



Spinning Out

Lexi Ryan

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Once, the only thing that mattered to me was football—training, playing, and earning my place on the best team at every level. I had it all, and I threw it away with a semester of drugs, alcohol, and pissing off anyone who tried to stop me. Now I’m suspended from the team, on house arrest, and forced to spend a semester at home to get my shit together. The cherry on my fuckup sundae? Sleeping in the room next to mine is my best friend’s girl, Mia Mendez—the only woman I’ve ever loved and a reminder of everything I regret.

I’m not sure if having Mia so close will be heaven or hell. She’s off-limits—and not just because she’s working for my dad. Her heart belongs to someone else. But since the accident that killed her brother and changed everything, she walks around like a zombie, shutting out her friends and ignoring her dreams. We’re both broken, numb, and stuck in limbo.

Until I break my own rules and touch her.

Until she saves me from my nightmares by climbing into my bed.

Until the only thing I want more than having Mia for myself is to protect her from the truth.

I can’t rewrite the past, but I refuse to leave her heart in the hands of fate. For this girl, I’d climb into the sky and rearrange the stars.

SPINNING OUT is a sexy, emotional novel of 100,000 words. It is first in the Blackhawk Boys, a series of standalone novels.

Spinning Out Details

Date : Published May 3rd 2016 by Ever After, LLC

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Author : Lexi Ryan

Format : Kindle Edition 462 pages

Genre : Sports and Games, Sports, Romance, New Adult, Academic, College, Contemporary, Contemporary Romance, Sports Romance

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From Reader Review Spinning Out for online ebook

? Jeri's Book Attic ? the Romance Bibliophile ? says

Spinning Out (The Blackhawk Boys #1) by Lexi Ryan was a good start into a new series. It was my first book by this author and I liked it.

The author makes drawing complicated relationship strings amongst the characters look easy and I can easily see some of the content of the next books.

But some of the characters are very deeply developed – others not so much – unfortunately just some of the more important ones were less developed than some of the secondary. So the balance felt a little off for me.

The basic plot twist is quite easy to guess when you think about it for a minute – drawing the conclusion though might take you a minute or so.

There are quite a lot of clichés hiding under the surface of the plot but they are worked nicely into the story. But some things you should better not wonder about – like the reasons for some of the stuff that is happening.

Just like with some movies – sometimes it is better to not dig too deep into the story and simply take stuff at face value. And doing that – this book works out nicely.

It was easy to understand the dynamics of the group and feel with the leading characters.

And there were really some wise text passages in some of the chapters that deserve to be quoted – but would give away too much of the plot so I refrain from doing so.

I am looking forward to reading the next books of this series as I see some interesting plots in the future.

Jennifer says

ARC received for review

2.5 stars

It feels like it took me forever to read this. It was a great idea, but so depressing. Plus the BFF, Bailey, was over the top slutty, and there was no resolution to Bailey's relationship with her on again off again boyfriend. The best part was the last 5 chapters. There are lots more hunky football players to read about. And up next is Chris who I want to know more about, so I'll give her another chance.

Snow says

4.75 "I'm all yours. /Finally." stars

Arrow Woodinson has fallen from grace. He tossed away his footbal prospects, dwelled into alcohol, drugs and "piss off" attitude.

Mia Mendez is working hard to pay off her college to becoming a lawyer BUT she's operating on automatic. One night changed the odds, the future is no longer bright and she's trying to cope but she's dead inside.

She's not living. She's surviving.

They are both **eaten by the guilt**. The guilt they couldn't fight against without admitting the truth to each other, without facing the inevitable fact that has altered them both from the first moment they met but **were molded by circumstances, complications, complexed feelings and doubts, secrets, lies, sacrifice, limits of friendship, shapes of love, and ultimately betrayal**.

In one night between his betrayal and his apology, you were mine, but only because you couldn't be his.

New Year's Eve.

A fatal accident.

Two lives taken.

The chain of events that will start the guilty trip for them both,

*It's too easy to give in to the game of what-ifs.
I hate that game. It's painful and pointless.*

as we recall and recapture the reversed moments of unraveling their story before and after that shattering moment, that actually **took, shook, devastated and altered** more than two lives in the process.

*We all do the best we can. We just deal however we know how.
What's the point...I can't even feel anything.*

They will **struggle with fears, ways of finding remorse while coping with inner torments, facing the truths, analysing the facts, the need, the desire of unexpressed emotions will bring them all into a turmoil of emotional roller coaster til the final act of forgivness.**

This book kept me awake, and after a few hours of sleep I stole, I'm still reeling from the pent up feelings this story evoked in me. And that is the whole point. I LOVE when that happens to me, I love when the **emotions grip me so tight I feel like my heart's gonna burst with palpitation and elation, the chills and**

goose bumps on my skin only serve as a manifest and on outlet of my being swept away by this sensation.

And that's what I seek from a book!

This story wasn't perfect, I could point out my **remarks on main characters' „reasoning“ that eventually spurred them into action / re-action** BUT the **captivating tension** in the **described relations** between them made me feel **ALIVE**.

Those **emotional bursts were palpable and real** and I couldn't just NOT feel or deny them, nor I would want to. In fact, it was so **realistically and overwhelmingly portrayed** that I forgot I really DO NOT like **emotional triangles**, (I'm not including menage here, just to state clear, sex is still being the devine carnal exchange not necessarily connected to the aspects of any kind of emotional span) even though, I personally **acknowledge the possibility of loving several persons** at the same time, just **not in the same capacity** nor we're talking about **the same type of love** or affection, and that was, in my opinion, the **crucial segment that was realistically displayed and described** in this story...and it worked, for me.

at first, I needed a **FIX of a SPORT ROMANCE...**

well, sport was only a background for one of the **most complicated love stories with gripping twist, crippling secrets and emotional boombs** that will make you vivid. Well, this story did THAT to me, and I guess it's all that matters.

I looked forward to "**the more passionate, troublesome, messier - the better**", **oh and the forbidden love** - well, i cant even begin to tell you what I jumped into!!!

I GOT MORE than I EXPECTED!

It's 3:42 AM right now, which means this book kept me up all night, sweating in angst, passion, then those bloody twists came to rile me up even more!!!

Yeah, so I did say i **NEEDED** to KICK some **BALLS** in the process...BUT honestly in the end, **THIS BOOK kicked the hell out of me...**

I dedicate this gif to myself...

The fuckin feels...

For more info and reviews visit

Angie - Angie's Dreamy Reads says

I liked this. It was good, well written, and intense! I'm not sure what I was expecting, but for some reason I thought it would be lighter than it was. That said, this is perfect for readers who love heavy emotion. It was NON STOP with the angst. The plot itself unfolded slowly like a puzzle. You got tidbits of the story as it switched between past and present in large parts. It's twisty, guys! Definitely twisty and it made my heart beat crazy several times. When I finished I needed a moment to sort out what I was feeling. And I'm still undecided. I feel bad for ALL the characters. It was just a heavy subject matter. A heavy book. One that left me a little drained. That said, I did like it.

Jess-i-ca ~Sometimes a Gif Witch~ says

3.5 stars

Predictable, but overall enjoyable.

Jessica (Angie & Jessica's Dreamy Reads) says

I've read a handful of books from Lexi Ryan in the past, and while I remember thoroughly enjoying her writing, none of her previous books have stood out quite like Spinning Out. This story completely consumed me. Spinning Out opens with Arrow Woodison making it known that he despises Mia Mendez's existence and with Mia barely treading the water that is her tattered life. Something has happened between these characters, something has torn apart the lives they once knew and the journey toward unearthing all that's happened, all that Mia and Arrow once were to each other, is exquisitely slow, perfectly paced. This is a messy, ugly, tumultuous romance that's both devastating and satisfying all at once.

More than a romance, Spinning Out is a suspenseful, gut-wrenching story of secrecy, loss and a love that defies time and circumstance. Arrow Woodison has longed for his best friend's girl since the day they met. The undeniable attraction between Mia Mendez, an underprivileged student from a trailer park, and Arrow, a wealthy college football star, was mutual, but Mia's insecurities lead her to take the safer route: his best friend, Brogan. When tragedy strikes and the tenuous house of cards surrounding these characters is demolished, life as they knew it spins out of control and the trajectory of all their lives is altered forever. Spinning Out is tragic and raw and it completely blindsided me. I didn't expect to open this book and be so overcome with emotions the way I was, to be so captivated by this web of secrets.

This story evolves over a series of alternating "parts" between the past and the present, the before and the after, offering up a fully encompassing look into these characters. Adding even greater depth to the story, the chapters also alternate between the points of view of both Mia and Arrow, leaving no stone left unturned. The undeniable attraction, the raw desire, and sexual tension between these characters has always been obvious. But there were gargantuan roadblocks between them, both then and now, and the painstaking manner in which Lexi Ryan reveals the details, the pieces to this mystifying puzzle, to the reader is both addictive and brutal.

This storyline is sexy and it is angsty and it is wholly romantic. It's also deeply emotional, addictive, and beautifully written. This book is so much more than I thought it would be when I went in. The storyline is intriguing and perfectly paced, the details of this addictive puzzle revealed meticulously. This book was impossible to put down and the more I read, the more in love I fell with this author's luminous writing style

and brilliant storytelling. Spinning Out clawed its way under my skin when I least expected it to and burrowed. I absolutely loved everything about it.

NMmomof4 says

2.5 Stars

Overall Opinion: This is another tough one to rate... I enjoyed some of it, but other parts bugged me. I was engaged, and I thought more than once that it was an unique storyline -- so there's that. I was frustrated with the fact that we didn't know any details of what had happened until around the 75ish% mark, because for the first part I kept on thinking "is this part of a series and I missed the first one?". That feeling of being lost was not so great. I think some bigger reveals earlier on would've helped the storyline flow smoother tbh. I also hated the hot/cold feelings I got with both of the mcs. They'd push away and then they'd want each other's attention. It became exhausting! The ending also left me with some major questions being unanswered, and that was frustrating. So, in this case I guess I just got what I paid for ?

Brief Summary of the Storyline: This is Mia and Arrow's story. I'm going to keep this brief in hopes of not ruining it. Mia and Arrow meet one day because Arrow's roommate is hooking-up with Mia's best friend. They have an instant connection, but Mia is under the impression that Arrow is a mystery person she's been texting lately. That mystery person ends up being Arrow's best friend, and he is harboring a pretty strong crush on Mia so Arrow backs off. The story starts later when Mia is working in Arrow's home as a live-in nanny to his baby sister and he is on house arrest. We go from past to present and see how their story unfolds...and they get a HFN ending.

POV: This alternated between Mia and Arrow's POV.

Overall Pace of Story: Not so great. It felt slow at times, and I did skim some at the beginning half of the book. It shifts in sections of the present and the past. The ending also felt too abrupt for my liking.

Instalove: No, but instant connection and instalust.

H rating: 3 stars. Arrow (not a huge fan of the name). He was so hot and cold that I could hardly keep up at times! He hated her, then loved her, then was mean to her, then wanted to have sex with her!

h rating: 3.5 stars. Mia. I liked her a little bit more than the H, but not much. She was also wish-washy, and while I understood her problems and where they stemmed from I didn't like the way she was so indecisive.

Sadness level: Low, no tissues needed

Push/Pull: Yes (view spoiler)

Heat level: Good. They have some good tension, chemistry, and scenes -- but not many scenes and not so much it takes away from the story.

Descriptive sex: Yes

Safe sex: Yes (view spoiler)

OW/OM drama: Yes (view spoiler)

Sex scene with OW or OM: No (view spoiler)

Cheating: Not between mcs (view spoiler)

Separation: Not really. (view spoiler)

Possible Triggers: Yes (view spoiler)

Closure: This didn't have enough closure for me, as I was left with quite a bit unanswered questions. I would call it a HFN ending.

How I got it: It was a freebie on Amazon.

Safety: This one is probably Safe with exception for most safety gang readers (view spoiler)

SueBee★bring me an alpha!★ says

? ? FREE on Amazon US today (8/22/2017) ? ?

Stand-alone book 1.

FREE: <https://www.amazon.com/Spinning-Out-B...>

BLURB:

Once, the only thing that mattered to me was football—training, playing, and earning my place on the best team at every level. I had it all, and I threw it away with a semester of drugs, alcohol, and pissing off anyone who tried to stop me. Now I'm suspended from the team, on house arrest, and forced to spend a semester at home to get my shit together. The cherry on my fuckup sundae? Sleeping in the room next to mine is my best friend's girl, Mia Mendez—the only woman I've ever loved and a reminder of everything I regret.

I'm not sure if having Mia so close will be heaven or hell. She's off-limits—and not just because she's working for my dad. Her heart belongs to someone else. But since the accident that killed her brother and changed everything, she walks around like a zombie, shutting out her friends and ignoring her dreams. We're both broken, numb, and stuck in limbo.

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and rearrange the stars.

FREEBIES are often good for MORE than one day. I have gathered all my FREEBIES on a special shelf: **Kindle-freebies** (currently over 700 books)
<https://www.goodreads.com/review/list...>

Shannon Moore says

My first Lexi Ryan book!! I really liked this one. I liked the emotion and the forbiddenness and the hurt between the main characters. I liked the side dramas and lover's woes. And I LOVED the angst. Though I will say it wasn't perfect, and at times, predictable. Mia made mistakes and she made some pretty stupid ones. I think this was drawn out much more than it had to be, simply because Mia was too busy being an idiot 'before'. But Arrow... wow, he was great. Can't wait for Cris's story next!

Jennifer Kyle says

3.5 STARS

Lexi Ryan delivers a standalone story with a full cast of characters that are football players for BHU. Sadly, this book didn't have ANY football scenes whatsoever in it. The story is told in the present and the past building the mystery as to what happened one night at Deadman's Curve leaving one character dead and the other barely hanging onto his life.

The heroine's the special snowflake type. These types are the girl that every guy in the book wants to make their own and she just exhausted this reader. Mia Mendez in the past had fallen for two guys one the safe choice and the other the passionate choice. She dates the safe choice while to me always giving the passionate choice just enough hope to hold on. Oh the angst!!!!

"Maybe I'm scared to be alone. Maybe I can't stand to see him hurting this much. Or maybe I'm selfish and need a buffer between me and Arrow."

In the present, the mystery of what really happened that awful night slowly comes to light. Sadly it was so very predictable which shocked me since this author delivered on the twists in her *Here and Now* series. By sixty percent into the story I got just tired of Arrow's heart getting crushed (Mia had SO many opportunities to change the course of this story) with Mia running to his bed on the one hand and pushing him away so adamantly with the other.

"You could never be second choice, Arrow. Because I never allowed myself to consider you a choice at

all.”

Lexi Ryan's writing was highlight worthy and I was pulled into the plot immediately and then just got tired of whole thing. To be honest not even a wow twist would have saved Arrow and Mia's love story from hitting epic levels and the fault fell on Mia. Mia's thoughts and actions just wiped me out and somewhere along the way the story should have been condensed and shown more love on her part. To boot, there wasn't even an epilogue and story ended far too quickly. Who the heck knows what these two are like together perhaps they won't be able to stand one another when it's all said and done.

Dayla says

[Rant (hide spoiler)]

Carmen Rae says

Well that was just mean Lexi Ryan. I have been wanting to read this series every single time I see them but I keep putting it off cause damn does that blurb sound emotional and I have to be in the right mood to put myself through that. But the stars aligned this week and I just had to pick this up even knowing it was going to be an angsty read, I just really wasn't expecting the amount of tears I shed while reading this book.

I also thought it was going to go in a lot different direction to the one it went in however I won't tell you about that because it was so well written you have to take the journey yourself. And despite the fact I cried for most of the book it wasn't one of those reads you walk away from feeling sad and heartbroken from. Infact I walked away with a huge smile wanting to rave about this awesome story and beautiful characters.

Mia was a character that I liked but I did go back and forth with her and I had a few moments I wanted to scream and pull my hair out but then we would get a little more of her story and I would see where she was coming from and I would feel nothing but love and sympathy for her. Everything she went through in this book would probably have broken me. But she was so forgiving and strong and I ended up loving her.

But not as much as I loved Arrow. Seriously that man owned me from the first. And although he did make a few stupid mistake and could (should) have handled things in a better way everything he did he did for the right reasons and with the best of intentions. And despite his mistakes he was a genuinely sweet guy who got dealt a really shitty hand.

I am so glad I picked this book up (finally) and I can't wait to read the rest of this series, well you know next time I pull up my big girl panties enough.

~ Stéphanie ~ Tied up in Romance ~ says

I'm sad I didn't like this book. I know how Lexi Ryan can capture my attention with her ability to create intense and complex situations but it didn't work for me.

First Spinning Out grabbed my attention by its cover. I'm a cover whore, always will be. Then the fact that she wrote a new series was intriguing. I loved her Here and Now Series and I enjoyed her Real & Reckless one so I was all in.

I have two major issues with Spinning Out: the book was depressing ALL THE TIME and I didn't get the attraction between Mia & Arrow :(

When I finished reading I told myself that I never, not once smiled while reading. The subject and what happened in the read is sad, both MC feels guilty for their own reasons but there are no light moments, not once.

Lexi built her story so you discover the plot between the past and the present and you're given pieces of what this is all about and also everyone's connections. While I thought it was a good idea at the beginning, it became frustrating after a few parts because there wasn't enough explanations about the attraction of Mia & Arrow.

I felt like they met, they feel a pull towards each other and one wants the other so bad he doesn't see anyone else. I didn't buy it. Even in their time together, I didn't buy their attraction.

In the book there is a quote that was perfect for my thoughts of the book:

"As has always been the case with us, so much is spoken with what's unspoken"

That being said, I'm still going to follow Lexi's next book about Christopher. She gave us a glimpse of what is going to be and I'm very curious.

~ARC provided by the publisher via NetGalley in exchange of an honest review ~

TheCrazyWorldOfABookLover says

Spinning Out tells the story of Mia and Arrow. After a fatal accident, Mia loses her brother and her boyfriend Brogan is badly injured. But through dual POV and past and present narratives, you learn that there is more to this accident than what has been let on, Brogan wasn't Mia's first choice, and her and Arrow have a past and have been keeping their feelings for each other a secret as well. After the accident, Mia and Arrow are back in each other's lives since she is working for his father as a housekeeper/ nanny.

I went back and forth with this book, not really sure what didn't work for me but after some thought, it was a plethora of things that got on my nerves.

The whole thing was filled with convenient circumstances and some timelines that didn't add up which started to get annoying after a while.

Add on the annoyingly slutty BFF

and the really obvious plot twist, I was over this before I even finished.

And if I have to read about one more FREAKING VIRGIN having sex for the first time and being able to ride the guy like a cow girl while "pain gives way, edged out by pleasure", I may just shoot myself.

And the cherry on top of it all: can someone explain to me how a dull, blasé girl attracts all these men and has them falling head over heels for her? What is the appeal?? Can someone tell me? Because I don't get why this is so common. The heroine had the personality of a wet mop. Yet had two BFFS pining for her affection and falling instantly in love with her. PUH-LEASE.

Besides all this, I found the whole thing just..dull. The convos, the relationships, the twist, all of it. And I don't really see how this is categorized as a sports romance when maybe 1 or two football games are mentioned, and in the present the hero isn't even playing football. Maybe it's me. Maybe I'm in a book funk. Maybe you'll like this way more than I did. But I am just so over mediocre books and don't feel like wasting my time on something that isn't going to blow me away.

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Astrid - The Bookish Sweet Tooth says

Dayum dat cover...

Review @ Vanilla & Spice Books

For me to love a story depends 75% on the female lead. I know. It's not fair but there you have it. Since I'm supposed to be studying hard, I'll forgo the summary and jump right into my thoughts.

Arrow was a wonderfully broken character. He was loyal to the bone and tried to adhere to the bro code when it came to his friend Brogan. He went through hell and back and took the penance for what he'd done and hadn't with grace.

Brogan was an idiot and why his friends stood by him the way they did I can't fathom. The author failed to convince me why he was the good guy he was supposed to be, there was all this talk about him being such a

great guy but I didn't *see* it. He was one-dimensional (view spoiler).

Mia fell flat for me. Throughout 400+ pages I couldn't get a read on her. I have no idea why these young men went all gaga over her. She wasn't not likable. She just...was. I wanted to care about her but I couldn't. I wouldn't be able to tell you much about her if you asked me, except maybe that she was a hard worker.

I'm still rating this with 3 stars because the story itself and the mystery were good and I did like the author's writing style, it had a pleasant flow.

It is written in dual-POV and additionally switches between before and after the accident. It has a somber tone throughout the story, there is nothing light-hearted to lift the darker mood. We are introduced to likable secondary characters and I think we will get at least two more stories about them. I will definitely read more of this author, I think these boys have potential!
