



The Temptation

Alisa Valdes

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His touch was electric.

His eyes were magnetic.

His lips were a temptation....

But was he real?

After crashing her car on an empty highway, Shane is miraculously saved by Travis, a mysterious cowboy who walks out of nowhere. She is instantly attracted to him, and for the first time, she believes in “soul mates.” But Shane soon discovers that Travis is dead and that strict rules from the Underworld govern kindred spirits of different dimensions. Breaking these rules could destroy both their souls. And while Travis is almost impossible to resist, temptation proves to be the kindest enemy they encounter.

Can true love surpass the power of pure evil? Part love story, part supernatural thriller, this first book in the Kindred trilogy will leave readers lusting for more!

The Temptation Details

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Author : Alisa Valdes

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From Reader Review The Temptation for online ebook

Mitchii says

1.5/5

You know self, it's not the book's fault so don't blame it. The book implies that this is going to be another instant love kind of story. The summary gave you a sort of warning: *she is **instantly** attracted to him*. *Instantly* being the operative word. You hate insta-love and yet you still read it, now whose fault is it?

I'm talking to myself...this is not good. This is what happens when I write a review in the midst of a migraine. But I don't want to put it on hold because I tend to lose what I originally wanted to say. And I want to write my thoughts on every book I read.

Now, where was I? Ah, the insta-love. It's the most instantaneous attraction I have ever read. So if you hate this kind of development then I warn you to stay far, far away. But if you don't mind then go for it! But I can guarantee you, that is only the beginning.

Let's pretend that I'm fully ok with them falling head over heels so suddenly. But their first meeting was distasteful, especially the girl, Shane. She got into an accident and almost dying and then guy, Travis popped out of nowhere and saved her. You see, no matter how freakishly good-looking the guy, you don't gawk at him and describe his facial feature at that very moment. You're about to die. Doesn't she have to think things like...I don't know, her mother? her friends? her boyfriend? or herself?

But wait a minute there's an explanation why they are oh so ridiculously attracted to each other. They're soulmates—kindreds. This is not spoiler anymore since the summary already said this information: Travis is dead, he's a ghost. But here's a spoiler: technically he's a revenant. And if you're thinking Die For Me, not quite. Let just say he's under consideration, he did some bad thing while he was alive so for him to be permitted to enter the afterworld, he must do good deeds here on earth. This is like a second chance for people like him. The unique part of his situation (and probably what makes it different from other ghost stories) is that he has a human body by day and everything is functioning like normal. By night he's in ghostly form.

The good thing about this book was that it didn't beat around the bush. Travis is very honest to Shane of what he was. And I liked Travis for that. Shane however pissed the living daylights out of me. She was ogling at the guy all the time. And after like a few days (or I think it was just a day) she realized that she was not in love with her boyfriend anymore. To say she love him so easily made think if she did really like the guy. I hate that just to prove that they're not meant for each, it demonized Logan's (the ex) character. And that's not all, I hate how desperate she was, begging to be kissed even though the guy said no. *Ang kulit mo 'te?! P.P*

I'm pretty sure I'm not going to read the second book. The revenants, afterworld and even the kindred parts were good, only it was overshadowed by Victor's shallow motivations. What a shame. x.x

Jessica (a GREAT read) says

I received this ARC at RT Booklover's Convention via the Goody Room

I have not read such an amazing "ghost" book since Jenny Carroll/Meg Cabot's Mediator series! And that series is pretty old!! Alisa Valdes's The Temptation was amazing! Totally takes ghosts and revenants to a new level!!

Shane was on the verge on death when Travis saves her, she knows then that there's something unique about him, but she doesn't know what. Although she soon finds out exactly what he is! The pacing was pretty good, I mean I breezed through this in two afternoons! And I really liked it! There's the whole forbidden love, this can't work out, we're too different thing going on with the two. Of course that's pretty standard in paranormal romances, but I felt that Valdes does a good job of it. For if the two were to be together, to even kiss, it could ruin Travis's chance at getting to the Afterworld aka Heaven.

I liked that Valdes had names for these places instead of ones we get from religion and the Bible, I just thought it gave it an interesting spin and it doesn't offend anyone either!

But there is a catch, if Travis were to find his Kindred, aka soul mate, then it would be okay for him to kiss her and everything. But he has to know, if he decides to be with someone or kiss her, and she's not his Kindred, then there's trouble. But neither can fight the feelings they have for one another.

To make things a little tricky, Shane does start out with a boyfriend, one we definitely don't root for though. Not sure if his character will change or not. There's also a brother! Yes, Travis has a ghostly bro! And we do learn about what happened to them and why they are still here roaming earth. Not sure if there's going to be something more with the brother, he wasn't there too much, but I could see him being a more prominent character in the next book!

Which brings up another problem, Shane now sees and talks to ghosts. People around her start treating her differently. Like her best friend whom she confided in and her mother. They think she's going crazy due to her accident. This was an interesting move and pretty realistic too. I liked that it brought up challenges for Shane that was difficult to overcome.

There were only two minor, meager things that bothered me about the book, but not enough to detract my enjoyment. First was the insta-love. I mean really, it's never been a fave thing of mine--except when it happens in Disney and they can get away with it because they're Disney--it's just too unrealistic for me to believe. That because he saves her life, she loves him? It's been a week or two when she finally realizes she loves him. You know, the big L?! But again, it wasn't too bad, I just got a little tired of it when Shane kept proclaiming that she loves him.

The other was simply using the word "brain doctor". It felt kind of dumbed down to me. Why not just say neurologist? It's a pretty common term. I mean we don't call the dentist a "tooth doctor". Maybe it's just because I had to go see a neurologist myself when I was 15 due to having had incredibly horrendous headaches. So I knew the term, I knew prior to going to see him the term. So having to read "brain doctor" just felt childish to me. But again, it wasn't something that ruined the novel!

This was a fabulous read! It's rare to find a good ghost novel these days, for how can a romance between a girl and ghost work? Carroll/Cabot did it years ago and now Valdes has done it! The Kindred trilogy is definitely one I'll be keeping an eye on!

Overall rating 4.5/5 stars

The Temptation releases April 24, 2012

Nancy/girlsinthestacks.com says

I wish I could have liked this more, but it had a couple major flaws that really spoiled it for me.

One, the instant romance. Immediately they fall in love, and it is explained later that they are soulmates, etc., so that was why, but it just seemed hokey.

Two, they are both perfect people and the villains are perfectly evil. So no real surprises, no shades of grey, no depth.

The first in a trilogy.

Jen says

Favourite Character: Minerva

Shane is an intelligent, pretty girl with a lot going for her, one night on her way to a concert she has an accident and her life as she knows it changes forever.

The writing was good in general, but I didn't like the main character mainly because no one in the world is that perfect and I couldn't relate to the character at all. I think that if I could have related to the main character more I would have enjoyed reading this novel a whole lot more than I did.

If you like paranormal romance then you might like this, I don't know if I'll bother reading the next novel in the series.

Jessica (Stuck in Books) says

Actual Rating: 2.5 stars

See this review and more on my blog: [Just a Booklover](#)

I won this book in a Goodreads First Reads giveaway

I entered to win this book because it seriously looked good. The description drew me in, as did the attractive boy on the cover. Plus, it's published by HarperTeen, and I could not remember ever disliking a book

published by HarperTeen. Sadly, though, I thought I'd like this book a whole lot more than I actually did.

The Temptation is a ghost story, a love story--pretty much, just a run-of-the-mill YA paranormal romance book like the many we've all seen so much of as of late. To be quite honest, this book bored me. I found my attention wandering often as I read this book and had a hard time getting into it. I couldn't connect with this story at all, really, which made it a tedious read.

I DID like some of the terminology Alisa used in this book, though. Instead of just calling it "Hell" she said "Underworld" and things like that. There were some things that could really have made this book unique and riveting. The characters had a lot of potential, too, but they didn't live up to it. Speaking of characters . . .

Character rundown! We have Shane. A character I feel nothing for. We know very little about her. She had no arc or anything in this book, which probably had to do with the fact that a character needs to be developed to begin with before one can develop into anything better. Next we have Travis. AH, TRAVIS. Travis is a gentleman. I respect that. He is genuinely kind and caring to people and animals alike. He is the character we learned the most about and connected with the most. Actually, I think he was the only character we could connect with in any way. This said, he was the only character who had anything like an arc. I really liked Travis. He was the character that made me want to stick with this book until the end.

Other than Travis, though, there was not really any character development. We had a lot of potential in Shane and Kelsey and Logan, but we got virtually nothing from them. Logan didn't do much at all in the book--he only seemed to be different everytime we saw him. The only thing that was consistent was his blood-lust, I suppose you may call it, and that turned out to not be very defining, anyway. Kelsey did pretty much nothing, either, except be a tattletale. The character issue was important to me because if I can't connect with the characters, I have no way of connecting to the story. There WAS a little potential gem in here who was not Travis, and that would be Travis' brother Randy. I suppose we shall see in book 2 . . .

This book was a very cliché-type YA paranormal romance. Everything you'd expect to pop up in a book like this does. Which sounds great if you're a sweetness-lover like me, right? WRONG. It made *The Temptation* even more boring and predictable. Plus, the insta-love in here was too sudden and unbelievable to really amuse me. Travis was a sweet guy, but that's all that interested me as far as this went.

The ending. Before I get to the very end, I have to say some things about the 20-ish pages before that. Quite frankly, I did not want to read them. For reasons I'll let you discover on your own, my favorite boy in this book was not present in them. Which made me care about what they had to say about 0%. When one character is making the whole story for me and that character is pulled out for certain circumstances, my interest in what I'm reading evaporates. Now, the ending. I WILL be reading book 2 when it comes out. Because, yeah, there was a cliff-hanger. Not a cry-worthy one, but still a cliff-hanger nonetheless. Which means I need to know what will happen next, naturally. Plus, remember my comment on Randy? Well, I see some potential for him to be more involved in the next book! Which means I'll have to check that out when I can. I won't rush, though.

Overall, I didn't really enjoy this book. Just wasn't really my cup of tea. If you like ghost stories where ghosts find their soulmates and other things happen that I'm not going to recount in this sentence because I'm just not, then you should certainly give this book a whirl. Who knows, maybe you'll like it more than I did.

ILoveBooks says

Readers who can't stomach full-blown love stories but enjoy action, mystery, and the supernatural will find this book perfect! The main character, Shane, will lead the reader right to the heart of the plot. Shane was driving with her small dog early on in the book when an odd coyote limped in front of her car. Shane jerks the wheel to avoid the coyote and the car flips...leaving Shane near death and her small dog nowhere to be found. Shane's saving grace comes in the form of Travis. Travis has a remarkable ability to heal Shane and her small dog. The two form a natural connection from here. The reader may wonder-what happened to the coyote? The reader will be right to wonder...

As Shane's and Travis's relationship grows, the reader will begin to understand the ramifications of any potential relationship between the two. It is dangerous for Shane and Travis to love each other, but is love something two people can ignore? Shane's character is great; she is intelligent and courageous. However, she has her faults too-ignoring warnings and continuing in her stubborn ways. Travis is every teenage girl's dream boyfriend. He truly cares for Shane and is not embarrassed by his feelings. He does everything in his power to keep Shane safe-even at his own expense. The reader will learn to loathe the antagonists and root for Shane and Travis.

This book is exciting and a fun, fast read. The ending will leave the reader wanting more, a wish he/she will be granted as there will be a sequel! The authors' writing style is smooth and edgy, the writing style will hold the readers' attention. This book is recommended for young adult/teen readers.

Savannah (Books With Bite) says

A good ghost story I always adore to read. And this story, it hooked me. I love the intense plot line and a love that grows before your eyes.

What I liked most about this book is the plot line. I fell in love with another series similar to this one. A ghost who is fighting evil and finds his kindred. I love this types of plot line cause of the redemption in it. Travis was unable to move on cause of the bad things he done. By doing good things he is making his way back to where he needs to be. I like that the plot pacing is monumental. Nothing is giving away too fast yet the reader is given the right information at the right time.

The characters of the book I like. Each unique and bold, Travis is my favorite. I am interested in his past and what his future holds. Shane is another character that quickly caught my eye. You can definitely tell she is not the same even before the accident. I like the change she endured after the accident and how she held on

to what she knew.

The love interest in the book is no surprise however, I did enjoy their passion. I can really tell while reading this book the deep love that they felt for each other. The constant sacrifices for each other made it quite clear that this was no ordinary love but something extraordinary!

The Temptation is romantic and entertaining. Beautiful and heart warming, there is no amount of dark that can over power their love. The Temptation is an increasingly passionate story that leaves you satisfied.

Heather T. says

A book with a great flow and imagery that pulls you in. So descriptive that you can picture and practically feel the characters, surroundings, and emotions captured in the writing. I am a person that requires details to maintain my attention when reading. I need to get lost in the story and to become attached to the characters. I couldn't put this down.

This is a book better appreciated by younger readers or those that have experienced and remember how devastatingly powerful young love can be. This kind of love (and slight obsession) is amazingly expressed within the book. The draw between Shane and her ghost cowboy, Travis, can only be described as electric. Those fortunate enough to relate to and/or understand this inexplicable magnetism between two people will undoubtedly enjoy this novel immensely. No spoilers in this review...only a strong urging to check it out for yourself.

There are all kinds of reading preferences among different people, but this book is worth putting on your "to read" list. Even some who have been less than impressed with the book have mentioned that they will still be buying the second installment. Personally, I think that says something in itself.

Dark Faerie Tales says

Review Courtesy of Dark Faerie Tales

Quick & Dirty: This book takes all the fallback cliches of the young adult genre and brings them into a story full with ghosts and evil.

Opening Sentence: The storm came out of nowhere.

The Review:

Shane is driving through New Mexico heading to her violin concert when an odd coyote jumps in front of her car. Swerving to avoid it she runs off the road and would have died if it were not for Travis and his magic healing powers. Travis is a temptation — think ghost — and Shane is attracted to him instantly when their souls recognize each other. He's a gorgeous cowboy, which is an interesting addition to his character. Honestly, his backstory, his life and death, was the most interesting part of the book. I wanted to know more about the broken Travis before he died than the perfect temptation version of him.

Frankly, this book didn't really do it for me. There's nothing to complain about from the writing standpoint.

In a number of places Shane is a funny and engaging heroine, but she's also kind of useless. While I can completely understand that battling supernatural ghosts isn't something your everyday girl learns in high school, there were a lot of moments when I as the reader knew Shane was smarter than the situation Valdes put her in. Shane's not stupid, she's just out of her depth. I felt throughout the story that the author was prohibiting her character development.

It took a long time for me to believe in Travis as a character, much less as the hero and love interest. He's gorgeous, caring, sweet and all things good; Shane falls in love with him in less than a page. Like, literally the instant he comes into the book she knows they're meant to be together. While I don't want to say that there can't be guys out there that are perfect in every way...no actually, I'll just say that. I think the author really missed a chance in the dialogue to develop the love story and her heroes. Valdes didn't give any of her characters flaws or depth or ways to grow in *The Temptation*. The good guys are 100% good and Victor, our evil villain, is 100% bad. There are no shades of grey, no deeper, meaningful conflict.

The mystery aspect was very linear, which is why I'm not mentioning a lot of it here. While the mystery angle to *The Temptation* definitely made it easier to swallow the love story, it's a pretty predictable book. The religion mythology mash-up Valdes has based this series on is something I really hope to see expanded in the next two books. The idea of temptations as a kind of ghost is really intriguing and I think she can do a lot with it. I'm definitely not rushing out to pick up the sequel, but I think if she took the time in book two to develop Shane and Travis, their love, and add some shades of grey to the whole plot I'd probably continue with the series.

Notable Scene:

"Something wrong?" I asked.

He shook his head. "Nah. Not really. Just getting late, is all. I'm not supposed to be out after dark, but I can't just leave you here with Victor out there." He looked conflicted.

"Who's Victor?"

"My enemy," he said point-blank. It was a strange thing to say.

"You have an enemy?"

"Any man who stands for anything good has enemies," he said. "Men without them are usually cowards."

The Kindred Trilogy:

1. The Temptation

FTC Advisory: Harper Teen provided me with a copy of *The Temptation*. No goody bags, sponsorships, "material connections," or bribes were exchanged for my review.

Wanda says

This is a goodreads first-reads.

The Temptation by Alisa Valdes was terrific. I was hooked from the start and didn't want to put it down...and then there was an instance where I just shook my head and said "...what?..." (This is why I only gave 4 stars and not 5.) Then it picked up again I was hoping and wishing and then ...it ended... I want to know more, please tell me there will be a second book.

Pavlina Read more sleep less blog♥♥ says

I find myself frustrated because I really wanted to like this book because its about revenants, but I didn't. The character was ok. I found Travis and Shane adorable. But the romance felt like it happened too quickly. Also there were many things in this book that seemed out of place and unnecessary.

Erin Cataldi says

I'm going to be honest, these "paranormal teen romance" books are not my cup of tea, so please bear that in mind when you're reading my review.

"The Temptation" is a novel about a beautiful young girl, Shane, who falls in love with an ethereal being. Travis, a smoking hot young cowboy rescues Shane from a hideous car wreck and the two become practically inseparable. The only problem is Shane can't explain Travis and all the mystery that follows him to her family and friends so everyone starts to think that maybe the car crash messed with her brain. As she get's closer to Travis, Shane realizes that the forces of evil are closing in around them. If that sounds cheesy, that's because it is. It wasn't that it was badly written or anything, I just am NOT a fan of this genre. What is it with young girls falling for supernatural creatures all the time? And it's not like there's a drawn out romance either, they instantly fall in love (think Twilight).

That being said, if you're a fan of this genre, then you will most definitely love this book. If not, pass it over!

I received this book for free from GoodReads giveaways in return for my unbiased honest opinion.

Jenny says

Rating: 2.5/5

For most of us who love reading, the ideal story is one that seeps beneath our skin and leaves the topography of our hearts forever changed by the shape of the character's footprints as they've traveled through and left no piece of it untouched. A less than ideal reading experience is one where the characters and their lives leave little to no impression at all, instead our journey with them is marked by a fleeting curiosity and mild interest, allowing us to move on to the next book with relative ease as we forgo any deep emotional attachment. Unfortunately, The Temptation falls into the latter category, the relationship between Shane and Travis of the instant and inexplicably deep love variety that has us hoping with each page we'll be given a

more thorough look at the two of them so we might better understand their behavior. That more extensive character examination never comes however, and we remain passengers on a motorboat, skimming atop the waves a speed that prevents us from appreciating any of the beautiful details instead of slowly churning beneath them absorbing all the details.

Shane is a young woman difficult to distinguish from a myriad of other young adult heroines, a bit weak-willed when it comes to a good-looking boy (though some leeway must be granted given her age, as we all can surely remember how thoroughly impressive a handsome boy was to us as teenagers), and at times exhibiting a reduced mental capacity when we know she's capable of so much more. She walks into danger despite being repeatedly told to keep her distance, and she is prone to mild bouts of panic at the mere thought of being parted from a boy she met only days previously. While we are told that she and Travis are soul mates of a kind, we ourselves never experience the spark of their chemistry as it travels along sensitive skin and are given only a basic history of what it means to be Kindred in this first installment, leaving us feeling as though Shane and Travis are but simulations, mimicking love without making us believe it's real.

The Temptation is certainly a quick and easy read, and will likely appeal more to a younger audience perhaps less interested in character intricacies and complexities and more focused on simply a fast-moving paranormal story with a little romance mixed in. Those who devour a great deal of young adult literature and are more critical readers looking for something memorable and fresh to stand out amidst the masses will likely be disappointed by an all-too familiar relationship type.

Joan (official heroine hater) says

I couldn't get past the 2nd chapter on this one and have no desire to ever try it again. Goes back to the library unfinished!

Em says

[
-Whiny MC who owns a chihuahua named Buddy
-SOME SERIOUS Insta-Love (groan)
-Star-crossed lovers, of course...KINDREDS...maybe?
-Hot guy appearing out of nowhere...too good to be true? Yes.
-Ent
