



Tick Tock: Seven Tales of Time

Corinne O'Flynn , Kristi Helvig , Rebecca Taylor , Sue Duff , Shawn McGuire , Wendy Terrien , A.G. Henley

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Seven Fantasy and Science Fiction authors have twisted time into tales of adventure, mystery, horror, and romance.

A serial killer returns years later to finish what was started.

A coffee shop offers a respite for the cursed.

A hangover masks the horrors of the previous night.

A princess's wedding gift comes with a price.

A locked apartment door hides a chilling secret.

A girl wakes up in an asylum and must survive, and escape.

A young woman must protect the past to thwart a thief from the future.

All it takes is a second...a minute...an hour...for everything to change.

Tick Tock: Seven Tales of Time Details

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From Reader Review Tick Tock: Seven Tales of Time for online ebook

Ashley says

This is such a great group of stories! It was interesting to start reading each one, and wonder how the element of time was going to be used in it. Each story had me hooked from the first page, and turning pages until I got to the last. There were a lot of unforeseen twists and turns in each story, and I enjoyed every minute of them. I can't wait to see what this group of authors puts out next!

Laurie P says

I don't usually read anthologies because they consist of short stories and I prefer novel length. I don't feel like the characters and story line can be adequately developed in short stories. This being said, I really enjoyed this book.

I had not read anything from most of the authors that combined their talents in this book. That will have to change. All of the stories were great! Great job to all of you!!

*I was given this book for an honest review

Stephanie says

Link: <https://holedupinabook.blogspot.com/2014/09/tick-tock-seven-tales-of-time.html>

As some of you well know, I'm not a huge fan of short stories; however, I have received this book as part of a giveaway so I decided to take a stab at it. Plus it was fantasy related which is more up my speed. For the most part, I did enjoy the short stories. There were a few that I was a little confused about specifically the princess and the asylum one; however, the rest were all very entertaining albeit a bit creepy. I was immediately hooked for a few of them.

We can start with the bad ones first. Well, I don't want to say bad but these were the two short stories that couldn't really keep my attention and I felt lost and out of sorts while reading them. Not sure if I was simply tired or something but I just couldn't find myself really getting into the stories about the wedding gift or the one about the asylum. For the wedding gift, I was just plain confused – up to now, I'm still lost as to what exactly happened because it seemed like a blur to me. As for the asylum, I was more confused in the "how". I mean, how did that exactly happen? What exactly is that stone and how did it cause this occurrence to occur? I thought that the explanations for this one was lacking.

Moving on to the better short stories. I really enjoyed the coffee shop one and the locked apartment door. They were both a little confusing but in a good way and the ending for both was a bit queer (again, in a good way!). The coffee shop was interesting not because I didn't really know what was going on – I just didn't expect it to end the way that it did. Okay, to be honest, I didn't understand 100% what was going on but I

knew there was something “special” going on but couldn’t pinpoint it. That being said, I wasn’t super surprised when the ending came around for the main girl – I was mostly surprised during the epilogue. For the locked apartment door, I was honestly expecting something creepy/scary and it was neither. It was definitely different though.

Each story had its own quirks and there was something about each story that make it entertaining or creepy or just peculiar. So I would totally suggest reading them because they’re all incredibly different. I know that the general theme is “time” for this book but honestly, there were a few stories where I couldn’t really pinpoint where the “time” element came into place other than the general passing of time.

Overall, it was a very pleasurable read for me and I was definitely hooked with some of the characters and their stories. I would check it out if you’re into peculiar short stories.

Kimberly Vanderbloom says

I was given a book in exchange for an honest review free of persuasion from the authors or anyone else affiliated with this book.

There are seven short stories all with the theme of time. Past, present and future are all represented. I have heard of a few of these authors but I haven’t gotten to chance to read any of their work so I was thrilled to get my hands on a copy. One of my favorite parts to all the stories was the about section at the end where the authors describe how the story came about. I thought it put a great extra in for the readers. I also liked how all the authors are from Colorado because so am I. It is nice to be able to support hometown authors. I now know that I will be picking up some of their work because I was addicted. This is the first anthology I’ve been able to read and can’t wait to read more.

Suicide High by Corinne O’Flynn

It is a story about a young woman who can feel and see spirits. I found this story to be captivating. I couldn’t stop turning the pages because I wanted to get down to the ending. I was shocked with the ending. My jaw was hurting because my mouth dropped for so long. I look forward to reading more from this author.

Countdown Cafe by Kristi Helvig

I found this story to be very touching. It focus on the lost time of a young woman who lost her twin. My favorite part was when she first found the cafe. You could picture her smile when she first drank that mocha. It was heart warming and eerie. I really enjoyed it and look forward to reading more from Kristi Helvig.

Jesse’s Girl by Rebecca Taylor

This story is about a young man who woke up and can’t figure out what happened at a party the night before. I was blown away from this story. This was my absolute favorite. I love horror and this filled my horror void. My favorite part was the bed scene. I can’t say much more because I don’t want to give it away. I read this story at night and found myself having nightmares which is awesome. I recommend this story to any horror fans.

Duo'ver by Sue Duff

This story takes place in the future. It is about a marriage union and second chances. I found this to be a real heartwarming tale. It showed how far love can take us and what a ultimate sacrifice is. I loved all the characters and found that this story moved fast. I look forward to reading more from this author.

The Door by Shawn McGuire

This story is about choices. I liked the main character and found I could easily picture all of her make up artist skills. I found the concept of the door to be intriguing. We have a door at work that no one knows where it goes and can't open. I found this story touched a spooky feeling close to home. I can't wait to dig into her ya series after reading this story.

The Fate Stone by Wendy Terrien

I really enjoyed this story. I liked the main character Genna. I love the insane asylum aspect. I found it to be fast paced and I really enjoyed it. My favorite part was when she woke up in the asylum. This definitely focuses on time past.

Untimely by A.G. Henley

I loved this story. I loved how it combined past and present time. I'm a fan of time travel so this was a great read for me. It was fast paced and kept my heart racing. I liked the characters and I thought it flowed nicely. It was a great ending to a amazing anthology.

Angela Withrow TheArdentReader says

All of the stories in this anthology have a time element. Loosing time, changing time. And a bit of the magical, fantasy world. I like that aspect of it and the infinite amount of different things that can be infused into a story.

I will give a brief review of each story. I usually preface with a description of the story I've read, but since you can read the blurbs below, I will skip that part.

I really liked all the stories in this anthology! I think I will look for more from all of these authors!

Suicide High by Corinne O'Flynn

Aggie is a high school student at a new school. She is also psychic. A "gift" that she shares with her mother and sister. I liked the story. The end was a surprise! I always wondered what it would be like to have this type of gift.

Countdown Café by Kristi Helvig

This was a bittersweet story! The loss of a loved one is never easy. I could not imagine losing your twin. Short and sweet, this is another good one!

Jesse's Girl by Rebecca Taylor

Jesse's girl is a hauntingly good story. I won't soon forget that one! I could not imagine what Jesse or Andrea went through.

Duo'vr by Sue Duff

Learning to be selfless is a hard lesson.

This was a good story. I'd love to read a longer version!

The Door by Shawn McGuire

I really liked this story! I don't want to spoil it, but the message was a good one!

The Fate Stone by Wendy Terrien

This story kind of creeped me out at first. But the longer it went on, the more I liked the idea. Another story I wished were longer!!

Untimely by A.G. Henley

I think this was my favorite story in the anthology. I love the idea of the premise of the book. I would definitely read more stories about this premise. I'm trying hard not to write a spoiler. It is hard when the ideas on the story are so interesting!

*I received a courtesy copy of this title in exchange for my honest opinion.

Jenn Sut says

I was given a book in exchange for an honest review free of persuasion from the authors or anyone else affiliated with this book.

This book contains seven short stories about time. This is the first anthology I have read.

Suicide High by Corinne O'Flynn

This is a story about Aggie who uses her psychic abilities to see ghosts. One girl ghost in particular keeps turning up. I thought the story was entertaining and a definite page turner.

Countdown Cafe by Kristi Helvig

The second story is more emotional. It tells the story about a girl who lost her twin sister Sophie. It has been six months, but it is still devastating. How can it not be? This emotional tale is very moving.

Jesse's Girl by Rebecca Taylor

Jessie has a history of drinking too much. This story blurs time and reality as he tries to figure out what happened the night before. This is a very suspenseful tale that has you trying to figure it all out along with Jessie.

Duo'ver by Sue Duff

This is a futuristic story about sacrifice and love. I liked the pace of the story. I found the characters to be likable including Ciara, and the story to be very entertaining.

The Door by Shawn McGuire

Chelsea is looking to rent an apartment while she attends school. The apartment has a door that doesn't open. This story is descriptive and suspenseful.

The Fate Stone by Wendy Terrien

Genna ends up in an unfamiliar place only to find that it is an asylum. She is confused and scared as she believes she should be getting ready for swim class. Time works differently and soon Genna runs into

someone she knows. Great story.

Untimely by A.G. Henley

Ellie is at Monticello, where her mom works, when she meets a mysterious stranger who then disappears. I love time travel, so this story was a perfect fit for me. It is a fast paced tale that combines past and present. I enjoyed this one.

Melissa Burcham says

I was asked for an honest review free of persuasion from the author or anyone else affiliated with this book.

Wow, this was a great anthology! I normally don't like short stories or novellas. They always seem to leave out so much! I was not disappointed with a single story in this group. They all immediately grabbed my attention and felt concluded at the end. I loved the short stories by each of these authors! Each of the stories involved time in their own way in the tale. If you want a quick read, grab this book! You will not be disappointed!

Laura says

All of these stories were good, but when I read these gems I tend to find new authors to explore.

Suicide High by Corinne O'Flynn

A serial killer returns years later to finish what was started. 3 stars
Suspense-filled, light horror...not my cup of tea, but good.

Countdown Cafe by Kristi Helvig

A coffee shop offers a respite for the cursed. 4 stars
Mysterious and lightly macabre...very good.

Jesse's Girl by Rebecca Taylor

A hangover masks the horrors of the previous night. 3 stars
Suspense, horror, tragic...not my cup of tea, but is good especially for a reality-check for teens.

Duo'ver by Sue Duff

A princess's wedding gift comes with a price. 5 stars
I absolutely loved this story. It combined fantasy, space, and time-travel.
I so want to read more by this author especially, if this is connected to other series.

The Door by Shawn McGuire

A locked apartment door hides a chilling secret. 4 stars
Mysterious, wondering...endearing with some suspense...very good.

The Fate Stone by Wendy Terrien

A girl wakes up in an asylum and must survive, and escape. 4 stars

Mysterious, action, interesting concepts...very good.

Untimely by A.G. Henley

A young woman must protect the past to thwart a thief from the future. 4 ½ stars

Mysterious, action, betrayals, redemption, want to know more from this world.

I have enjoyed this author's other works and she does not disappoint.

BJ says

I haven't read ALL the stories, yet, but want to jump in now and recommend this collection of novellas. Great way to find new authors, see how their writing is, see if you're interested in more of their works. I've found MANY great books through reading shorts in the Kindle World novellas, various anthologies such as this one... I particularly loved "Suicide High" by Corinne O'Flynn and "The Door", by Shawn McGuire.

Shelley says

Suicide High/The Door

Both of these stories were intense for such short stories! I need to find more about Aggie, I hope the author has a series with her involved. I enjoyed The Door so much, it was so unexpected!

S.F. Benson says

"Tick Tock" is an interesting compilation of short stories revolving around time. Each story explores a different fascination of the authors—time travel, reincarnation, etc. All the stories are well-written with great intriguing characters.

The story which stuck with me was Rebecca Taylor's "Jesse's Girl". This one should be sent to schools everywhere to make sure kids understand the hazards of drugs. It was such a heartbreak tale. I couldn't imagine having to live through the same memory every single day. No need for a prison. The mind is doing a perfect job. An excellent story.

My second favorite story was written by Shawn McGuire, "The Door". This tale made me think. The door represented an opportunity for each of the characters who went through it. Such an intriguing story.

For Wendy Terrien, I'd love to read more of Genna's story! What an amazing spin on reincarnation. A.G. Henley's "Untimely" is a delightful story of a time traveling criminal. I loved the characters, the premise, and would love to read a whole series about these criminals.

Overall, I didn't read a story I didn't like. Each one kept my interest. If any of these turn into full-length novels, I'll be happy to read them.

Maria says

Suicide High by Corinne O'Flynn

What an interesting story! I loved the main character's background. It was an interesting dimension to explore and definitely added to the plot. I loved how much suspense came through in such a short space. I could easily see this turning into a series of some sort with the main character using her abilities to solve crimes. I'd read it for sure!

Countdown Cafe by Kristi Helvig

Dealing with the concepts of death and grief in a very unique way, I found this to be a rather touching story. I felt invested in the main character almost immediately, really feeling for her situation. This felt like a complete story and lacks nothing.

Jesse's Girl by Rebecca Taylor

Suspenseful all the way through. Parts had me at the edge of my seat. I loved the twist that I didn't see coming, unaware of how well it was being set up for me. A complete stand-alone story wrapped up in a gripping package.

Duo'vr by Sue Duff

Great concept! What a choice to have to make, too. If you only had one opportunity to go back in time, what is the one thing you'd fix? The main character has to answer this question, and it's definitely not an easy one. I'm very curious about the world they live in and would love to read a followup to see what happens after this choice was made.

The Door by Shawn McGuire

A great story on life's choices and the decision to make those choices told in a solid package with a believable main character and a plot that was both intriguing and somewhat suspenseful. The door referenced in the title and the room behind it was a unique and fitting way to convey the message. Loved the Alice in Wonderland references and how they tied into the overall plot.

The Fate Stone by Wendy Terrien

Such an interesting story with an unexpected twist. Loved the time travel element of this one. I'd really like to see more short stories or novellas featuring some of the secondary characters, who I found fascinating and were a great strength to the plot.

Untimely by A.G. Henley

This was great. I love time travel stories. The connections to history were awesome. I loved the idea of protecting history through time travel. I could easily see this being expanded into a full book or even a series. It's definitely a series I would read!

