



In the End

Erika Ashby

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This is the last book in the Timing Is Everything series. It's also a novella and even though it's a prequel to Moving Forward, it still needs to be read last.

Jake Reynolds' life had always been perfectly mapped out for him as he was growing up. The only time he ever felt like he had any control over it was when he was inside the cage—the same cage that held no for sure outcome. In his twisted mind being inside that ring with his opponent was the most freeing feeling. In that moment alone he was able to let his perfected guard down and be who he wanted to be.

From the outside looking in, everything about Jake's life looked perfect, but he knew that he wasn't. His whole life had been set up for him before he was even born, and even though it's not the life he wanted, he continued living it.

When you have everything you could ever want at your fingertips, why screw it up?

That was his mindset until the night Jesika showed up at his fight. He knew she was different from the get-go. He also knew he didn't deserve her, but that didn't mean he didn't want to try. Jake had skills inside and out of the cage and he was known to always get what he wanted no matter the risk. But was he willing to change who he had always been in order to keep the one that he thought was worth the fight? Will it all be worth it in the end?

In the End Details

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From Reader Review In the End for online ebook

Desirae (Dee) says

When I saw that there was a novella coming out in Jake's Point of View, I knew I had to read it. I had too many unanswered questions. If you have read Moving Forward, or if you plan to, you will want to read this. It was a great read to answer most of my questions. Especially the lingering WHY? Why her?!?!!? Why did you cheat?!? I was so frustrated before with those lingering questions, and now I don't have that anymore. I have my answers.. from the man himself. And the end didn't surprise me.. and if you have read Moving Forward, you will know why. It has the same ending as the beginning of Moving Forward. Sometimes, you know how you just can't read a book from a man's point of view, it's just not written well enough.... Well this isn't the case here. It flows extremely well. It flows perfectly between the letter and the history to explain what happened. I loved it. I think it was perfect. The characters were already established in my mind from reading the other books. So it was almost like this was a missing puzzle piece to put everything together for me. Now I have the answers. I love how not only do I have the answers, but I also have the excuse. I now know what drove everything to happen. Like Jake calls it, a mistake that turns into a snowball. He really hit the nail on the head with that one. It really did turn into a snowball..or have a domino effect. Both sayings fit perfectly. I really liked this novella, I especially love the snippets of the letter. It's the perfect prequel to the book.

Brandy Lynn says

Mmm, a HOT SEXY MMA FIGHTER! Chant with me now....Jake, Jake, Jake, Jake =) I have waited for Jake's story for a while now. After reading Moving Forward and loving it, I knew there was more to Jake. Sure, I was angry with him for what he did to Jesika but I also knew there was more to this sexy beast than we were getting! I immediately messaged Erika to tell her how much I loved Moving Forward but LOVED Jake and needed to know WHY?!? Why did he do this? Why did this have to happen? Why her? Oh and Erika assured me I would get all my answers "In The End." She did not disappoint! I have to tell you this woman is brilliant. She can spin a story and I find myself so wrapped up that I forget everything else around me! Erika did an amazing job portraying Jake's story and even though I knew how it was going to end I wanted more! I said to myself "What if he would of made it." "What if he confessed?" I don't want to say too much for so I don't spoil it. However, I will say Jake LOVED his family both Jesika and his son but is love enough? Hmm, you will have to read In The End to find out. This is a novella in length and a prequel to Moving Forward....BUT, you do need to read this book last! So, make sure you pick up Moving Forward and No Going Back before starting In The End. Happy Reading! xoxo

Babus says

After reading Moving Forward, I always wondered what Jake was thinking. Now I know. Erika has written a prequel to give us Jake's point of view on his life, his relationship with Jesika, and how he felt when he messed things up. We learn a little more about the man who was a pivotal character but was largely unknown in Moving Forward. It was a great way to pull this story together. 4 out of 5! {babusbookshelf.blogspot.com}

Ena May - Swoon Worthy Books/Enticing Journey Book Promotions says

May contain spoilers - to me it doesn't because I have read Moving Forward

We met Jake shortly in the beginning of Moving Forward before he was no longer and throughout the whole Timing is Everything series Jake needed his voice. Personally I didn't care too much for him because of what he did to Jesika but I decided to give him a chance and hear his story and I am so glad Erika gave him one.

Even though he wasn't perfect and made a BIG HUGE mistake I love Jake! He made me fall in love with him with his letter to Jesika and his story. He is real and even though it may have come too late he is honest and he doesn't make any excuses for his actions he realized what he did was wrong on so many levels but it's crazy what fear will cause a person to do and that fear alone of losing Jesika is the reason Jake handled the situation exactly how he handled it.

In the End is Jake's story, his voice, and he tells us his story from the very beginning of meeting Jesika up until the world went black. Yes, he can be cocky and he used to be a playboy but Jesika changed that in him. He fell madly in love and wanted nothing more than to grow old with her and live happily ever after. He is passionate, sexy, protective, a great father, and for me he is a good person.

“Spare me the details. I’m pretty sure my fucking dick already hitchhiked to another continent.”

...I would have already popped that shit like a pinata. – In the End

He is only human and he is going to make mistakes some bigger than others and some have bigger consequences than others but mistakes none the less. When one night changes everything for Jake – he freaks out. After finally grabbing his girl and holding on tight, getting married, having a baby everything is going his way – he is in love. Jesika and him are happy. One night, one stupid drunken night caused his world to spin off its axis and nothing will ever be the same.

“Fine, your skanky ass can stay here, I’m out.”

But with everything that Jake did I still love him because he is real and human and loved Jesika with every ounce of him and in the end only wanted to protect her from being hurt and when everything was coming to a close he prayed that she would never know the hurt that he had caused her.

“Please, God. I know I’ve made so many mistakes in my life, but please whatever happens let her live. Let her live a happy life and find love again.....”

Yes Erika Ashby made me cry like a big baby during this novella but I am glad I got to cry because that meant I got Jake's story and this alone changed my whole outlook on him. I love him, I will always love Jake and I truly believe that he loved Jesika more than life itself and he did everything he could to protect her. Fear makes a person do things they typically may not do and I think that is exactly what happened to Jake Reynolds. Beautiful novella Erika! Thank you!

Tracy says

I am glad the author wrote this book so we could see Jake's mind set. I think Jesika would have forgiven him if he would have explained it all to her. Instead he let the letter say what he couldn't and it was actually really sweet. He truly loved her and told her so. I think she could live with that.

Mari says

First if you have not read Moving Forward and NO Going back stop and go read them....then pick up In the End. We learn all about Jake during the book moving forward and he isn't a character I hated even though I thought he came off as an ass. He was still likeable sorta. Jake Reynolds, Rich boy, MMA fighter, possessive and cocky. I mean that right there is book boyfriend material.

“I’m not your typical flowers and romance kind of guy. Fuck that shit”

“The fact that I want to know anything about her other than her cup size has me on edge”

That’s Jake for you... yet you still like him. Why I don’t know but you do.

Then he says things like this...

“I love you Jesika and I’ve never loved anything in my life. You are the exception”

And your heart melts. He actually can be sweet without being cocky.

Jesika finds out she is pregnant and Jake while scared does stick by her and decide he will be a good dad.

Jesika asks him to stop fighting and he goes to one last fight.

“I fucked up and there’s no going back to fix it”

Jake, Jake, Jake, you ass...you get high and party and fuck another woman while your pregnant wife is at home asshole.

From there poor Jake spirals...he finds out Victoria also had his kid and that Doug is his father and his fucked up life just became more fucked up. It’s all good though because at this point I feel sorry for him I want him to be able to fix his mistakes even if he loses Jesika in the end....but sadly what happens is a car accident that kills Jake and leaves a legacy that may not be so good... but even so “In the End” Jake was still an ass, but a lovable one.

Mary Tatar says

In the End by Erika Ashby is the prequel to Moving Forward. I really enjoyed reading this and felt that Jake had a story too tell. Now if you haven't read Moving Forward this review my contain spoilers. I fell in love with this series from the get go and Jake's story was a must read for me.

Jake is a fighter and all around player. That is until Jesika shows up to one of his fights with his cousin. Once he lays eyes on her he decides that she will be his. He wants to change for her and does for the most part. He does have a inner struggle with himself. I felt like he wanted to be his old self and no matter what he did that is who he would always be. He was so afraid of losing Jesika that this inner struggle really tore him a part. Then Jesika gets pregnant and he decides he's in it for the long haul. He did love his family more then anything. He would of done anything for them. He was the best father and husband he could be. I admired him for that. It was very sad to think this man's life was cut short before he even started living. I had a lot of compassion for him. He wasn't a bad person at all. I kind of wonder what if he didn't die before he could come clean with Jesika. Would she of forgiven him? I thinks she would of and they may of had a happily

ever after. Then it all comes down to what is meant to be. Everything happens for a reason and some things you just can't control.

If you are a fan of this series then you must read this. Jake deserves a break and you may just see him in a different light.

Lela says

I REALLY enjoyed reading Jake's POV...I still don't LIKE him because not only was he a cheater, but he was a liar...and I just can't get past that. I do respect and realize how much he loved Jesika, just not enough to tell her the truth for over 5 years and trust in her love for him to allow them to work through it. I mean at least give her the choice, but he couldn't and wouldn't because he was selfish.

I believe everything really does happen for a reason and that Jake's actions set up Jesika's true road to happiness with Derek. I can only imagine Jesika's hurt finding out after Jake's death that Jake not only cheated on her during their marriage, but that affair led to him fathering another child with the other woman...and then to get closure through a letter over two years after the fact.

I wish he had been able to smooth things over with Holden too...again, missed opportunities because of Jake being insecure and prideful.

I was hoping "In the End" would help me like Jake better and understand him, but for me, it just didn't. Like I said, it's just hard for me to like a cheater and a liar.

Thank you for writing Jake's POV, Erika Ashby. You did an amazing job!

Tia says

I'm typically not a novella fan. To me what can really be said in that short of time? I always wondered about Jake & what his story was so I took the plunge. First of all I would not have enjoyed this book 1st so the .05 sequence to me is off. It should be the last book in the series as is in the order it was written. I say 2.5 or even 3 cause I'm not sure I would have continued the series had I read this one first. However as the last book in the series...It's perfect & totally worth the \$. My hope is it brings Jesika peace...I believe it does!

Lu Bielefeld *read.laugh.love* says

Terminei a leitura e adorei... chorei em várias partes!

Estava curiosa sobre o conteúdo da carta deixada pelo Jake para a Jes.

Este conteúdo vai sendo revelado ao longo do livro e a medida que vamos lendo nós vamos nos emocionando com a descoberta dos sentimentos do Jake... só fico imaginando a reação da Jes ao fazer a leitura da carta.

Realmente recomendo!

Esta autora está na minha lista de compras definitivamente, eu gostei muito dela.

Finished reading and loved it ... cried in many parts!

Was curious about the contents of the letter left by Jake to Jes.

This content will be revealed throughout the book and as we read we will thrill with the discovery of Jake's feelings ... just I wonder the reaction of Jes to make the reading of the letter.

Really recommend it!

This author is on my shopping list definitely, I liked her a lot.

Jamie ~ Bad Boy Inspector says

Wow this book had me balling my eyes out. It was short and to the point but damn if it didn't make me love Jake even more. From the moment Jake stepped on the page in Moving Forward I knew I was going to LOVE him and despite what happened I continued to love him regardless. Just in the little time you got to spend with him you could FEEL how much love he had for Jesika and that he would do anything to make her happy.

In The End lets you see just how much he did love Jesika. It takes you into his mind and lets you feel everything he was feeling right up before the tragic accident. You get to see how remorseful he was for everything that happened and how much love he had for his family. Yes I know he cheated and he lied but when you get this glimpse into his head you get a better understanding of what happened. Was it ok what he did HELL NO but he made a mistake and I believe he was truly remorseful for it.

So I know I might be in the minority here but I truly loved Jake and I loved getting to see inside of his head to get the closure I think we all needed. It was a brilliant idea and Erika executed it perfectly with the letter in between the story. Erika did a fantastic job and I love her for giving me more Jake!!

SammiesBookBlog says

YOU HAVE TO READ THE OTHER book at least MOVING FORWARD first, reading NO GOING BACK would be good, but NOT needed).

I was so hesitant with reading this book. I was so angry at Jake in Moving Forward. I didn't know what to expect with this book. But of course I will read anything Erika has to write and I needed to see what Jake had to say for himself.

It started off great. I feel everything moved at a wonderful pace in this book. We got everything we needed to know. I was a blubbering mess through a lot of the book. I really wish him and Holden were able to fix that relationship before Jake's passing. I'm so happy we got to see events through Jake's eyes. I probably will always be upset with him and hurt what Jes had to go through and still will for the rest of her life. But I have a respect for him and I truly do love him. He loved Jes, he just made a mistake. It happens. Wish it never happened, but it happened and it sets up Derek and Jes. Doug we also got to see a bit more of and hear his side a bit. I liked that too. Dislike Victoria even more, everything could have been avoided if she just said "no" she ruined quite a few lives and started them in a way. I guess everything does happen for a reason, and I'm very happy with where the characters are to date. The letters notes or "letters" Jake writes throughout this short, amazing story, I LOVED we got to see more into his mind, soul, heart. Great touch! It was an all-around amazing read. Loved every minute, even the ones I was bawling like a baby.

Bring on Holden's book!!!!

"I really can't help the fact that you wanting to go on a date kind of scares me."

"It already belongs to me and I will never let you or another man anywhere near it."

"You have no f%^\$-ing idea, Jesika. I've never wanted anyone as bad as I want you. You're mine, baby. All.Of.You."

"And I'm yours. All.Of.Me. I love you Jesika, and I've never loved anything in my life. You are the exception."

"I love you too, Jake."

"Now, let me go knock someone out since I already knocked someone up."(love him!)

"Jesika, you know me better than anyone. You know my likes, my dislikes. I never knew what love felt like until you showed it to me. I never knew what it felt like to love until you came into my life. There will never be anyone else for me. The mold was broken after you were created. I want you in my life forever. Marry me Jes and make me the happiest man ever."

"Never think that's why I want you to be my wife. You know that I don't do anything I don't wanna. I'd never ask you to marry me just because you are carrying my child. That's just an added bonus."

"Spare me the details. I'm pretty sure my f^&*-ing dick already hitchhiked to another continent."(LMAO) I want to say, I'm happy he never go hard this entire time. Shows he really was sorry and loved Jes. Is that weird? LOL.

"I Just love you and I know that I've sucked at showing it all the time over the years. That my upbringing was s^&% and I never knew how to show stuff. So, I've been learning as I go with you."

"Please God, just make sure she knows that I have always loved her and never meant to hurt her."

Please."(This point I'm bawling like a baby)

"I love you Jesika. More than you will ever know and I hope that in the end, you realize that."

Rustys says

This for me was the finality I needed for the Timing is Everything series.

We briefly met Jake Reynolds in Moving Forward, as he reflected on the mistakes he made in his life, right before he died. His death set forth a string of

deceit and pain as Jesika struggled with the secrets of his past... their past.

Jake knew the other shoe was about drop,

his past is about to catch up with him, however, how does he break it to Jesika, the only woman he ever loved.

The only woman who ever loved him, how do you tell the love of your life that one fucked up night you cheated on her,

and years earlier, you fathered a child with that same woman.

A letter, he decides to write down his confessions and profess the never-ending love he has for

his wife, with hopes one day she would forgive him only he couldn't have predicted he would die before she read it.

He thinks back to that night...when he met Jesika and knew she was the one.

Reflections of their 8 years together the good, the bad and the ugly, the ugliest being the Deception and pain he endured keeping the truth from her for too many years.

Powerful words and thoughts etched on paper, only he will never know how it might have ended. Of course, I knew what was coming... I knew what his fate was,

but now that I have a better idea of who he was and the circumstances that led to his lack of honesty, I reached for the tissues!

One of the things I thought was clever was how each chapter was called a round. Ten rounds and it's over!

I liked Jake, I really did, I only hope as Jake did, that someday Jesika would forgive him.

Ailee says

All I can say is that I LOVED it! Personally I really didn't know what to expect when I got this book. However in the I just fell in love with Jake. Even though he made mistakes in his life, he forever regretted them until his last breath. The letter that he wrote for Jesika showed his unconditional love for her, proving that he would do ANYTHING for her.

Katrina Todd says

If you haven't read the other two books, you don't want to read this one yet.

When I first started the series, I wanted to hate Jake so much. He was a lie and a cheat. However, when I read this book. I couldn't help but like him, and feel slightly bad for him. I can tell that he really loved Jesika, and he would have done anything for her.

This was a great ending to the series, and I'm going to have to re-read the whole series again, b/c I loved it so much!

Great job Erika, and I look forward to reading your other books!!!
