



# Tragically Flawed

*A.M. Hargrove*

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**Tragically Flawed** A.M. Hargrove

\* This is a New Adult Contemporary Romance with Mature content that is not suitable for younger readers.

\*\*This is a Stand Alone Companion Novel to Tragic Desires.

Riviera Benson's past has been nothing but horrific. It's filled with secrets that she intends to keep tightly locked away...terrifying secrets that keep her awake at night...that prevent her from getting close to anyone...anyone that is, until her work as a muralist drives her into the arms of the hot and sexy Shan.

Benjamin Shandon, owner of Shandon Homes, works like a thousand demons are chasing him...because perhaps they are. His business has boomed, ever since the forest fire swept through the canyon and destroyed hundreds of million dollar homes. He demands excellence in everything...from his employees to his women. He slows down for nothing, keeping a schedule that no sane person would want. But Riviera interrupts everything, twisting his guts inside out, and wedging her way into his heart, destroying a promise he made to himself.

Will they let their pasts control their future, or will they decide to let go and allow their hearts to discover each other's?

## Tragically Flawed Details

Date : Published September 19th 2013 by A.M. Hargrove

ISBN :

Author : A.M. Hargrove

Format : Kindle Edition 390 pages

Genre : Romance, New Adult, Contemporary Romance, Sociology, Abuse

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# From Reader Review Tragically Flawed for online ebook

## Julia says

[ of being raped when she is quite young with her parents' full knowledge of the situ

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## Silvy\_1309 says

Quite interesting, love how the story evolves but I would have loved more if the part where S saved R were a little more developed because in like 2 pages it all ended , like the author were in a rush  
Aside from this , really liked this book , the narrative and holy shit the chemistry and the sex scenes... bring a pack of ice !

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## Sherry Fundin says

Tragically Flawed got so hot, the ice melted in my margarita glass. LOL

I never read a lot of romance, until I started blogging. I have found authors that I love, so I read anything they write. A M Hargrove is one of those authors. I really enjoy her stories and writing style. I was very pleasantly surprised with Tragically Flawed.

It is Riviera's rags to riches story. A story of her ability to rise above her tragedies and find love and friendship from the wonderful people who enter her life when she leaves her abusive live-in boyfriend and starts her life over in Beaver Creek, Colorado.

Annie has a fantastic sense of humor and a mind blowing imagination in the romance department. Makes me wonder where all that hotness comes from. Care to share, Annie?

Riviera - She has no education. She is a middle class worker. She is beautiful and trendy - tattoos, blue or pink tints in her hairs. She carries many scars, both physical and mental. She has been on her own since she was sixteen. Even though her life has been tough and people have treated her badly, she still feels people are good. She is the eternal optimist.

Amie, Riviera's roommate, is the best. She works at Shelby's Shack, a women's shelter and has a very special gift - patience.

Shan - He is a construction mogul. Physically fit, built like a Greek God. He wants no relationship. He has enough baggage of his own, but he falls for Riviera when he first sets eyes on her.

Jasper was her live-in boyfriend. He is a horrendous abuser. She feels she is lucky to have lived through her time with him. He is a steroid raging weight lifter.

Marsha Sue - She is a tyrant. Riviera's first job in Beaver Creek is with her and she is an awful employer. Have you ever had one?

When Riviera finally stood up for herself against Marsha Sue, I felt like clapping and jumping up and down. Way to go girl.

## QUOTES

"Sometimes being a gentleman was a damn b\*\*\*\*."

"No one likes Marsha Sue. She's meaner than a rattlesnake."

"I'd rather have a root canal than go out with her."

"I am broken, Shan. And I'm flawed."

"We're all flawed, Riviera. You've experienced something tragic, but it didn't break you."

"Riviera suddenly felt like a stack of hot buttermilk pancakes and Shan's voice was the warm maple syrup running all over her, dripping down her sides and seeping into every pore." How hot is that? What are you thinking right at this very moment?

I had tears in my eyes when Shan finally got through to Riviera and she talked to him.

Tragically Flawed read like a fairy tale come true. It made me think of Pretty Woman, even though Riviera is not a prostitute. We all want to believe in fairy tale endings, don't we?

I am so anal, I read almost every word in a book, cover to cover, The font in the chapter headings was hard to read. LOL

5 STARS - Would Buy It For Them (lol)

I received this book in return for an honest and unbiased review.

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## Kathryn says

THIS BOOK IS AAAAMMMMAAAZING!!!!!!

Freakin loved every moment in it..

SQUEEEEE!!!! OMG this book was so fabulous. Am I surprised? NOPE, not one bit. A.M. Hargrove is one of those authors that I know I am going to love whatever she puts out there. Tragically Flawed is no exception and completely blew me away!!

First, let me say that A.M. Hargrove can write a beautifully epic love story. They are filled with so much passion you are instantly transformed. With amazing, well-developed, strong characters, you find yourself completely immersed in the journey that they are on. Emotionally tied and altogether invested in their lives, you know you are in for a phenomenal experience when all of the sudden a pivotal moment happens and then OMG...its like BAM...your world is turned upside down. A.M. Hargrove just came on the loud speaker and

said "Ladies and Gentlemen, hold on to your hats because its about to get bumpy"...I mean, EXPLOSIVE twists and turns that leave you reeling..

Tragically Flawed is just that awesome. It is brilliantly written. From that enthralling first chapter (AND let me say that it seduces you with a stunning scene)to the very end where you are breathing heavily, shaking your head, thinking HOLY CRAP did all that just happen?? Physically quivering from the overload of emotions that you just experienced.

You fall in love with Riviera and Shan, from their sorted past to the hopeful future they may have. From the artistically talented Riv to the stubborn, hard-working, yet compassionate gentle Shan; you wrap yourself up in the magical words on the pages of Tragically Flawed.

Be ready to throw everything else out the window, cause when you pick this book up, you will not put it down until you finish.

Riveting, compelling, steamy, and absolutely romantic, Tragically Flawed is a MUST READ for 2013...

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### **Fiona (Titch) Hunt says**

I bought this 12th October 2013 and kept thinking I will read it as I LOVE A.M. Hargrove's books.

Well once I opened this book and started reading, I got all excited as it started with a scene that I found rather exciting. It showed you the background later of the main characters, I do despise certain characters (Marsha Sue and Jasper) and I fell in love with Shan (Benjamin Shandon) and Riveria (love her name). The way the story opens up with Riveria's background after the heated few chapters is astonishing.

It's made me laugh at times, made me mad at the characters and really sad at what Riveria went through.

A.M. Hargrove has done it again to me. She has made me sit up and push through hours of a story I just want to crawl into and shake/hit/punch/kill certain characters. Another massive well done to the author and now I am off to read the next in the series Tragic Desires.

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### **Mandy (I Read Indie) Anderson says**

Riviera's life has never been easy. Abuse has plagued her most her life and no matter what she did, she always seemed to go running into the arms of it. Fleeing from Chicago, she is has found a job in Beaver Creek Colorado, and things seem to be looking up. She has a new roommate that has been a great friend. She has a job, that if it wasn't for her beotch of a boss, she would absolutely love. And then there is Shan with whom she seems to come alive around.

Little by little Riv opens up about her past to both Shan and Amie. And little by little the vice that once held her tethered to her past, slowly releases, allowing her to open up to the possibilities of love and relationships. I found her story encouraging for those who may be experiencing this in real life. Hargrove did an amazing job writing on the subject of abuse. Some parts were hard to wrap my sheltered mind around as I have never been in an abusive relationship...not even close.

As for Shan. This guy is fantastic. Although he gave off a horrible first and second impression, you just knew he was a good person who was having a rough couple days. And Shan desperately tried to make up for it. Shan sees things that Riv tries to hide. He is going to absolutely everything he can to show Riv that she

can trust him no matter what. And eventually she will. But it won't be easy. Thankfully Shan is a very patient man.

My only problem, which others will stone me for, is the main characters are constantly going at it. Sometimes after only 5 mins downtime. Sheesh I was exhausted just after the first one, let only 2 more times in the same scene. Ladies and gentlemen...this story is brought to you by the makers of Extenze and 5 Hour Energy. ;)

But seriously...I inhaled the story and love the feeling of ongoing suspense it gave off. Just when you think it is ok to let your guard down, the story makes a sharp left turn and you are eagerly reading to see what is going to happen next. There is even a bit of Liam Neeson from TAKEN in this read. One dude totally took notes on that movie and used it in his pursuit to track someone down. FANTASTIC!!

One final note, I am hoping beyond hope that Hargrove will continue on this as a series. I think Gray has a much needed story to tell. So with that...read this book. It is hot, it is steamy, and yes, it actually has a fabulous storyline.

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### **Laura Thomas says**

Like so many times before, A.M. Hargrove cast a spell on me. I've read all of her books and always found that my time spent in her stories was too brief. I'm always left wanting more.

So, when I got my hands on Tragically Flawed, I had to start reading right away.

What I discovered was a captivating love story with flesh and blood characters haunted by their past.

Riviera has escaped an abusive relationship, but the scars and bruises remain on the inside long after they fade from her body.

Starting over in a new town, she finds a roommate who becomes her close friend and supporter.

While her talent for painting lands Riviera a job quickly, her boss is insecure and has a reputation for bullying her employees.

Shan is the owner of Shandon Homes and that's how they first meet. While working in what Riviera thinks is an empty house, her boisterous singing awakens a monster. Shan storms in, shouting abuse and reduces her to a quivering wreck.

Their first meeting may have been a disaster but as they work together and begin to know each other, their attraction grows.

Can two damaged people, one unable to forgive himself for a past tragedy and one running from the echoes of her previous life find healing and trust through each other?

Riviera is a woman to applaud. Scared and vulnerable, she's also strong and determined. Sure, she's danced

with the devil, but she still believes there's good in the world.

Shan is sexy, bold and alpha all the way, but he's burdened with guilt over his part in the loss of a friend. Riviera slips past the walls he hides behind and gives him hope.

There are some secondary characters you'll meet and want to know more about and a boss from the dark side that you'll love to hate.

Tragically Flawed was a fast read for me. It dabbled in the dark side but it was also funny and sexy.

About the sexy. If you blush easily you're going to have rosy cheeks. A.M. Hargrove is really good at raising your blood pressure and steaming up your kindle.

This book was beyond what I hoped it would be and I'll be recommending it to all who'll listen. Except for the young readers. The content is for a mature reader.

I'm tickled pink to give it a resounding 5 STARS

I received this book for my honest review. I gladly would have bought it as I've read all of her books and loved them.

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### **Vicci says**

**TRAGICALLY FLAWED IS BREATHTAKING & TRAGICALLY BEAUTIFUL!!**

Sometimes you read a book that stays with you for days. Sometimes you read book that just touches you and does not let go. Tragically Flawed was that book for me.

I wish I could tell you the exact moment that this book wrapped itself into my heart. I really can't tell you when it just sort of magically happen as this beautiful story unfolded in pages. The author was able to make you just forget the world outside of the book. I was hopelessly lost in this book with Riviera and Ben. It was such a moving journey of finding your personal strength and fighting the demons of your past. Riviera is such amazing person. I wish I could have been half as strong of a person she is. I really just rooted for her through the whole book.

Now, Ben and Riviera together is pure magic. The two them together was just so amazingly tender and sweet. They brought tears to my eyes. The love scenes were just so sexy and intense that you felt kinda of guilty for reading them. They were so well done. Make sure you turn on the air conditioner you will need it. The scenes are so steamy you will get a little hot!! This book has a wonderfully well deserved Happily-Ever-After. You will shed a few tears and jump up and clap for such a wonderful couple and their beautiful story! IF YOU PICK JUST ONE BOOK TO READ THIS WEEKEND LET IT BE TRAGICALLY FLAWED!

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### **Anny hernandez says**

**I RECIEVE A ARC COPY OF THIS BOOK**

**THIS IS THE FIRST BOOK THAT I READ BY THIS AUTHOR AND I HAVE TO SAY I LOVE IT  
THIS STORY MADE ME CRIED AND LOUGH, I LOVE THE CHARACTERS LOVE HOW THIS**

BOOK REALLY TURN OUT TO BE.

LOVE THE CHARACTER OF RIVIERA BENSON, DISCOVER BY ACCIDENT THAT SHE HAS A TALENT, SHE'S A PAINTER AND A REALLY GOOD ONE , WITH HER TALENT SHE CREATED MASTER PIECES ON WALLS AND CEILINGS OF MILLION DOLLARS HOMES AS MURALS.

LOVE THE CHARACTER OF BENJAMIN SHANDON, EVERYONE KNOW HIM AS SHAN. SHAN IS THE OWNER OF SHANDOM HOMES, HE WORKS LIKE IF HE HAS A THOUSAND DEMONS ARE CHASING HIM.

WHEN I STARTED READING ABOUT RIVIERA AND WHAT SHE BEEN THROUGH I CRIED, SHE END UP LEAVING HER EX SINCE SHE WAS IN A BAD ABUSED REALATIONSHIP, SHE LEFT CHICAGO NOT KNOWING WHERE SHE WAS GOING INTO SHE END UP IN A TOWN, WHERE SHE END UP LOOKING FOR A PAINTING JOB, SE GOT HIRE RIGHT AWAY, THATS HOW SHE MEETS SHAN, I LOVE HOW THIS TWO MET LOVE HOW SHAN HELP HER WITH HER DEMONDS AND HOW HE WANTS TO PROTECT HER ALL THE TIME.

LOVE HOW THEY GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER AND HOW THEY END UP FALLING IN LOVE, LIKE HOW SHE START TO DISCOVER FEELINGS SHE NEVER NEW SHE HAD, LOVE HOW SHAN HELP HER DISCOVER THOSE FEELINGS , AND OHH WOO LOVE HOW THE SEX SCENCE ARE AWESOME.

I REALLY LOVE THIS BOOK I ENJOY IT SO MUCH THAT I WOULDN'T TURN MY PC OFF I REALLY RECOMANDED AND ONCE YOU READ IT HOPE YOU LOVE IT AND ENJOY IT AS MUCH AS I DID ONCE AGAIN THANK YOU AUTHOR A.M. HARGROVE FOR INTRODUCING ME TO THIS AMAZING CHARACTERS AND STORY YOU DID AND AMAZING JOB WITH

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**Katie says**

### **3.25 Stars!**

After escaping an abusive relationship, Riviera finds herself in Beaver Creek with a job doing what she loves. But her momentary peace is disrupted when Shan storms into her life and makes her feel things she's never felt before. Only beginning to recover from past wounds, both literal and figurative, she's afraid to let him in. But she's not the only one experiencing new feelings. Shan never thought he'd let anyone past the walls he built, but after meeting Riviera all he wanted to do was keep her close. Together they begin to overcome their tragic pasts through love, and hope it's enough to keep the demons away.

#### **The Good:**

This book had a great **storyline** that a lot of women can relate to and feel for, and it really pulled on the heartstrings. **Riviera** had such an awful and tragic past, and I really sympathized for her. It was great to see her being so strong and begin to move on.

I really liked the uniqueness of Riviera's **job** (she was a painter and did murals). I haven't read many books about artists and it was really cool and interesting.

**Shan** was sweet and hot, and I liked that he didn't push Riviera to tell him anything she didn't want to.



*"I want you to have the fairy tale, Riviera, the one you should've had... the one you deserve to have now."*

When the second **plot** came into play at the end of the book, things became fast paced and I really wanted to see what would happen.

### **The Not So Good:**

It was written in **third person**, and I really wish it had been in first person. I just didn't like it and there were times that sentences would switch between characters without making it clear.

Excluding the beginning and end of the book, things were kind of **slow paced** and it was easy to put down. There were two plots: Riviera overcoming her past, and her past coming back to get her, and the second one isn't put into play until the very end. There wasn't enough going on, and it started to lose my interest.

The **side characters** didn't add much to the story besides adding to the plot. As characters, they were pretty bland and didn't do anything for me.

The **sex scenes** came in clusters, and it seemed unrealistic that they would have sex three times in a row without even a couple minute break. They must have had some major stamina, that's all I'm saying!

There were some really **cheesy lines** that sounded too corny and dramatic for my taste. Whenever one came up, I ended up reading them in an overly dramatic soap opera voice in my head.

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So overall, it was a nice story, but there were too many things that brought it down for me to really enjoy it.

*\*I received an ARC for an honest review\**

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### **Roxanne Kade says**

I'm not really sure how I feel about this book. There were bits I really loved and then parts that left me feeling disappointed.

This book started off with a bang - almost quite literally, and I really thought I was in for one sexy, steamy read. Then the story changed focus and took a step back to the tragic life Riviera was living with her pathetic excuse for a boyfriend, Jasper. I was so glad she got out when she did and never looked back. That certainly took a lot of courage.

Riv was sweet and I was glad she was able to settle into a new life, doing what she loved. It was even better when she found a man that could really take care of her the way she deserved. I was a little confused though, because the very first scene had me believing that Riv and Shan were mere co-workers, nothing more, and that is why she was so shocked and a little put off, after being turned on, by what she saw. But the more I read, and the more the sexual tension built between these two characters I was starting to wonder if I'd miss read something. Once everything fell into place I didn't bother dwelling on that any longer and I settled in for a great read. Unfortunately, it fell a little flat.

Even when things really got hot and heavy between Riv ans Shan, I wasn't all that convinced. They suddenly turned into two horny teenagers that couldn't keep their hands off each other. They'd be discussing something as serious as Riv's horrific past and the next thing they were all wrapped up in each other, literally. It just felt inappropriate and unrealistic.

I also noticed a few character flaws. At times, certain characters would do or say something that just didn't fit. the one that stood out for me the most, even gaining an eye-roll, was the fact that Navy Seal, Black Ops, torture people to get answers, The Wolf asked for a trace on an "addy". It didn't fit his hard-ass character at all.

I did like that Riviera stood her ground when she wasn't comfortable with how things were going with Shan. She was quite the tortured soul and my heart broke for her. Shan was also super sweet and understanding. If he was pushing too hard, he'd realize it and back away, giving her the space she needed to get her head together.

This story will appeal to romance fans, because it holds the hope of happiness after tragedy. It would have been a really fantastic love story, if not for the few gripes that distracted me enough to not enjoy it as much as I was expecting to.

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### **Alana ~ The Book Pimp says**

During the beta- it's a 4½♥ read, but it bridged that gap into a 5♥ once the edits were made. Have a fan, maybe even a cold shower on hand for reading this one!

I will say Shan is oh la-la hot once you get past his doucebaggery.

And one of my favorite moments while reading (my reaction), "My eyes! My eyes!"

*I participated in the beta read for this book, and received an ARC from A.M. Hargrove in exchange for my honest thoughts. I received no monetary gain for my rating and review.*

\*Update 9/28/13\*

This is a book. It has many words. I liked the font. I have feelings and/or thoughts about this book, but will not longer post them here in fear of the new TOS for reviewers on Goodreads.

**Full Review** can be found [Here](#)

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### **Veronica of V's Reads says**

This one was a heart-wrencher. Riviera, survivor of terrible abuse, escapes to find a new anonymous life. On her very first day of her first painting job she gets accosted by Shan--and the fire is lit.

It takes months for them to become comfortable with each other, but the chemistry can't be denied. Riviera's boss, Marsha Sue, isn't happy--she always wanted Shan for herself. And Shan? In Riviera he's finally found

peace, and maybe a bit of forgiveness, for the tragedy that claimed his best friend's life years before. He's not willing to let her go--even if it puts his life on the line...which of course it does.

Good thing Shan knows how to call in his favors just in time!

On thing is for certain, this book deals with demons--*no, not paranormal demons!*--those joy-stealing fears and regrets we all hide deep within. Riviera must accept that her years of sexual and physical abuse do not define her character, while Shan must come to terms with the tragedy he didn't cause, yet blames on himself. Their personal tragedies soften them for each other in just the right way. It's a reminder that redemption is available, if a person is strong enough to seek (and accept!) it--and that happy endings exist for any of us.

I liked it. And the steamy scenes were gravy. (This title not suitable for the young-uns, folks.)

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## **Tana says**

Tragically Flawed by A.M. Hargrove

Beautiful, Heartbreaking, Sexy, Steamy are just a few of the words I will use to describe Tragically Flawed written by A.M. Hargrove. A.M.'s writing is phenomenal, the story, plot and characters are so well written that you instantly feel connected and cannot stop reading this story.

We are first introduced to Riviera and what you experience here is heartbreak and maybe some tears will be shed. Riviera is in a horrible situation and leaving an abusive relationship is never easy. But she does get away and has plans to start over and have the life she deserves. Riviera is courageous, strong and a survivor, but her past has made her weary and trust does not come easy for her. Things are looking up for her though when she secures herself a new great job.

Here we meet Shan, now this character is hot, sexy, single, sensitive and a bit intimidating. I just loved him. His protective nature, sensitive side all wrapped up in this beautiful man. The chemistry between these two jump right off the pages. And the romance is superb.

Tragically Flawed is a must read! I have to say it is one of the best book I've read that A.M Hargrove has written to date. Don't get me wrong though all her other books are fantastic but I truly think this is the most exciting, steamy and just over all one of the best stories I've read recently. From what I have seen of A.M. Hargrove's writing it appears each books she writes just gets better and better. I am really looking forward to her next book whatever that may be.

Tragically Flawed is one of my 10 ten favorites of the year.

So if your reading my review I suggest you grab yourself a copy and then go take a look at all A.M. other published books, you will not be disappointed.

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## **Sheri says**

Tragically Flawed is another great novel from one of my favorite authors. Full of action, romance, tragedy, and incredibly steamy scenes, this book will toy with your emotions and make you fall in love with the characters.

Riviera's story is heartbreaking and tragic. After leaving an abusive relationship, Riviera (love that name!) moves away to start a new life for herself. Landing her dream job, things are beginning to look up. Through the story Riviera is vulnerable and scared, but definitely not weak or naive. She knows first-hand there is evil in the world, but she never once stops to feel sorry for herself for what she has gone through. She just picks up and moves on, doing what she has to in order to survive another day. I loved watching her transformation from a scared, anxious young woman into someone who is able to stand up for herself and for what she believes.

After Riviera comes to realize that first impressions aren't always what they seem, Shan, the incredibly sexy, incredibly single, incredibly intimidating owner of Shandon Homes, becomes someone she thinks she can learn to trust, but taking into consideration the men in her past she finds trusting might be too difficult. At the same time all of these exhilarating but terrifying changes are going on in her life, Riviera realizes that her new boss might actually be the devil incarnate.

Fast paced and fabulously sexy, this story has a dark side but also has its laugh out loud moments as well. The characters are great, and I hope the author decides to turn this book into a series. I would love, love, love to know more about Drexel (hint, hint), and I sense a story in Amie and Gray as well. Thank you to A.M. Hargrove for providing me with an ARC of your book!

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