



Girl of Mine

Taylor Dean

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HE CAME HOME

The year is 2003 and Captain Lucas Graham is at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, about to be deployed to Iraq. A few weeks ago, he broke his engagement with Jillian Barrett, leaving her stunned and heartbroken.

Knowing he can't leave for war without putting his affairs in order, Luke obtains a four day pass with only one goal in mind: explain his life story to his former fiancée.

The problem: Jill is now engaged to another man.

But Luke isn't giving up. He only has four days to gain an audience with Jill, even if he has to resort to drastic measures to do so.

And he will . . .

Girl of Mine Details

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From Reader Review Girl of Mine for online ebook

Sherry Fundin says

Taylor Dean is an award winning author that is at the top of my must read list and Girl of Mine is another one of her clean romance novels that tugged at my heartstrings. I must warn you, though.... a box of tissues is required.

One month before her wedding, Jill was jilted. Now...HE's back, continuing to break her heart.

Why is Lucas so desperate to talk to her NOW?

Jill is still in love with Lucas, so why is she engaged to another man? That is something you will have to read the book to find out.

I wonder how Taylor will HOOK me...and now I see.

The characters are complex and intertwined in a complicated scenario. Of course, I felt bad for Jill, but I felt equally as bad for Lucas, even though it was his own fault. He made the choice to walk away.

Guilt, manipulation and miscommunication lead to a tangled web...isn't that like real life? It is Taylor Dean's ability to write and make it believable that allows me to become so involved in her characters and bring them to life on the pages.

Even a 'bad guy' can be good...can't he? I love flawed characters. It makes them more interesting to me. I wonder if they can redeem themselves...

Jill's childish and pouty behavior gave me some chuckles and I find romance and humor go together in real life, so it is easy to relate to her.

Girl of Mine by Taylor Dean has everything I need for a wonderful romance. Love, heartbreak and bliss, with a happy ever after. Her writing makes me laugh, cry, wring my hands in frustration as I want to yell at the characters, "Hey guys...you need to communicate." I love that her stories leave me with a feeling of happiness and satisfaction when I turn the last page.

I received a copy of Girl of Mine from Taylor Dean in return for an honest review.

To see more, visit [fundinmental](#)

Melanie says

Taylor Dean is one of my favorite authors so I was excited when she announced her new book, and even more excited when it moved to the top of my TBR pile!

I loved this book! Luke and Jill are the main characters and when the book starts, they're broken up. Luke is on a four day leave from the military and needs to talk to her. She has become engaged to another man, his

best friend Troy. Luke needs to tell her the truth about him and Troy and why he broke up with her so abruptly.

The story is told in flashbacks. We get bits and pieces of where Luke and Jill are in the present day, then the story of how they met and fell in love and also the story of Luke and Troy. I enjoyed this because I honestly didn't see what was coming. I loved Luke and Jill's story and was rooting for them and wondered how she could have agreed to marry Troy. As their story unfolded, her reasons became clear but there was a lot of information she was missing.

Luke and Troy were the best of friends until a major event happened when they were twelve. As we learn those details, Luke and Troy's current relationship makes more sense. This book is just as much about their relationship as it is about Luke and Jill's and I enjoyed learning more about all of them. I had a definite opinion of Troy in the beginning and felt differently about him by the end.

This story is an emotional journey that shows the power of forgiveness, love and friendship. It's a clean romance (yay!) and the ending is amazing, even though getting there is rough. I'm already looking forward to Taylor's next book!

I received a copy of this book to review. My opinion is 100% my own.

Mel's Shelves

Lisa says

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for a fair and honest review.

I love Taylor Dean's book because she is a fantastic author. Unfortunately, because she is not very well-known, I have a feeling that many people are still unaware of her books. Personally, I found out about this author by word-of-mouth on a romance reader's forum, and I notice that her name still comes up on these forums.

Girl of mine is her latest book. It takes place in the year 2003. Luke Graham is planning to marry his fiance, Jill Barrett next month when he gets word that he is being deployed to Iraq. Before he leaves, he breaks up with Jill without any explanation whatsoever. Jill is devastated as he leaves with no plans to ever see her again.

As it turns out, Luke has second thoughts and realizes he can't leave without an explanation to Jill. So he gets a four day pass to see her and hopes that she understands his reason. During this time, the author uses flashback to show how the couple met and fell in love.

I can't say much else about the story without spoiling it, but I can say that this is not the usual breakup-makeup story. In fact, I was surprised when I finally found out the reason for the breakup. And, even though there is a happy ending, I was even more surprised at how it all happened.

This book has no graphic violence and no graphic sex. There is somebody who can be blamed for all of the problems, yet there is no hatred or bitterness against this person. In spite of this, I couldn't put this book down. Taylor Dean doesn't need to use those other writer techniques because she relies on excellent prose,

unusual plots and genuine love between characters.

I highly recommend this book and every other book this author has written. And if you enjoy this book as much as I did, please pass the word on that Taylor Dean's books are the biggest secret in the romance world!

Heidi Robbins (Heidi Reads...) says

This story was told so well! The plot was revealed in layers through flashbacks and memories. I really connected with the emotions of the characters and read the book straight through.

Quirky Omega says

I have to confess; this is the first romance I have read, without a detailed sex scene, in a long time. Yeah, yeah, it is stupid but spare me. :P

So here I come down to the review.
I absolutely adored the book.

Jill was such a realistic character. She's supposed to be short in the story and 98 pounds but I tried to imagine her as more curvy. All this imagining did not change the beauty of the story at all. That is the point. The story seemed so realistic that I could imagine anybody as its protagonist. If that isn't the highest kind of compliment, then I don't know what is!

[image error]

The story was emotional and enriching and during no point in the story did I feel that I was being subjected to forced emotional ride. (or rather handcuffed to it- read it, you'll get my point!)

The author does not shy away from creating characters with faults. None of them were perfect but their imperfections made them just perfect for believing. Trust me, there is no better feeling.

Don't waste your time. Just pick up the book and read it.

Erica says

I've just recently started reading Taylor Dean's books, and I confess that she's a new fav of mine. I decided on this as my next read, cause it's her most recent release (tho I plan to read ALL of her books very soon).

Girl of Mine starts off in a surprising fashion, involving an abduction in the WalMart parking lot. Jillian is prepped to spend what would have been her wedding weekend with Ben & Jerry after being dumped just a month prior by the man she still loves. Luke surprises her with a pair of handcuffs and a suitcase packed by

her mother, then whisks her off in an attempt to repair the damage he's done.

Jill is a small little thing, but full of spitfire. I loved her attempts at escaping and the undercurrent of romantic tension between these two. One of the things I love about Dean's books is that we jump right into the here and now, then get glimpses of the past and they "why's" behind the emotion. The story slowly and steadily unfolds into an amazing, complete whole. And it all makes such perfect sense.

I love me a HEA, and though I was nervous about how that might happen, I was certainly happy at the end. For a myriad of reasons.

Great book; clean, sweet, romantic, lots of opportunities for people to rise above their challenges and become better.

You should read it!

Susan Swiderski says

I won this book through a Goodreads giveaway, (thank you!) and it was the first of Dean's books that I've had the pleasure of reading. However, it probably won't be the last.

The plot lines of some romances stretch credibility way out of shape, and this one is no exception. Parts of it had me raising my eyebrows in disbelief and rolling my eyes, but parts of it are so touching and heart-wrenching, I readily stuffed my disbelief in my back pocket, and kept on reading. The whirlwind romance between Luke and Jill is very sweet, and not unlike what is found in many other romances, but it's the relationship between Luke and Troy that steals the show, and makes this book stand out from the crowd. The two are lifelong friends, pretty much inseparable since they were in diapers, but when they were twelve years old, a terrible tragedy changed everything for them. Even though their relationship has been toxic and dysfunctional ever since, Luke refuses to give up on Troy, and will do anything for him, no matter what. But does that "anything" mean giving up the woman he loves?

This book is about the complicated ways we can be affected by tragedy, and the long-lasting effects of those changes. It's about the joys and pains of friendship and love, about the destructive powers of bitterness, and the healing powers of forgiveness and understanding. I'd give it three and a half stars, rounded up to four.

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

I was so, so excited to read this book. It's no secret that I love Taylor Dean's books. She really knows how to write a story that pulls you in and engages you emotionally as a reader. Taylor is one of the authors that I stalk (in the best possible way), waiting for an announcement of a new book.

This book had a few surprise turns and stories within stories. It took awhile for the whole picture to come together as pieces kept falling into place one at a time. I really liked it. I just couldn't put it down.

I loved both Jill and Luke. They were characters with real, human emotions. It was easy to relate to them and it was easy to like them. I went on an emotional journey with them both and came out on the other side happy and satisfied.

Content: Clean! Yipee!

Laura Thomas says

Taylor has written another sweet romance to leave you feeling all warm and fuzzy inside. Not being much of a romance reader myself, it never ceases to amaze me when I read one of her books and lose track of time. I never can stop until I reach the end.

Lucas Graham is desperate. One stupid act may have lost him the girl of his dreams. His soulmate. Now he'll have to do whatever it takes to win her back. And he only has four days to do it. That's all the leave he has before he's shipped off to Iraq.

But the four days aren't his biggest challenge. The biggest one will be getting Jill to stand still long enough to make his case. He did dump her practically at the altar. And now she's engaged to someone else. He can't expect her to welcome him back with open arms. It will call for drastic measures.

If it takes drastic measures to win her back, so be it. With Luke being a police officer and soldier, I'll leave you to draw your own conclusions on how he pulls that off.

Let the fun begin.

This situation and the characters are very believable. And while it may sound familiar, like something you've read before or seen in a movie, Taylor's writing makes it all new and fun. You can't help but feel sad and mad for those that are wronged. Angry at the ones that take advantage. And fearful that there won't be a happy ending.

Taylor Dean's romance stories always give your heart strings little tugs and take you back to that moment. The moment you realized you were in love.

In the end, she leaves you with a goofy grin, misty eyes, and a pile of tissues. Might want to have a box handy before you start this one.

I received this book for my honest review.

Charissa says

I beta-read this story and absolutely loved it! It's a fast-paced read that switches back and forth between present day and past and between love and heartache. The book starts out with desperate action as Luke kidnaps his ex-fiancée in order to explain choices he made that he sincerely regrets. Jill doesn't know if she can ever forgive him for breaking her heart...and besides, she's now engaged to another man, Troy's best friend. Luke and Troy have been best friends since they were in diapers. A tragedy in their youth changed both their lives, leaving one bitter and the other guilt-ridden. The characters in this tale will each claim a piece of your heart—even the well-done villain—and the emotional journey you will experience as you get lost in its pages will touch your heart. I highly recommend this book to all those who love to read about once in a lifetime love that can endure any hardship and about the healing power of forgiveness.

Christy says

This review first appeared on my blog Christy's Cozy Corners.

If you love reading clean romance books, then you need to be reading Taylor Dean's books. She may not be as well known as some authors, but her books deserve high praise. They are always clean which I very much appreciate. This is the eighth book I've read by Taylor, and I'll keep on reading them as long as she keeps writing them! The books that she writes are quick reads because they keep you engaged and make you want to keep reading.

In Girl of Mine, the story starts off quickly with Luke making sure Jill has to listen to what he has to say to her. I don't want to give anything away, but how he makes sure she listens is definitely different. The interaction between Luke and Jill will make you smile. The story Luke tells Jill about his friendship with Troy may make you cry. The toxic nature of Troy and Luke's friendship will make you question the loyalty one of them shows to the other. But as the story unfolds, all of these interactions between the characters completes the story.

I really love this book because of the loyalty and the love story. You will love the way the story comes together and how everything falls into place the way all happy love stories should. This is another Taylor Dean book that I highly recommend to you clean romance book lovers!

Anna says

[He breaks off their engagement, she quickly becomes engaged to his best friend, and then he wants her back?! (hide

Kathy says

I really enjoyed this book and spent most of yesterday afternoon and evening finishing it. I have seen quite a few positive reviews of Taylor's books floating around Goodreads and Blogs but have only ever read her book Chasing Fireflies. I wanted to read another of her books so I grabbed this one from Kindle Unlimited. I was hooked from the first chapter.

This is a contemporary romance, but it had quite a bit of depth to it as well as lots of humor. Definitely going to read another one of Taylor's books soon!

Content: Clean (a couple of the mildest of swear words and marital relationships are implied but are behind closed doors)

4.5 Stars - Great book

Karen perry says

it took me the first 45% to get into and just wasnt realistic i cant say i enjoyed this one

Mylissa Demeyere says

In 2013 I first stumbled across Taylor's book For Nick, and fell in love with her style. What great books she writes. Now each year around March-April I start getting anxious to hear from Taylor and beg her for an advanced copy. Each time I read a new book by Taylor, I am stunned to discover she did it again. Her books are golden!

Girl of Mine is a wonderful, heart wrenching story of two best friends, Troy and Luke. They go through a life-altering experience as kids, which changes them forever. Troy becomes angry with the world and Luke, Luke decides to continue to be the best friend he could ever be for Troy.

As Luke is just about to be deployed, he decides to break of his engagement to the girl he loves, for reasons you will discover as you read the book. Regretting his choice, he returns a short while later to find her engaged to Troy. But he is not willing to let her go that easily.

This story is told in sections taking place in the past and present, giving you pore insight into the characters as the book progresses. Eventually you get the whole story, and it takes you on all the highs and lows that are so typical for a Taylor Dean Read.

Once again I found myself laughing, hurting, gasping out loud, and even shedding a tear or two. I can't believe I will once again have to wait another year to get my Taylor fix. Luckily her books are soooo good, you find yourself rereading them time and time again!

Read my full feature of the book on <http://www.mylissasreviewsandbookthou...>
