



# Finding Serenity

*T.E. Black*

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*T.E. Black*

**Finding Serenity** T.E. Black  
COMING 01.11.16

When it was good, it was great.  
When it was bad, it was worse.

My life turned into a whirlwind of destruction before I even got the chance to love her.  
She could have been my angel, my saving grace; I never gave her the chance.  
I gave myself a taste of her angelic kiss, convincing her to love with everything she had. Then I destroyed her. I destroyed both of us and I felt nothing as I did it.

I didn't feel anything in my sorry state.

We both had secrets and both of them would have destroyed us in one way or another.  
Hers could have possibly been bigger than mine, but I doubted it from the start.  
I knew I had the quality of devastation within me the entire time.

After all,  
I'm the king of lies.  
I'm the king of addiction.  
I'm the king of turmoil.  
I'm the king of motherfucking heartbreak.

## Finding Serenity Details

Date :  
ISBN :  
Author : T.E. Black  
Format : 339 pages  
Genre :

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# From Reader Review Finding Serenity for online ebook

## Lustful Literature says

### Josie's 4.5 Star Review

I read and enjoyed the first book in the Unexpected Series, so naturally I jumped at the chance to read the second book in the series. Finding Serenity is by far my favorite in this series thus far. The story will sweep you off your feet and keep you wanting to read more about these characters. The story touches on addiction, lies and secrets and the damage it can cause even the most beautiful and strong of relationships. The story is told in alternating POV's and we get to see just how much each lie and addiction affects the characters. Ms. Black really turned up the passion and emotion with Shay and Trent's story. The sexual conflict between Trent and Shay was HAWT.

Trent is the ultimate bad boy and this man had me all over the place. I hated him and loved him at the same time. Trent's character is deep and filled with so much inner conflict and demons that I for one could not help but feel for him. Trent never expected to fall in love with his employee Shay and her very cute daughter Abby but he really couldn't stop himself from falling hard. But Trent has some really big issues. He's an addict and his addiction brings out the worse in him. He has no idea what he's doing and with whom he is doing it with.

Shay is someone most women will connect with. She is divorced from her alcoholic husband and is raising her daughter on her own. Her only goal in life is to make sure her daughter has the best life. Shay is forced to work two jobs just to make ends meet. During the day she works at Etched Tattoo shop and at night she is a dancer. Shay tries so hard to not make the same mistakes she's made in the past, and tries to keep her distance from her man whore boss, Trent.

Unable to deny the sparks and connection they share, they give in to one another. The two will build a relationship that is toxic and dangerous. Their relationship is built lies, secrets, and an addiction. Trent's drug addiction brings Shay right into the sight of his drug dealer, one that will take payment for Trent's debt in the worse way.

Trent and Shay go through so much heartache and pain, that it broke my heart. This book deals with some really heavy issues but I loved how this author didn't sugarcoat any of it. The author shows just shows just how ugly being a drug addict can get, and the damage that comes along with it. Trent will hit rock bottom but can he fix it before it is too late? I loved that we got to see the characters from the first book, and that we got introduced to the characters that will be in the next book in the series. I can't wait to see where the author goes with that story.

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## **sraxe says**

Cheating H. [x]

(While drug addiction is serious, I can't stomach the cheating.)

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## **Analia Almonte says**

Emotional 5 stars

Amazing!!!! I know from the beginning that this book was a roller-coaster of emotions. Trent Wallace is a jerk, but I love him.... The heroine is a badass woman. There's a love story but also a story about the struggling with addiction, and loss. Because of that, the story is angst but is worth the read. Is well written, the plot was amazing, and the couple chemistry was powerful beyond expected. My heart is with this couple because they are complicated people that seems to fight for their love. I'm sure you will love this story so much like I do!!! I recommend it 100%.

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## **Brianna Maddox says**

**I received an ARC copy in exchange for an honest review from Enticing Journey Book Promotions. It does not affect my opinion of the book or the content of my review.**

Full Review on Brianna's Bookish Confessions.

Wow, I'm kind of at a loss for words! T.E. Black has done it once again to bring another roller coaster of emotions to your Kindle. If you thought Finding a Way was a roller coaster, just you wait until this. Shay Kirby is a single mom just trying to find her happy ending like everyone else. She has been kicked around and put down many times through her life. Trent Wallace is your typical badboy manwhore. He's sexy, tattooed, and owns a tattoo shop. Both Shay and Trent have secrets that neither want to reveal. They are immediately attracted to each other right off the bat, but try to distance themselves. When Trent starts to push to see Shay more, secrets start slipping through the cracks. The biggest ones staying hidden for as long as possible. Having a relationship start with secrets and lies, makes for a very rocky relationship for the 2. This book could have gone so many ways and I'm very happy with the ending! I was getting very nervous about how this book would play out. I caught on to a couple of the secrets but some completely took me by surprise.

You will hate Trent to the ends of Earth, want to punch him at times, but then fall hardcore for him. He's a very frustrating character, yet you can't help but fall in love with him like Shay did. Especially the ending... My heart.. I was sooo close to happy tears at the end and usually it's sad tears. I don't normally get happy tears while reading, so I guess that should say something?

Shay was such a bad@\$ character, I loved her character from the beginning. She is extremely determined that Abby (her daughter) get the best out of life that she can provide. Seeing their relationship is one that I think all moms and daughters want.

I loved seeing the original 4 again (Callie/Mac & Sierra/Evan) and getting introduced to some new characters was just as amazing! I know Gunner's book is going to be a roller coaster as well.

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## **Deserie williams says**

self note: hero a big time cheater and has a drug addiction.(I know this is a serious condition ) just not something I want to read about and the Cheating is a big hell no! (even though he was drugged out).

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## **Itsy Bitsy Book Bits says**

To say that I was blown away does not fairly or fully state how in love I was with Finding Serenity, by T.E Black. I read it's predecessor in this series and while I truly enjoyed it, I was not prepared for the 5 star ride that this author took me on. I had the distinct pleasure of meeting Trent in Mac's story but I had no clue to the amount of pain this man was living with on a daily basis. This book opens in a six month prior flashback to Trent's first incredibly hot encounter with our heroine Shay Kirby. While the two seem to have some major issues, the heat and want between them was undeniable. I found it impossible to not want to cheer these two on. That being said, they both are keeping secrets and have some major hurdles to overcome first.

Trent, oh sweet Trent Wallace, he spends so much of the time with his walls up and having very hot but very angry sex with Shay. When he starts taking his walls down, brick by brick, I crashed just as hard as Shay did for this wonderful and truly sensitive man. The thing of it is, he's really broken. He's a cocaine addict and he's truly buried alive in his addiction. This author deserves major props for the depiction of drug abuse and how bad it can get. When Trent was using, I could understand why he couldn't stop. I could almost feel the absolute euphoria he felt. The moments he was high, I understood. He's covering up some really painful things though, and he can't see that he needs help. Between his mom dying of cancer and always thinking he's not good enough for Shay and her little girl, Abby, he's not realizing how truly strung out he is. But when he's sober, it's a sight to behold. He's a loving and sweet boyfriend to Shay and the best most incredible second daddy to Abby.

That leads me to our heroine, Shay. She has had a brutal past with Abby's father, Bruce. As a result, she hides beneath layers of anger to protect both her heart and her daughter. She has secrets too, though. She doesn't make nearly enough money working at Trent's tattoo parlor so she has a second job as a go-go dancer. She knows Trent would freak out and she's still ashamed about it so she keeps quiet. It all starts to implode once Trent's drug dealer buys the club where she works. Secrets are everywhere and Trent is spiraling. To say that it's all a mess would be an understatement.

The bottom line with true, forever love is that you don't choose it- it chooses you. Both Trent and Shay realize what they have but they have a painful, uphill battle ahead of them. I cheered, I cried, and I grinned ear to ear quite a few times. This was a wonderful and beautifully written journey of two broken people who are fixing each other without even really noticing. Though they face the fights of both of their lives, they end up doing so head on. I am so freaking glad I got to read this book and take the ride with them. This author has buckets of talent and an incredible future ahead if these books are any indication.

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## **Joy says**

I was given the opportunity to early read Finding Serenity, and I really enjoyed it. The story revolved around

new characters but we got to see some old friends too and that made the difficult stuff a little bit easier. And I say difficult because these characters are battle scarred. They have vices and secrets and there are far reaching ramifications when it all comes to a head. But it is beautiful and very much worth your time to jump into their world for a bit.

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## Sophia says

3.5 Stars

This was Trent and Shays story. They start off having a love/hate relationship that blossoms into more. They both have their own secrets and issues they are dealing with. At times I wanted to shake them and yell some sense into them! The author covered some sensitive subjects very gracefully. But I don't want to give anything away so you will have to just read it for yourself.

I loved the fact that Trey owns a tattoo shop and they are both covered in tattoos. It's nice to see characters that are not so cookie cutter.

I am also glad we got to see some of the previous characters along with some new additions. I am still very Team Mac and Callie!! Loved those two. Over all this was a worthwhile read. The author did an amazing job as expected!

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## Kathleen R. says

**Title:** Finding Serenity

**Author:** T.E. Black

**Series:** The Unexpected Love series, Book 2

**Publisher:** Self Published

**Release Date:** January 9th, 2016

**Genre(s):** Romance

**Page Count:** 339 pages

**Heat Level:** # 4 flames out of 5

**Rating:** # 5 stars out of 5

**Blurb:**

When it was good, it was great.

When it was bad, it was worse.

My life turned into a whirlwind of destruction before I even got the chance to love her.

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After all,  
I'm the king of lies.  
I'm the king of addiction.  
I'm the king of turmoil.  
I'm the king of motherf\*cking heartbreak.

I never expected to face so much pain, agony, and to find out what it means to be able to believe in hope once again when you were surrounded by darkness. This is my first novel read by T.E. Black and I cannot lie when I say that I've been through an emotional rollercoaster: frustration, anger, sadness, happiness and relief. Finding Sadness is part of the Unexpected Love series, following Shay, a single mother, and Trent, a tattoo shop owner with a hidden past, as they try to overcome their personal demons that impact their relationship. This is one couple who's chemistry is both alluring and frustrating: as much as Trent could push Shay away from him, building walls up to protect himself from more pain, while Shay looks for someone who can be her rock. The way they keep secrets from each other is frustrating, all you feel like doing is yelling at the two to smarten up before they lose one of the most important things that means the most to each other. The alluring part is you simply couldn't look away as Trent and Shay discovered their attraction for one another and eventually their love. This was one journey that I truly enjoyed from start to finish: an author that knew exactly the journey she wanted her readers to experience. T.E. Black is one author that I'll be recommending with Finding Serenity, and subsequently, the Unexpected Love series.

Find this book on Goodreads

ARC provided by author in exchange for an honest review. Reviewed by Kathleen from Alpha Book Club

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## **Raj says**

This is fiction so I'm giving this book a very cautious four stars not due to any romance that may loosely occur within its pages but because of the author's very accurate accounting of the downward spiral of a cocaine addict.

So I will put these stars on paper so that they do not cover my eyes & cloud my judgement.

After a one time thing with the heroine, our hero goes on a 6 month fuck rampage in front of her while high on drugs to erase her taste. During courting her, he cheats rampantly.

Cheaters Truth:

There lies my glorious “boyfriend,” stark naked, his arms wrapped around another fucking bimbo who could be the other's twin. They're both laying comfortably in each other's arms, her breasts covered by his large tattooed hand. Their breathing is even, letting me know they're both asleep, but at this point, I wish they were fucking awake.

"Shay! Baby! It's not what it looks like! Fuck! I swear I didn't do a damn thing!"

Hero 'bragging' to friends:

"I fucked the twins in my bed last night, and Shay caught us all this morning. Oh, and she broke one of their noses.

"Given my reputation as a player, I finally find a woman, and I screw it up by fucking the notorious double-mint twins.

Hero to self:

I turned my head, and my eyes landed on a naked blonde lying in bed. The sad part of it is I don't even remember going home with one girl, let alone two.

Delusional Heroine:

"You didn't sleep with them," she continues, stifling a laugh. My head snaps up, and my eyes lock with hers. "What do ya mean I didn't sleep with them?" "Well. Apparently, you couldn't sleep with them because you're wifed up."

Hero's Drug Binge:

Trent is leaned over my bathroom counter, snorting white lines off the top of it.

"Baby, it's not what it looks like. Fuck! Please! Just calm down!" he pleads.

"It's okay, kitten. I won't fuck up anymore. I swear. I'll never hurt you again."

This behavior occurs commonly during his drugged haze throughout the book so it may or may not be a true reflection of his soul.

So after much adieu this coke addict gets an epiphany & decides to clean up his act & there is a marriage proposal.

Fact:

Addicts are advised against starting a relationship & this addict is days off the drugs yet he contemplates marriage & beyond.

Cocaine addiction is an on going struggle. The author fails miserably at giving any kind of epilogue that guarantees an everlasting love.

Addicts are ticking time bombs.

There is no mention of him going for blood screening in regards to any form of STD. The heroine fucks him with abandon with no regards to the welfare of her little daughter. Clearly her brains resided between her legs.

Gunner was an unnecessary addition to this twosome without benefits. This story would have worked better as threesome with Gunner giving a masculine support because the female character was in continuous sexual thrall to the male character despite knowing of his cocaine snorting.

All I know is that this book is akin to an Eminem Song:

Baby! It's not what it looks like!

Baby! It's not what it looks like!

Baby! It's not what it looks like!

Baby! It's not what it looks like!

But this is fiction. & I kind of liked it though I would have liked a 10 year look ahead into their lives as the ending was too quickly wrapped up though there is going to be a followup book with Gunner as the principal character.

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## **Lorena Garcia -- Brittany's Book Blog says**

**\*\*Received an ARC in exchange for an honest review\*\***

OMG, this book was all kinds of phenomenal.

Trent and Shay were just the perfect couple. As much as Trent could be infuriating, he was charming, hot, sexy and all alpha.

This book really hooked me, I mean I was literally attached to my kindle and couldn't find the strength or time to put it down until I finished reading this magnificent book. It made me laugh, it made me cry and it made me scream. The emotions this book brought out in me were just pure raw and emotional. The things that Trent went through and the things he suffered through were heartbreaking.

Shay, a single mother who only thought and cared about her daughter fell hard for Trent even though she knew he was bad news. But when love strikes, you pretty much are screwed and in this case, Shay was screwed!

Trent had many flaws but even with his flaws, Shay fell hard for him and she felt in her heart that she could transform this f\*cked up playboy into a different man. She knew he was a good man somewhere deep down, she just had to find a way to bring him out.

Question is, can Shay transform Trent into an honest man and focus solely on herself and her little girl Abby? This little girl was just so adorable, for her to find Trent a great man and call him dad was just heartbreaking even though she had her real dad, she just found herself click right away with Trent.

This is the first book I read from this author and I have to say that I absolutely adored this book. I'm a sucker for sad, romantic and suspenseful books and this had a little bit of all three.

Another great book to add to my top read for 2016!

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### **Carissa says**

I love T.E. Black's writing, Callie and Mac's story was fabulous. However, as much as I am loving the story of Shay and Trent, at 56%, I can't get pass the constant use of "ya" by Trent. Does the man have no other proper english word in his speech or grammar. It is seriously annoying, and it infuriates me every time I read it.

Secondly, Abby (the daughter) has only met Trent 2 times, and then on the 3rd time, at her bday party. Or rather after the party, she decides to call him "Daddy." Like really!! What mother would even indulge that crap.

Because of these two points, I can't seem to get further into the novel. Rather than giving an unfair rating due to my own qualms, I prefer to not read further and review.

\*ARC provided on behalf of the author for an honest review\*

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### **M.M. Koenig says**

This book is just WOW. It had it all. The emotional rollercoaster I went on while reading it was intense. There were times where I was laughing and others where I was doing my best not to throw my kindle across the room because the characters brought out that deep emotion within me. I've said it time and time again that I adore any book that brings out those raw emotions that have me all across the board. This book is that and so much more. It's truly astonishing that this is only the second novel from this very gifted writer. If I could give Finding Serenity more than five stars, I would without a second thought.

T.E. had me hooked with these characters when they were introduced in Finding A Way. What I absolutely loved as we see this world she has created in Boston grow is that she's created characters that are relatable and battling demons that we all face at one time or another in our life. With the story of Trent and Shay, they're each carrying their own secrets and their own demons. It was an incredible ride seeing each side of their story and why they clenched so tightly to the things that were literally destroying their future together. The reality is that life doesn't always give us easy an easy way out, especially when you're dealing with some serious issues like raising a child on your own or drug addiction.

I was thoroughly impressed with the way T.E. approached many of the sensitive subjects within these pages and just knocked it out of the park with her gripping way of words that had me desperate to get to the end to see how it all turned out. From the first page to the last, I was beyond enthralled with every single aspect of Trent and Shay. I loved seeing them at their best with each other and Abby, especially Trent. It was all the sweet things he did for Shay and Abby that really hooked me with him. A lot of the others things had me

wanting wring his neck, repeatedly. I loved that Shay was a strong independent woman that was willing to do whatever it took to take care of her daughter – even when it left her with some ugly choices to do so.

Most of all, I enjoyed seeing these characters come to terms with their flaws. Secrets will always have a consequence and these two characters certainly had some big ones that ended up rocking their world in ways neither one of them could have foreseen. I don't want to reveal any spoilers so I'm going to wrap this up by saying that this is a must read! You will not be disappointed. To the author, thank you for such a wonderful story and I'm eagerly awaiting your next installment!

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### **Gi's Spot Reviews says**

Disgusting CHEATER beyond words... Oh wait... Here are his favorites: "Baby! It's not what it looks like!"...

Self note:

<https://www.goodreads.com/review/show...>

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### **Roby Gold says**

I knew I would love Trent before I started reading.... I never expected to fall this head over heels for him! Hot, bearded, tattooed and sexy as FUCK! Let's take a second to talk about his filthy mouth! LORD JESUS!!! I loved every second of this book.. I love that two strong people who have so many walls built around their hearts are able to find love and make it work.

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