



Light of Day

Allison van Diepen

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The danger of night can bleed into day.

Like any other Saturday night, Gabby Perez and her best friend, Maria, are out dancing. But this isn't just another night. When a mysterious stranger warns Gabby their drinks have been drugged, she hurries Maria home. Sure enough, the next day, Maria can't remember a thing. Gabby's shaken by their close call. And she's not going to stay quiet about it.

She opens up on her radio show and discovers an even worse truth: the guy who drugged them was going to force them into prostitution. Then Gabby's friend Bree never makes it home from a party, and Gabby fears the worst.

Gabby reaches out to the guy who saved her, the gorgeous stranger she knows only as X. As they dive into the seedy underworld of Miami, searching for Bree, they can't ignore their undeniable attraction. Until Gabby discovers the truth about who X really is and the danger that surrounds him. Can their love survive the light of day?

Light of Day Details

Date : Published November 24th 2015 by HarperTeen

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Author : Allison van Diepen

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From Reader Review Light of Day for online ebook

Gisbelle says

My thanks to *HarperTeen*

Point of View: Single (Gabby)

Writing: First Person | Past Tense

Setting: Miami

Genre: Young Adult | Contemporary

Another wonderful book about gang, drugs and sex trafficking by Allison van Diepen that I absolutely enjoyed. Since I read another book by her based on the same topic, it didn't surprise when I ended up liking the heck out of it just as much as I did when I read *On the Edge*.

While this book wasn't exactly the sequel of *On the Edge*, I loved that some previous characters reappeared. Manny, for instance, still got the charm and humor that made me love him. There were other new characters that definitely were great addition to the story. **Rory, Alistair and the Paranormal twins brightened up the mood of the book and added just the right amount of humor and weirdness to the storyline.** I loved whenever they had their zombie apocalypse club meeting. It never ceased to amuse me with how seriously they were about the whole thing.

Compared to Maddie, the heroine in *On the Edge*, Gabby was a so much better character. Taking in to account how she responded when facing danger, Gabby was tough and pretty frigging brave. I liked the scenes when she did the radio show too, but sometimes, it was a tad too over the top. Still, overall, she was undoubtedly awesome.

On top of that I seriously loved the twist. It took me by surprise because I was totally blindsided and didn't pay attention on all the clues the author kept dropping along the way. It was amazing that the story went a totally different way from what I expected, making everything so much better and much more interesting.

Needless to say, I enjoyed the romance in this book as well. It was more believable as it wasn't all too overly sweet and cheesy.

In short, I thought this book was a great read with the right balance on serious topic and a not-so-serious topic. The characters were well developed and the story contained a surprisingly fascinating twist.

Emily (Falling for YA) says

Found bits of this storyline unbelievable but it was a quick, easy, fast paced read.

Louisa says

Awesome book, really enjoyed having X's story, and his real name, and Gabbie! Really great story! And I wouldn't mind more Destino boy's stories!

Booknut says

“You’re a sweetheart.”

It’s because I love you. I would never say it out loud, of course. But even if I did, he was probably too drugged up to remember it tomorrow. I sat down beside him. “I’m sorry you got hurt. It’s my fault. I’m the one who wanted us to find Bree.” I was trying to hold back tears, but doing a terrible job of it.

“Shhh, don’t cry. It’s not your fault. Come here.”

He guided my face to his and kissed me. Maybe he meant to soothe me, to comfort me. But the slow kiss was agony, and soon spiraled out of control.

(...)I had no intention of moving out of his arms. This was probably the last time I’d be so close to him, and I would savor every minute of it. I laid my head against his chest, lulled by the steady beat of his heart.’

April says

If you are looking for a breezy plane read or have to fill your library with appealing books for reluctant readers – this book is the perfect selection to make. Read the rest of my review [here](#)
Goes live January 2016

Once Upon a Twilight says

Really enjoyed reading this book. Look for full review closer to November.

Defne (that-bookworm) says

This book was a disappointment for me and I'm beyond sad right now.

If you read my review of *On the Edge*, you will remember that I absolutely loved it and it was even in my "2015 favorites" list. When I learned that there would be a spin-off/sequel and my babies from the previous book would be present, I was ecstatic. I couldn't be happier, you get me?

But this book, naah... I mean, I should have known I would not like it because the jacket material was different than the first book's and I didn't like the cover models at all. Joking, heh, of course I would not judge this book by its cover.

It started off fine with the descriptions of the characters, their backgrounds and all the other usual things.

However, I couldn't get used to Gabby as the main character. She was... very reckless. I got how she hated her relationship with her family yet she did absolutely nothing to explain her actions to her parents which would have been very helpful. It was as if she didn't want her relationship with them to be good.

I also didn't like the whole relationship of hers with X. It looked very forced, there was no chemistry whatsoever and I think they don't even know each other that well. Gabby is just confusing lust with love, imo *rolls eyes*. They are incompatible. I couldn't find the passion nor the love I found in *On the Edge*.

Still, there were some cute and steamy moments between them and I am not complaining, at least they were, like, the charms of the book.

"Who knew a crush could actually be painful? Maybe that's why it's called a crush."

One last thing, the events were very off. They didn't have the emotion *On the Edge* had. And they didn't have a proper closure. It was like the author talked about the climax of the event and skipped to the next chapter before the "resolution".

Probably the only good thing about this books was that it wasn't boring. I was able to finish this book in two days, however, it would have been shorter if it weren't for my trip to Luxembourg.

"There are a lot of people who get screwed up but are worth saving."

I was going to give this book only one star but at least I was able to see my babies, Lobo and Maddie again. The second star is for their sake.

So no, I wouldn't recommend this book, unless you have some super huge faith in van Diepen.

Read InAGarden says

Gabby is an aspiring DJ who has had to find a new social group after breaking up with her long time boyfriend. One night at a club she meets a mysterious guy named X who warns her about the dangers of

Miami street life. Gabby is intrigued by X and after one of her classmates goes missing she contacts X to enlist his help in finding the missing girl, Bree. At first Gabby thinks X is an undercover cop but it turns out he is the leader of a street gang who save teen girls from street pimps. Upon finding out this information, Gabby is conflicted, she likes X but is wary of who he says he is. The novel then progresses on two tracks, Gabby trying to integrate X into her life and Gabby & X trying to find Bree.

Lily (Night Owl Book Cafe) says

This was an interesting story and an interesting concept. It basically follows Gabby an aspiring DJ, who is saved from being drugged at the club by a mysterious handsome stranger named 'X' and somehow gets tangled up into a darker world of girls getting kidnapped, pimps and sex trafficking.

The story was a quick read for me. I think in a way the author was trying to spread awareness about this issue that's so big in this world right now, I just felt as far as the story went, it was a bit unrealistic. Entertaining, but unrealistic.

For me, all the steps that Gabby took felt dangerous and if this was taken by a girl her age in the real world, the girl would be long dead and probably would have hurt a lot of girls in the process for being so reckless. As nice and cleaned up the ending came out, there aren't a lot of happy endings for a lot of the girls going through this.

In the book, Gabby was trying to find and rescue a girl from her school named Bree, so she uses the radio to spread awareness and is forward about the pimps and actually mentions the name once or twice. Somehow everything works out for Gabby, no one she cares about gets hurt, only the bad guys. Unfortunately, this is not how it works. If anyone did what Gabby had done, it would never turn out the way it did.

Are there people out there like 'X' looking and rescuing the girls that are kidnapped and forced into the sex trade? I don't know. I did not do a lot of research on that. I do know that sex trafficking numbers are high, that most of these girls never get a happy ending because they are never found, and if someone in real life announced the pimp's name on the radio - the pimp would probably have disappeared into the night with these girls.

In truth the statistics are real and frightening. I wish the story was handled better, but nonetheless, it was entertaining and I am sort of glad that someone took a bold step to write about this. I just wish the actions of the main character wasn't so reckless, uninformed and dangerous. Even the messy situation that she gets herself into in the end, she somehow comes out unscratched.

I gave the author 3 brownie points for at least trying.

The Statistics behind sex trafficking from <http://www.equalitynow.org>:

At least 20.9 million adults and children are bought and sold worldwide into commercial sexual servitude, forced labor and bonded labor.²

About 2 million children are exploited every year in the global commercial sex trade.³

Almost 6 in 10 identified trafficking survivors were trafficked for sexual exploitation.⁴

Women and girls make up 98% of victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation.⁵

This review was originally posted on Night Owl Book Café

bookrockbetty says

Meh.....

Emily Benoit says

*3.5

Mundie Moms & Mundie Kids says

Some books and I hit it off, and some books and I just aren't meant to be.

Kristina says

I'll be honest, I enjoyed this story a lot more than I was expecting too. I read the first book in the series, On the Edge and I did not like it. I decided to give Light of Day a chance because the synopsis intrigued me and I was not disappointed! It was also a quick read, which I always like.

I loved X. He was so mysterious and original. He was the leader of a gang and he literally had a heart of gold. I loved what he and his gang were trying to accomplish. I really liked X and Gabby together. She was fun, a bit reckless, but also strong. He was more of the strong and silent type, but they fit nicely together.

Overall, I really enjoyed this story and I would recommend it!

Terri says

Review also found at <http://kristineandterri.blogspot.ca/2015/11/light-of-day.html>

I received an advanced copy of this book from the publisher HarperTeen via Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review. The expected publication date is November 24th 2015

I know I am going to struggle with penning my thoughts on this book. This was a YA book that I really enjoyed even though I am a couple of years (cough cough) beyond the age demographic that this is aimed for.

This is also a second book that covers the "Destinos". I did not know this until the end when there was an indication that there was a whole story that happened before this one. The good news is that it does not impact this story at all other than making me want to go back and read the other story.

I don't know what it is about the slightly dangerous, aloof and attractive male characters that draw me in. This story had that with X. To add that he was a genuinely caring guy with a cause added to the attraction. The romance between Gabby and X drew me in from the very beginning.

To add that Gabby was a strong female character as well. To say what is on her mind at all times and pour her heart out over the radio made me like her instantly. Together the couple was a hit.

I will leave the plot details to those who choose to read this story. I did not know what I was getting in to when I started this book and I believe that is part of what made me enjoy it so much.

I give this story two thumbs up and I strongly recommend it to the YA demographic, and those outside of it as well. I will be purchasing the other story I enjoyed this so much.

Sarah says

(Source: I received a digital copy of this book for free on a read-to-review basis. Thanks to HarperCollins and Edelweiss.)

“Of course he was high. That’s what this kiss was about. And yet I couldn’t stop.”

This was an okay YA contemporary story, but it dragged a bit for me.

Gabby seemed to be looking for trouble in this book, trying to turn pimps in to the police does not sound like a good way to stay safe, and she really did keep pushing the limits and feeling invincible, which was more than a little worrying.

The storyline in this was mainly about a missing girl, who was in fact alive and hanging out with a pimp. Gabby took it upon herself to try and rescue this girl (Bree), with a bit of help from her mystery crush 'X', and even felt the need to air all this on local radio, which again, was a bit worrying. There was some romance in this between Gabby and 'X', although this wasn't the main focus of the story, and there weren't many romantic scenes between the pair.

The ending to this was okay, and things seemed to work out happier than expected.