that occurs between her and Tango but I never fully grasped the inner workings of her even though the story is told in dual points of view.

Cali's emotional saviour comes in the form of ex-Marine and mysterious Mercenary Tango. A complex and multi-faceted hero Tango was the perfect element needed to help Cali understand that it's okay to trust someone, to lean on someone else, to have an actual friend. It was a very slow simmer of a romance with these two, there was instant attraction but neither party attempt anything for a good majority of the book. The sexual tension never really amounted to much but the flirtation and verbal sparring still added good entertainment value.

It is a well written book with good use of grammar and dialogue but it was just a little slow and lagging in places. When you get to the last third of the book the action and excitement really kicks in to high gear and that's what saved the story. There is plenty of intrigue and mystery towards the end so coupled with the beautiful yet fragile romance of untrusting Cali and reluctant Tango TAG is a fairly good read if you don't mind a slow burn rather than instant gratification.

~Nicole

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**\* Meli Mel \* says**

♥♥♥ 3.75 STARS ♥♥♥

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**"The choice is yours. Live or die."**

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**"Know everyone. Trust no one."**



This book had quite the interesting start. It began with Cali in the past, witnessing her sister being murdered in front of her. Right off the bat that got my attention. Now in the present, Cali is on the run from the men that want her in order to get to her ex-CIA father, who has disappeared. Cali is also seeking revenge for the death of her sister, she will do anything to be able to kill that man. But her father has another plan, he has sent her a bodyguard named Tango. She may think he is attractive, but she no longer lets herself become vulnerable nor manipulated by anyone. Which is why she decides to stay away from the hot ex-military man.

Cali was great, I loved how strong and bad-ass she was. I felt for her and the way she grew up, and of course for the loss of her sister and mother. I will admit, I hated her father for not being there for her. I got that he was in trouble but I didn't get why they couldn't be together if the same men that were chasing her, were after him. It made no sense to me. However, once Tango was in the picture I was very happy. He was alpha, funny and sweet. I really loved him. He made me melt more than on one occasion. The sexual tension between these two was pretty high. I couldn't believe Cali was able to resist him for as long as she did. Tango has gone through some rough times as well. He feels just as alone as Cali does, but he hasn't lost hope. The reason Tango accepts being Cali's "bodyguard" is because he wants to survive.



**“You will always be my exception to the rule.”**



The story was one that was full of suspense. I really enjoyed it. I liked the connection Tango and Cali shared. I would have liked there to have been a little more of them together learning about each other. And a little more steam wouldn't have hurt either. There were a few steamy moments but it definitely left me wanting more. The story line was very interesting but I will admit there were moments near the end that seemed a little too unbelievable to me. I also would have liked a little more detail in the end as well, as things seemed to be a bit rushed. Overall, it was a very enjoyable read and worth checking out.

*~Ebook copy provided by the author, Shari J. Ryan, in exchange for an honest review.~*

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## **Danielle says**

TAG pulled me in at the prologue and took me on a ride that I couldn't get enough of. It's a great combination of romance and suspense that'll leave you on the edge of your seat and hoping that everything will work out in the end.

Carolina has had a hard life for the past three years, first watching her mom die from cancer, then having her sister murdered right in front of her. But when we meet her we're shown right off the bat how strong she is and I knew I was going to love her.

Tango is absolutely amazing. He's been dealt a pretty crappy hand himself but he's dealing with it the best way he can. What he didn't plan on was Cali and the feelings she would evoke in him.

Neither are at a point in their life where they're looking for love but it turns out that that's exactly what they both need. They give each other the strength and will to survive and when death is literally knocking at your door, that's more than either could ask for.

I loved watching first the friendship, then the love blossom between Cali and Tango. There was definitely no insta-love since Cali's way too hardened for that, but I loved watching her give in to Tango. And Tango is so swoon worthy, how could she not?!

Of course the suspense was the perfect backdrop for their budding relationship. Cali has some bad guys after her that are trying to use her to get to her father... Only she has no idea where he is. When Tango reveals that what her father has could help him, he and Cali take off on a trek across Mexico to find him.

What ensues is romantic suspense at it's finest. The bad guys close in, Cali once again proves just how badass she really is, and some shocking secrets are revealed. Not to mention there are a few sexy times between Cali and Tango as well.

I was a little disappointed in the ending but overall this was a great read. Now if only there really was a secret cure for cancer out there somewhere...

\*ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review.

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## **Escape Reality with Books says**

Carolina or Cali as she prefers to be known by, has had a rough couple of years. Her Dad is a CIA operative who is rarely home leaving her, her sister and her mother who form a tremendously close bond. When her Mum dies from cancer, it's up to her and her sister to stick together and be there for one another in what is a very difficult time. Then her sister is murdered in front of her eyes by the man she fell in love with and trusted only to find out he was using her the whole time to find out where Dad is hiding. From that day on, she lives by the motto her Mother said to her just before she died, "Know everyone...trust no one".

Cali goes on a vendetta of revenge for anyone that ever hurt her sister. She turns into a tough as nails chick who can fight, shoot and take down a man with her bare hands. With the man who killed her sister hot on her trail, she is also on the run and when she meets the new bodyguard sent by her Dad to protect her, she feels something she hasn't felt for anyone in a long time...a attraction and challenge that presses all her buttons.

Tango is an ex-Marine, gorgeous, tattooed and well built. He is also haunted by his past and is hiding a deadly secret. He is now working as a mercenary and was hired for what is to be his last job. He thinks the job will be easy, until he meets Cali and she puts him through his paces.

When Tango reveals his secret to Cali, she will stop at nothing to find her Dad, who is the only person that



can help Tango.

I really loved Tag, it's a gem hidden in the rough that is the book world and I was so happy I signed up to read it!

It's suspenseful, fast paced, action packed, emotional and steamy and a must read for romantic suspense fans. The emotion I felt when I first read about Tango's secret very nearly made me cry and the whole time I was thinking "No, don't do this to him".

I was given a complimentary copy in exchange for an honest review. Reviewed by Tanya.

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### **Carol [Goodreads Addict] says**

As soon as you start the first page of the Prologue in Tag, by Shari J. Ryan, you will realize you are in for a wild ride. This is a story about two people, both broken and hurting, brought together in the most desperate of circumstances and how they attempt to save each other.

***"Know everyone...Trust no one."***

Carolina (Cali) is one tough woman. She is twenty-two years old and the last three years of her life not only has she been on the run, she has lost her mother and witnessed the murder of her sister. Now all she wants is revenge. Her father is CIA and has taught her well how to handle herself. She is an expert with a gun and knows how to read people. There was one person in her past, though, that she misjudged. The one man she gave her heart and he in turn murdered her sister. Now he hunts her as well. She rarely stays in one place more than a few weeks, always trying to stay one step ahead of him. This time, though, her father sent a new body guard, Tango. He's sent them before and Cali always finds a way to drive them off. She's determined to do the same with this one.

Tango is a twenty-four year old ex-marine turned mercenary with secrets of his own. He has been hired to protect Cali. He's been given a limited profile on her but he is not prepared for this beautiful, tough and broken young woman. She's supposed to be a job. No way should he let it be anything more. But each day that passes while they are together he lets her in a little bit more.

***"You're a lot sweeter when it rains, huh?"***

***"I like the rain."***

***"Well then, I hope it never stops raining," he says softly.***

Cali has learned the hard way not to trust anyone. But each day Tango is with her, she feels her resolve weakening. Every time he seems to break through a wall, though, she panics and doubts him all over again. Can she really trust him? Is he telling her the truth or is he just using her to get to her father? Maybe it's finally time to trust someone again.

***"It's only been days, but this connection feels as though it's been here forever. If he can believe in fate,***

*so can I.”*

*“Maybe there’s a reason we did find each other. I’m broken. She’s broken. Maybe our two broken souls can fit together and make us whole again.”*

Tango and Cali’s journey together take them from Boston across the country to Mexico. Then by foot through the canyons, hiking and scaling cliffs. All the while running from those that want her to get to her father. Along the way she and Tango learn to trust one another and find the hope they haven’t had for a long time of finding a future together.

This is both a suspenseful and sweet story of two people that didn’t realize they needed each other. Then once they do find each other, trying to hang on, never knowing how much time they will have together. After about the 60% mark things really ramp up and I couldn’t put it down. Will Tango and Cali survive and get the chance for their happy ever after? Once you start this book, you might as well get comfortable because you won’t want to put it down.

*“Even if I die tomorrow, you have made my life worth living.”*

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## **Kelsey says**

-This was given to me in exchange for an honest review-

Trust no one. <--- The words that the main character lived by. She would soon learn she could trust one.

This book had me smiling. It had me laughing out loud. It had me wanting to quote some of the lines. I could connect with some of the moments in the book as well.

Callie and Tango were by far one of the most fantastic couples to follow on a journey. The romance was sizzling, the banter was amazing, their story line was incredible. I just adored their connection from the very start. The opening of this book reeled me in right away. I loved the plot as it was a thrilling romance novel that had me not wanting to stop reading. At every turn something new and exciting happened. I would recommend this novel to anyone with a love for a thrilling adventure, filled with romance at every corner.

The reason this book was not getting a five stars is because of how predictable, and unrealistic a lot of it was. A cure for cancer is not that simple. Tango falling upon her and making it out alive was so unrealistic, but predicted. I will admit there was one turn around I didn't expect, but it was too cheesy for me. I also found myself beyond peeved with the ending. I found myself beyond peeved when Callie told Tango they didn't need protection because she was on the pill. No. Disease. Neither of them thought twice about diseases, at all. They had only known each other for less than a month and they didn't use a condom. And then, it felt like an easy cop out to rearrange the novel to the perfect little ending where Callie and Tango can get married and start a family. It was so cheesy. The fact that these 'bad guys' were after them, the thrilling part of the story, just for them to turn around and be 'amazing' to Tango, and Alice was kind of unbelievable as well. Then Tango comes back and they have the cheesy, happy ending, that was actually not happy in a realistic way.

The ending was rushed, and too over the top. Also, Tango and Callie falling in love after only three weeks, and then, getting married after only being together for three weeks was so ridiculous. It could have been easily taken care of if the Author actually made it seem like they'd been around longer, skipped some time ahead and what not. The pace of their romance was great, it didn't feel like only a few weeks...but it was making it unbelievable.

The thing that saved this book for me was as I said, I could quote things. This book made me laugh, it made me smile, and that's a good book in my mind, ending aside. Yes, I'd still recommend this book to people, and just simply say it's worth the read ending put aside. Some may love the ending though, just wasn't for me.

4/5

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## **Liz says**

### **5 Trusting Stars**

I loved this book. By 9% it gripped me, and could not put it down. (Sleep!? I lost a lot of Zzzzzs) I'm a huge fan of the Schasm series. But TAG was so amazing. Ms. Ryan is so versatile in her works. I will not rehash the synopsis, as the blurb itself is explanatory.

***“Where beauty lies, death follows”***

Cali and Tango are “forced” to be a part of each other’s lives; there was no choice in the matter. Both their lives are altered and the twist and turns will take you for a ride. With every turn of the page, you second-guess on whom you think you can fully trust. Questioning, “What are Cali and Tango’s intentions”?

Cali was snarky, spunky, smart, and standoffish at times due to her background. But don’t forget we all have weaknesses. ***Cali’s weakness is evident and his name is T A N G O (NEW Book Boyfriend Alert!!)*** ,

***“Everything. He. Does. Makes. Me. Melt. “ - CALI***

***“It also doesn’t help that she’s so beautiful when she’s mad” - TANGO***

Yeah, I highly advise for you to get to know him. He’s charismatic, breathtakingly handsome; and his smile is to die for. Probably wondering, “How on earth do I know this?” It’s all in how Ms. Ryan wrote descriptively about her characters, and the bantering is addictive.

Overall, I loved the storyline, and highly recommend for all to one click on November 7th.

***“Maybe our two broken souls can fit together and make us whole again” - TANGO***

Casting:

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## Cassia Brightmore says

As a reader, I'm always searching for a book that will completely satisfy me - one that will blow me away and leave me breathless and wanting more. I enjoy a unique story, one that grabs my attention and doesn't let go until I've read the very last word. I got all of that and more with Tag, it's a story that left me utterly ruined for other books, in the best possible way. In the competitive book world, it's a refreshing change to come across a plot that has you thinking outside the box, while grabbing hold of you with its emotional turbulence. With a prologue that gets its hooks into you right off the bat, this story held the promise of being one that I won't soon forget.

***It's easy to be strong when resilient people surround you. Having no support, though, it's weakening.***

Cali isn't your typical female. Strong, tough and a whole lot of kickass sass, she will go for the jugular and not give it a second thought. Being taught to "know everyone, trust no one," has hardened her to the softer side of life - her father's abandonment, mother's death and sister's murder adding more weight on her shoulders than any young woman should feel. Her father's involvement in darker dealings with the CIA have left her with danger lurking in the shadows, ready to strike at any moment. On the hunt to bring her sister's killer to justice has put her life on hold - revenge her own focus. Her character was the perfect mix of humor and sassy spunk - I loved how she approached every avenue with passion and was truly a force of nature. Nothing stopped or deterred her from her goal. That is....until Tango entered her life.

He is the force I can't reckon with and it's pissing me off.

Tango has a job to do, and it isn't one he's looking forward to. Babysitting some out of control girl isn't exactly his dream job, but since his discharge from the military and his "death", his career opportunities are limited. What should have been an easy assignment turns into so much more once he meets the hot little firecracker, Cali. The clash in more ways than one, a battle of wills, a battle of desire - a battle of two broken souls trying to mend pieces of their heart they lost. I loved their connection, I was lost in the way that they made each other feel. Cali's insecurities and refusal to trust anyone drove me crazy at times, had me wanting to shake her and tell her to wake the fuck up. Seriously now, if Tango showed up at my door, all sexy and domineering demanding by my side, I would happily hand over my panties and let him have his way with me. He's just that damn sexy.

***I want to be happy more than anything in this whole fucked up world. I want someone to like me, to love me, to care about me. I want someone I can trust.***

This book is so much more than your typical romance. The mystery, the suspense - everything about it gripped me from the beginning. The writing style was beautiful, the story had a natural flow - and that is something I love in a book. If you're looking for a read that will keep you guessing, satisfy your lady parts and warm your heart, this is the one.

Tag, you're it.

xo Cassia

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## **Holly (epiloguebookblog) says**

4.5 stars\*

Because it's freshest on my mind, I love the last line of the epilogue: a great ending to a great book!

I've been in a real "romantic suspense" reading mood lately, so *TAG* appealed to me on many levels. First off, I requested this title because of the cover and then the blurb. I liked the simplicity of the title, the exotic locale featured in the cover's background, and the attractive tattooed couple in its foreground. Finally, the tag line "Know everyone...Trust no one" piqued my interest.

Page one of the prologue gripped me and refused to release its hold on my curiosity and attention. Even though Cali is a bit prickly, I liked her immediately. Now I'm going to be honest here and say that the first chapter creeped me out considerably, reminding me of *Hard Candy*, the 2005 film starring Ellen Page and Patrick Wilson. Nevertheless, I have a healthy respect for vigilante justice in fiction, and Cali's pursuit of revenge (in Krissy's honor) is no exception.

Of course, I like Tango as well. It would be impossible not to, right? And while I like Cali for her attitude and spunk, I admire Tango for his loyalty, stability, and moral fortitude. The two make a solid match based on their character traits and life experiences.

On that note, the concept of fate is strongly threaded throughout the novel. If you like your romance with a healthy dose of meant-to-be (which I do, frequently) and the idea that finding the right person is like discovering the answer to an all-important, persistent question, *TAG* is right up your alley. Now that's not to suggest that the novel is devoid of conflict. On the contrary, it's the conflict that made this one a page-turner for me. The reading experience was such that I genuinely didn't know how things would turn out. At least two plot twists I didn't see coming, and in general the suspenseful narrative kept me on my toes.

So, why not five stars?

First, many of Tango's sections are short and underdeveloped, and I found myself wanting to hear as much from his point of view as Cali's. Second, the resolution comes about more quickly and easily than I expected due to its build-up.

Did either of these issues ruin the novel for me? Absolutely not. *TAG* is an incredibly entertaining endeavor, and I predict its storyline and characters will stick with me for a long time to come.

\*Copy generously provided through NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

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**Hazel \*Craves the Angst Reviews\* says**

Find This and Other Reviews At [Craves The Angst](#).

TAG is a New Adult Romance, Thriller written by *Shari J. Ryan*. I was gifted a copy from Jennifer Gilbert with *Booktrope Publishing* in exchange for an honest review.

### **5 “know everyone.. trust no one” Stars!**

***Intense, Sweet, Adventurous and Heartbreaking. Another Fantastic Read!***

#### ***The Review:***

Absolutely Amazing! *Shari J. Ryan* spins gold once again. Filled with thrilling action and delicious tension, this gripping tale will keep you on your toes while pulling at your heartstrings. Five fabulous stars!

#### ***Story...***

Through no fault of her own, Cali Tate has been on the run for longer than she cares to admit. Since the day her sister was murdered in front of her and her trust completely broken, she's been on a revenge mission that will either get her what she seeks or get her killed. Either would be just fine by her. She trusts no one and she allows no one into her life. She's alone and that's the way she prefers it.

Then... Tango shows up out of the blue with a promise to protect her and a job to do but Cali has made it an art to read people and she knows Tango is holding back and keeping secrets.

Tango has one last mission to complete and he's promised to keep Cali safe. But with one look into her suspicious and beautiful eyes and appreciating her vicious attitude, he realizes this is more than a job. He sees through the walls she's built and knows the pain she's endured because it mirrors his own. But he's also keeping something hidden that could change everything and his only hope comes from a dangerous mission that involves the one he's supposed to protect.

Tango and Cali set out on a fierce and perilous journey to save a life through intense situations, action packed adventure and angsty emotions as Cali tries to trust once again and Tango tries to accept his fate.

#### ***Characters...***

Told in alternating POV's, we get both sides of the story which was a thrill to experience.

Cali was as tough and strong as they come. She'd been dealt this tragic hand of fate due to her father's misdeeds and even after losing her sister, she found the strength to carry on. She wanted revenge and she trained her body and her mind to accomplish this mission. And when faced with even more dire circumstances, she didn't waver and she didn't complain. Her life was chaotic, dangerous and intense and she rolled through all those punches with bravery, a wicked aim and a witty comeback. I enjoyed everything about her.

Tango was a hot mess! He survived the war riddled deserts of Afghanistan, leaving dead bodies in his wake, only to return home to his own death sentence. But once he meets Cali, he sees light at the end of his dark tunnel and even if things don't turn out the way he would like, he values that time he gets with Cali. I loved Tango. He was honorable, strong, powerful and outright ferocious when what he cared about was in danger.

Their story was filled with burning intensity and sexual tension as they both tried a “no touching” approach that quickly got vetoed once they got a real taste of each other and all that angst was a lot of fun to read!

And that ending.... what a fantastic and beautiful ending that had my eyes watering and my heart soaring!

### *Special Note...*

Tango didn't just waltz out of war without scars. I come from a military family, like the author, and I appreciated the care the author took in creating a realistic hero who suffered for his country. Tango was still very much shell shocked. He'd only been discharged for a month and it was both heartbreaking as well as eye-opening to watch his struggles with PTSD, flashbacks, and his actions and reactions to the things around him. He was faced with doubt and regrets and wondered what it was he was fighting for. I recognized those struggles and the life he was trying to carve out for himself after such harrowing events, only made me love his character even more.

### ***The Wrap Up:***

I love this authors style of writing. She doesn't waste words and her stories are always heartfelt, life affirming and adventurous. I'm once again wowed at how she can rope me in with just a few paragraphs and hold me captive to the very end. I absolutely couldn't put this book down and I enjoyed every riveting moment.

### **Some of My Favorite Quotes!**

#### *Quote Spotlight...*

**No one ever asked me if I wanted to be followed around my entire life. Dad was the cause of Krissy's death, and he's out there carrying on with what he does best. Well, now it's only me. My life will always be under some kind of microscope because of him. But Tango, he's pretty much the fucking icing on top. To send me an amazingly hot man to ogle, only to be informed that he's my new babysitter, is pretty screwed up. It's like Dad wants me to be miserable.**

#### *Quote Spotlight...*

**The world seems like such a big place when you have no one and nowhere to turn. It almost feels like the world is caving in, warning me it's done with me, and it's time to go.**

**But I don't want to go.**

**I'm not done with this world.**

#### *Quote Spotlight...*

**She looks so innocent and so pleasant when she's asleep, but when she's awake, she's a ball of fire.**

**Although, I do think the meanness has to be a mask, or just a case of self-defense. Whatever the reason is, I like what I see under the mask.**

#### *Quote Spotlight...*

**I just want to feel something that lasts for more than a few minutes, and she makes me feel something when I'm not even touching her. It also doesn't help that she's so beautiful when she's mad.**

#### *Quote Spotlight...*

**This battle is never fucking ending.**

**I can't even remember what I'm fighting for. Is it for my survival or my country? Where is my country? Do they even know I'm here, having guns shadow over my head, watching children sacrificed in place of their parents? Do they know what kind of world I'm being face with, while they're watching little snippets of sandstorms on TV? Do they think that's war?**

#### *Quote Spotlight...*

**I'm broken. She's broken.**

**Maybe our two broken souls can fit together and make us whole again.**

*Quote Spotlight...*

**Even if I die tomorrow, you have made my life worth living.**

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## **Dianne says**

Hang on tightly to your heartstrings, because an emotional tug of war is about to explode all around you as two people, deserving or not, have faced a world of pain, deceit and loss in their pasts and hold little hope of change for their futures. **Tag** by Shari J. Ryan is part tender romance, part nail biting suspense and one hundred percent “Go away-I’m Reading” magnetic!

Cali’s life has always been unsettling. Her father was rarely around growing up and now he has virtually disappeared and on the run. As the daughter of a CIA agent, Cali was taught never to let her guard down, never to trust too much. But she did just that, once and it cost her sister her life as Cali could only watch the horror of the man she loved slitting her sister’s throat. When her mother died of cancer, there was no one left for Cali to trust in, lean on or be loved by. She did have her raging anger, the need for revenge and later, as she would discover, a bullseye on her back. Cali was the pawn in the game of cat and mouse being played between unknown evil and her father. It was time to go into hiding with him. Enter Tango, former Marine, toughened soldier, a man doing his job, to protect Cali and bring her in safely. When Tango wasn’t breaking through Cali’s defenses, he was completely irritating her. Tango was also full of his own secrets, both past and future. He has his own demons to deal with and he is not ready to share.

When danger follows on their tail, it is Tango who proves he can be trusted to keep Cali safe. But can he be trusted with her heart? Will he bare his past, present and future secrets? Will he explain the blood he coughs up? Does he have ulterior motives to being Cali’s bodyguard?

Rest up for this game of **Tag** because Shari J. Ryan knows how to dig deep and push every button in her arsenal to bring a fast-paced tale riddled with intrigue, mysteries and searing emotions that will leave you raw. Page by page the world around Cali and Tango grows uglier and uglier. Staying alive is at best, a crap shoot and believe me when I say, I felt like I was there as every moment sped past only to slam into another twist or sharp angle.

One of the best things about reading is finding a new author to follow and today was my lucky day!

Publication Date: November 7, 2014

Publisher: Booktrope

Genre: Romantic Suspense

Print Length: 264 pages

Available from: Amazon | Barnes & Noble

Reviewed for: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

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