



Shattered Beginnings

Lilly Wilde

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Branch McGuire

Hot, arrogant and life of the party ...

I easily transitioned from high school jock to egotistical playboy. And when the chance to leave Blue Ridge presented itself, I signed on, dropping everything without so much as a second thought.

Settling into the lifestyle of a professional athlete, I indulge in the pleasures of my high-profile status. The only nod to my roots is my annual trip for a celebrity spotlight fix, but when I receive a call that forces an impromptu return home, everything I left behind comes barreling to the surface.

Ragan Prescott

Determined, resilient and born of a drug addict ...

From the outside, my life was that of a free-spirited girl who grew up in a normal household, yet nothing normal happened behind the doors of a house I came to hate.

Breaking away from the family dysfunction, I embark upon the life I've always wanted in Blue Ridge. But when I fall prey to the charms of a silver-tongued devil, it becomes a life I have to escape.

Will a small town hero be my only chance at survival? Will my broken soul mend his?

Can our Shattered Beginnings become the fragile pieces from which love is made?

**Book One of the No Longer Broken Duet.

Shattered Beginnings Details

Date : Published July 17th 2018 by BGF Publishing

ISBN :

Author : Lilly Wilde

Format : Kindle Edition 240 pages

Genre : Romance, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Shattered Beginnings for online ebook

Cheryl Whitty says

Reviewed on behalf of <http://bookaddict.live>,

Shattered Beginning is not a fluffy sweet story, but never the less I was mesmerised and pulled into this heartbreaking tale . Ragan and Branch both have been damaged by their upbringing. Reading about Ragan and reading about her upbringing, and what she suffered as a child was heartbreaking, and I felt like I was suffering with her.

Branch with his mother's mental health issues, and worrying about his brother, and the way it affects the decisions he now makes as an adult.

When Branch has to return to Blue Ridge when mother has gone missing, he ends up staying for a longer period than he first thought. This is when he goes into his local diner and Ragan is his waitress. Ragan is the only women that doesn't drool all over him, so he is intrigued.

This is a slow build with regard to the romance, not that there is any doubt there is a deep attraction between them. After finding out their backgrounds you understand why they are both gun shay . I'm impatient to find out what happens next between Ragan and Branch. Unfortunately we have to wait for the next book to see if two broken people can love each other.

Jennifer - You Can't Resista Dirty Book says

Shattered Beginnings what is there to say, if you thought Lilly Wilde broke the mold when she brought us the Untouched Series, she has "shattered" it with the highly emotionally charged tale. From the outset, you can feel the damaged suffered by these two characters, personally I don't know how she does it, I am rung out just from reading *major book hangover*. The opening book of this duet is majorly different from Lilly's other work. I was stunned by the direction the book took me in, and for me it was so not long enough. Once I started reading I was hooked from chapter 1, crying by chapter 2 and ready to explode by chapter 3. Can you imagine how I felt by the end?

Ragan is so strong and brave. I have to commend her, I don't think I would have survived like she had, but not without scars that run deep. She is extremely wary of everything and everyone and does not trust easily at all.

Branch is a first class a-hole and he freely admits this. He is emotionally detached. I think this is to protect himself from exposing his vulnerability and be taken advantage of, maybe? He makes no apologies for his behaviour, he does what he likes how he likes.

There are some funny moments between Ragan and Branch. Their interactions are filled with tension and hostility. And there are some adorable moments but you will have to read to know what they are.

If you are a fan of Lilly then you will not be disappointed. give it a chance it is hella good xox

Sharing My says

What happens when a cocky, arrogant football player meets a struggling, yet strong willed waitress? A whole lot of hilarious banter! Both Ragan and Branch had troubled childhoods, but have come out of it

stronger. Branch may think he is God's gift to women, but Ragan is not about to succumb to his charms, even though she can't stop herself from checking him out when she thinks he's not looking. Branch is stunned that Ragan told him no, as he is not used to women turning him down, so of course he is not gonna give up trying to change her mind. I loved both Branch and Ragan! I love the cocky males and the females that try to resist them. I hope they both get their happy ever after in the second book of this duet. They both deserve happiness after everything they have been through. This may be different from Lilly Wilde's last series, but will leave you just as emotionally invested. I can't wait to read Salvaged Hearts!

Nikki says

"Happy endings and knight in shining armor. Bullshit like that simply isn't meant for a girl like me."

Ragan and Branch's story begins.

Ragan had an extremely difficult time growing up. She has experienced loss, hurt, pain and devastation. She is just trying to make it in a world that feels as if she gets one step forward, only to be pushed back 20 feet. But she strives to do the best that she can for herself. Life isn't easy, but there are times that you just have to pick yourself up, and move forward, even when you feel like falling down, and giving up.

Branch McGuire is the Man on Fire. Famous football player, he is the man to watch. Looking forward to his next lay, and the next game, he never quite knows what direction his life will go. His public persona and his personal life are clashing, and he has to take a step back from the game in order to deal with some personal issues. When he was younger, he dealt with not having. But he grew up into the man that will always do what he needs to do to take care of his family. His family is who needs him now. And though the falsehoods of the past clash with what he has currently found out, he finds it hard to be able to accept the many truths that have come to light.

Ragan and Branch have spent some time together. And though they have fought it, there is something in the other that they are seeing behind the mask that they show to the outside world. Will this revealing of the truth lead to them to being able to eventually come together? Only time will tell.

Melissa Jagessar says

I loved it!!!

This book is unique and unlike any other book I've read before. Branch McGuire is a high school jock turned major league athlete who is sexy, arrogant, and the most sought after in his field.

Ragan has been dealt the worst hand at life from a tender young age. She loses trust in those close to her and she has to overcome fear and disappointment, despite her rough start and repeated hurt she perseveres. She finds her reason to live.

At first you think Branch is the typical jock but as the story unfolds you learn more about him, his childhood and his family and what has shaped him into the individual that he is today.

The characters are so real, the emotions are so raw. I cried, I laughed, I was furious, there were certain people I really wanted to hurt. By chapter 2 I was already in tears.

There's also Ragan's self talks. She's HILARIOUS!

The accuracy of expected outcomes is totally realistic. The background and backstories are falling into place. It kept me awake 2 nights in a row. This only happens with Lilly Wilde's books. I love the direction which the book has taken. I can't wait for Salvaged Hearts to be released. Keep on writing Lilly Wilde and I'll keep

on reading ;)

Mona williams says

wow what a heart breaking story! she has grown up in a tough home. now she breaks away. only to end up years later in the same kind of hell. he is a player and can have any woman he wants. until he meets her. what a beautiful story!

DrivenbyBooks says

5 stars

It's been a while since I've read a book by this author and the Untouched series is one of my favorite series to date so when I knew she had a new book out, I was more than excited to see where it would lead to. I was very anxious to read it but damn there was no need! I loved it from beginning until end and the emotions I went through were so igniting; I really wanted to throw my kindle at times 'cuz I was feeling what both Ragan aswell as Branch went through.

I really can't wait to read the next book in this duet series. One word for this first part : Amazing!

Ragan has been through so many things in her life that she really doesn't know how she'll make it through another day and when she's being kicked out of the only home she's ever known she doesn't know what the next day will bring. But there's a silver lining somewhere and maybe there's still a way to have a second chance in life. When she meets someone new, she really believes luck is finally heading her way but when something happens she'll have to find a way to get her life back on track... Branch never really had a great family experience and being the number one football star that he is now, it's like he hasn't got a care in the world but it's not all what it seems like. Now having to try and take care of his mother and brother, he's trying to do the right thing although it's not easy...

When Branch and Ragan meet there's a spark between them but both have broken pasts. Will they break away from it ?...

Lesley C says

Shattered Beginnings is a beautifully and well written story of abuse, betrayal, broken trust, bonds of the family and the shattered lives of Branch and Ragan that resulted from those bonds. There is so much raw and gritty (and real) pain in this story but it makes you fall in love with both of the characters. You can see and feel the pain of Ragan from all the years of abuse at the hands of her stepmother. The young woman that she is trying to be and to make her way on her own and support her young daughter. She's real and beautiful. Branch hides behind the facade of the very hot, very conceited football hero trying to hide the pain of his shattered family while trying to hold them together and keep his career as the "man on fire" on the football field.

The majority of this book is back story about the pain that both Branch and Ragan have endured but it had to be told this way in order to show us who they really are and why they are the way they are. Beautifully broken and shattered.

This is no insta love at first sight kind of book either, even though Ragan feels the power of Branch's good looks and charm, she plays it cool, which is something Branch has not experienced. He's used to women falling all over him and Ragan definitely doesn't do that. The banter between the two of them is comical and

amusing and I loved the way Lilly describes what Branch does to Ragan's lady bits!!! Over time, Ragan begins to see the real Branch, as he lowers his facade, but will she be willing to let him into her shattered heart. As Branch begins to repair the broken relationship with his father and help his mother find healing for her mental illness, will he be willing to let Ragan into his shattered heart. Only time will tell in the next book.

Leslie Upshaw says

Lilly Wilde has done it AGAIN!!! I have fallen in love all over again with Mr. Branch McGuire. This story was more than I anticipated, and once I started I couldn't stop reading it. I wanted more and I got it. I felt like I was right there with them, and this book spoke to me on so many levels I wanted to cry. My emotions were run through the mill as we dove further and further into their lives. Shock, hurt, anger and love, I felt it all as if I were right there in the book with them. Lilly has a way of bringing her characters to life and immersing you in their lives. I can't wait to indulge more in the lives of Ragan and Branch!!

Crystal George says

OMG!!

I was so excited to get this book and couldn't put it down. The characters and the story line grabbed me and kept my attention from the first few sentences. There is action, emotions and intrigue all wrapped into 1. I wish the story was longer, I was heartbroken when I swiped left and saw The End. Great read.

Thank You Lilly for getting me so excited and now I have to wait for the 2nd half. Any book from this author has me wanting more!!

Stephanie Smith says

I don't even know where to begin. Lilly Wilde has another hit on her hands with Shattered Beginnings. In Shattered Beginnings we meet Branch, a cocky and self absorbed football star who is at the peak of career and has the perfect life. Then there is Reagan, an average woman with a life that has been anything but kind to her. What could bring these two possible have in common? What could bring these two together? I can't tell you details but what I can say is that this is a story that will draw you in and wont let you put it down. The storyline is amazing and the characters are relatable. This is one book you wont regret reading.

Cassandra says

Shattered Beginnings sets itself apart from the very onset in that it makes no apologies for its emotion, sometimes visceral, connecting to and tugging at your heart. I loved that this is not the typical love story. These characters have been through so much and a glimpse into their childhood experiences shows that they have survived but not without scars. The author doesn't shy away from the ugliness that life has offered and instead shows their perseverance and survival in such a way that you root for them, even when making mistakes. The story reads with a cinematic feel, allowing the reader to go along for the ride, getting to know

each character on a personal level at a real time pace. They're written so well that even the side character storylines and arcs are engrossing and all consuming.

Ragan is one of the most resilient characters I have encountered in a very long time, her strength is inspiring. I did not like Branch in the beginning, but just as in reality, I got to know him, his ticks and history coloring my opinion and feelings, endearing him to me. I'm rather in love him now. The author peels back layer after layer of their personal truth, hurt and how that created an inability to trust or let people in. You feel as if you know these characters, and they've become a part of you. The attraction that emanates from these two is palpable, their banter is witty and the one-liners make you laugh out loud. The journey through their "shattered beginnings" endears these characters to you and you find yourself one hundred percent invested in their outcomes. I laughed, I cried, I got angry and both felt powerless and empowered along the way. I found that I connected on a soul level with this story, these characters. I found myself not wanting it to come to an end; needing more. There are stories you read and enjoy and then there are those rare books that touch your heart and you realize it is special. This is that rare book; it has left its mark and has stayed with me long after the last page was turned.

Ana Rita says

It's been so long since I've read a book from this author and I couldn't be happier. Her previous books made me dream and freak out at the same time. Each word, each chapter made me feel things and see things from a new angle. And now I'm about to embark on another journey... A duet... Oh boy.

Lilly Wilde is the author I'm talking about and her writing will knock the air out of your lungs. Her writing is hot and wild, sassy but with so much meaning between each chapter.

Shattered Beginnings is her latest release and it's the first book from the No Longer Broken Duet and tells the stories of Branch and Regan.

Branch is an athlete that knows what he wants and just goes for it. Of course being in the spotlight has its rewards and one night stands are it for him. When he gets a phone call from home he can't imagine what's about to happen.

Regan grew up in a dysfunctional family and that left a mark. On the outside she was a sweet girl, always happy but on the inside she was crushed and damaged.

Lord have mercy on me... This book just crushed my heart, my soul...

The plot is exquisite, very well written, super engaging and intense. Each chapter made my heart feel heavier and so tight that I thought I would pass out. The struggles these two endured and still deal with are life altering.

The interaction between the characters is beautiful despite all the darkness and drama.

There were parts of the story that I saw myself living it, ready to knock someone out and then there were others that I just wanted to crawl back in bed and cry.

It was an intense reading and I can't get enough words to describe this book. And now it's over and I don't want to wait for the next one. I can't... I want more and asap.

Lilly what can I say... I'm overwhelmed with this book and I'm super mad for waiting for the next one. I'll be counting down the days...

Sophie Koufes says

Where to begin is tough as this novel left me thunderstruck. Oh my! Not your typical cookie cutter contemporary sports romance novel. Shattered Beginnings title is so fitting for this gripping edge of your spot read. Ragan Prescott is compelling, resilient, smart, & someone you admire and can't help but love.

Branch McGuire is athletic, cocky, sarcastic, sexy as sin & witty with a sweet side. A deeper side of Branch is brought out as we learn more about his past. Supporting character's are part of the foundation that helps you understand & get to know Ragan & Branch. One of my fav's is Ragan's co-worker Carrie as she was a hoot. The writing is exquisite and although at times difficult to read without tears in your eyes & your heart breaking. The structure is well placed & everything flows through smoothly. An author who can take a difficult subject matter & gives it judicature in the way its portrayed deserves glowing recognition. I am desiring to read Salvage Hearts Book 2 in this duet. I'm sitting here going haywire as I am craving to read it right now. With all its sad moments, we also get witty & humorous moments. Get your tissue box handy as you need it for this tear jerker explosive read.

Alicia Harrietha says

Branch McGuire, the star quarterback, is an unstoppable force. He's sexy as hell and knows just how to make a women's panties combust. One would think that he has it all, that the world was his for the taking...but is that really the case? Will his life ever be his to live?

Ragan Prescott, the strongest, bravest person one could know!! She's survived what could break most, and she's so unbelievably tough and resilient. Her story brings tears to the eyes and breaks you to the core.

This story of Branch and Ragan will tear your heart out and slowly put it back together. You will experience real raw emotions as you read about these two shattered souls. You won't be able to hold back the tears that will come. Lilly takes you on this rollercoaster journey of emotions and makes you see the beauty in things even if the world is dark and that no matter how bad life gets, there is always something to be grateful for. Even though this book has tough moments, this story is also full of wonderful characters that will make you laugh out loud, sigh when someone does something sweet and swear and curse when things don't go the way you want. If you're looking for that book that will stay with you forever, that you will tell all your friends they must read and a story so unlike anything you have ever read before then Shattered Beginnings is the book for you. Lilly, thank you for this beautiful story of Branch and Ragan, I am definitely excited for book two, Salvaged Hearts and to find out if Branch and Ragan's story are meant to be forever intertwined.
