



David's Song

A.R. Talley

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Taken from the book cover: Annie only ever really loved two men in her life. One broke her heart, the other married her. Four children and fifteen years later, Annie's marriage is in jeopardy. Money is tight and her husband questions the very foundation of their relationship. When Annie is unexpectedly given the opportunity to see the young man who broke her heart — a man who is now a megastar in the music industry — Annie is faced with choices. Choices that will determine what is of more value — a second chance at lost love and unfulfilled dreams or commitment, trust, and love built on years of experience.

A psychologically subtle, yet compelling tale about how the instinct and need for love overcomes self-doubt and personal inadequacy.

David's Song Details

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Author : A.R. Talley

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From Reader Review David's Song for online ebook

Jody says

This book was different than a lot of "love stories", it was more realistic than fantasy which was a nice change. Sometimes I felt that Annie was being a real *itch to her husband; but it is the way people act in real life instead of characters in a book. Her "dream man" was such a momma's boy and even though he was a gorgeous celebrity and I wanted to root for him, I felt that her husband was a better choice.

This is the first of a trilogy, but it ended in a way that didn't leave you hanging, which I also liked. It is so frustrating to end a book on a cliffhanger and then not have the next one come out for a long time.

I am looking forward to reading more books by A.R.Talley. This was her debut novel and you would never know it, she writes so well!

Thanks Goodreads for the wonderful book!

Ruth Hill says

What an unbelievable romance! I loved it from the beginning through the very end, and I know I just have to read the next book in the series! I honestly don't know where to start except to say that while contemporary romances don't usually resonate with me, this one does. It is an LDS fiction book, but don't let that put you off. It is never preachy. There are no sex scenes, and there is only one minor "swear" word. Morals are stressed throughout, and I honestly was not certain how the book would end. I'm not going to hint at the ending except to say it is one wild ride.

I was enthralled with David Andrews. Goodness, he probably is the epitome of every woman's fantasy. I never really liked Jeremy--sorry. And Annie, well, she is one complex woman. I can identify with men never being attracted to her--my problem as well. Yes, I've had three men in my life, but they all ended up being jerks. Kind of like the bad version of David and even worse. But that's another story.

I found myself feeling very conflicted during this book. I am always rooting for marriages to stay together. I don't agree with cheating, having affairs, getting divorced to marry someone else, etc. Talley spins such an amazing story that I honestly didn't know how I wanted the story to end. I knew wasn't supposed to ever hope that a woman would leave her husband, but I certainly struggled. Rarely has an author made me feel "off kilter" like that. But it made the reading of the book even more intriguing. I have to admit that I didn't do much skimming of this book, and so it took me longer than usual! I highly recommend this romance!!

I was sent a copy of this book in exchange for my honest review. I was not financially compensated in any way, and all opinions are 100 percent mine.

Nicki says

Oh how cool! A chance to spend time with the one that got away! First we get the college experience then

the revisit. I think the majority of adults have a "one that got away" story. I like that the college experience is realistic in the time management and still trying to have a social life. The dance competition is a nice backdrop to seeing the development of a relationship. Then to meet again 15 years later is an amazing chance to look at what could have been versus what life has become.

I thought the book was wonderful. I received this book for a review opportunity.

Laurie Carlson says

This book pulled me in from the very beginning. This story was amazing! I was glued to the page! The story flowed very well, and I enjoyed it immensely. The book is written beautifully and extremely well written. Annie is not happy with her marriage to Jeremy, and it just so happens she is headed off to Las Vegas with her girlfriends for a week long vacation. One of the nights they will be there they will be seeing a pianist by the name of David, which takes her back to her college days at BYU (Brigham Young University) in Utah where she first fell in love with David fifteen years earlier. It just so happened her and Jeremy were very close friends during this time, too. Annie is excited to go, get away with her girlfriends, but nervous about seeing David again.

At this point in the book it flashes back to those college days, the dance practices, dating David, her feelings for David and Jeremy, and the final decisions as to who they all end up marrying and the different ways they go.

I really enjoyed the story during the college days. No one likes to read about marriage difficulties, but you need the backstory to understand the current story, and everyone goes through marriage difficulties of some type at some time during their marriage. Perhaps not to this extreme degree, but we all have our little quirks, etc., so we can relate to some of it.

The only thing I don't like about this story is I felt it had a good solid ending until I read Chapter One of the 2nd book in this series. The author is going to make this story into a Trilogy. I hate to say this, but how much more are we going to read about Annie's indecision about her current marriage situation? She had the opportunity to choose twice, and she did. When she got married, and then again when she was in Las Vegas and saw her first love again, which stirred up feelings in her.

The author is stirring up feelings in Annie again to make this into a Trilogy. Divorce does happen, but how many times do you go through the process of deciding? Her husband has been more loving, and more than happy to help her around the house, even suggesting to get the kids involved in the housekeeping chores, but she turns it away because she knows she'll do a better job at it herself. They have gone to marriage counseling, although in the second book it states she did not like the counselor. Annie is unsettled. Is that reason for divorce? Especially when there are kids involved?

I don't know. Perhaps it's me. I'm tired of so many books being made into trilogies unless the book is from a different point of view. Why can't a story be written as 'one' complete story? This would have been perfect the way it was. If the author felt more should have been covered, then I feel she should have added it to this book. Yes, the book would have been longer, but so be it if that would cover the story completely.

It seems like there is something with authors today that want to stretch their stories into trilogies, but this is 'of my opinion.' I will not read the next two books. I feel this story was full and complete right where it ended. Why else would Annie have made the decision she did? This second book will give Annie a third choice to make. How many choices in your marriage do you make to keep it or end it?

However, if this author were to write more books as individual stories, I would definitely grab them up and read them right away. This is how much I do like her writing. She is very talented with her writing/storytelling skills. Well worth the reading her works, if not a trilogy. I received this book for FREE from the author in exchange to read and write a review about it. It is NOT required for this review to be either positive or negative, but of my own honest opinion. "Free" means I was provided with ZERO MONIES to read this book nor to write this review, but to enjoy the pure pleasure of reading it. I am

disclosing this information in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255, <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/wa...> Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials in Advertising.

Amber Jones says

Oh my lordy this is one powerful novel that keeps you on the edge of your seat. This author writes these characters so strongly that you get attached and their emotions take you over. I kept crying all throughout this emotional book.

I just loved it.

Annie what a lovely character. So much like myself in her demeanor and personality and this she goes through with family, men and her work. I could definitely relate to her character.

David oh David. This is one of those guys you want to hate but hes so frigging charming you really cannot hate him. I really do love his charismatic creative character and I would go back and forth with if I wanted them to get together or not.

The amazing Jeremy. He is essentially a perfect man. The boy next door. Sweet kind loving patient smart not pushy or mean or hurtful. I so wanted to be mad at him at the end of this book for hurting Annie but at the same time I wanted them to get their happily ever after. But god I love Jeremy he is the nice guy you want to get the girl. Hes the guy every girl should fall for.

This is one strong love story that takes you back to what happened to Annie in her past back in college and brings you to a future that you arnt sure what or who she will end up with.

Love love love it. I cant wait to read more from this complelling author. Truly amazing.

5 stars

Tracy says

Great read! Not just your typical "romance" novel. It was believable and kept you wondering what choice Annie would make. The characters seemed genuine and you could really sympathize with them. I think a lot of us wonder what would happen if we had a "second chance" with our first love. Unlike many of us, Annie had the chance to face the man that broke her heart and work through it. Can't wait to see what happens in the next book!

Elizabeth says

This was a great book to read on vacation: not too heavy, but still gets you thinking about interesting things--

-particularly issues involving choices and consequences.

I liked the way the story flowed.

I liked the way the timeline was handled.

I liked the fact that even though the reader knows a good deal about Annie's choices in college after the very first page, the backstory is not unnecessary or boring. It is intriguing to find out how everything happened.

I liked that no one was made the villain. I was really expecting it to go that direction and was pleased that it didn't.

I liked that the decisions she has to make were interesting and complicated.

A great first book for Talley.

Jennifer Lea says

I am generally a big fan of fantasy, science fiction, horror and psychological thrillers, so you can imagine I was sceptical to try something so out of my domain. I won this book in the 'giveaways' and guess what, I loved it. I loved the memoir vs. reality feel and the whole possibility of second chances and what I would do if I were in the same situation. The characters were so real and the story so poignant, I would truly recommend this read. I can't say I would have handled it any better than Annie. From what I understand this is to be continued as a sequence ... and you know, I just may look into it. Thank you Goodreads Giveaways for this chance of reading a book I would have missed otherwise and good luck to this author on their future endeavors. I'd love to see more. :D

Pattisue says

I found David's Song to be an interesting exploration of good vs. evil, wisdom vs. temptation. As a college student, Annie Stevens is regularly comparing herself to others and falling short. Her lack of confidence in herself, her husband, her marriage, and his love for her overshadow the happiness she could be enjoying in her life. She falls into the trap of appearances versus reality. She is blinded by the sparkle and glamour of David Andrews. Is she in love with the man or the memory? This golden boy has had life handed to him on a silver platter. He takes what he wants with no consideration of the cost. Always seeking the elusive happiness and fulfillment that is just out of his reach, David soon realizes the consequences of his careless, thoughtless actions. Good, kind, patient Jeremy Hensman has flaws of his own. "He understood her like no other person did." He waited for her to recognize his love and devotion, married her, yet finds he is still waiting for her complete love and trust. Their marriage had been reduced to roommates sharing a house and children. Communication had ceased, friendship abandoned. Her girlfriends Emily and Carolyn are the dichotomy of the voice of reason or the voice of temptation. Jon is an abstract character who exercises influence on Jeremy, both good and bad. Although obviously a religious woman, Annie never called upon her God or her faith in the most pivotal moments of her marriage or her life. As she flirted with betraying her husband and her sacred marriage vows, I kept waiting for her conscious to step in or for her to recognize her loyalty to her family. "A guy doesn't have to be flawless to love you even with your faults." This is an emotional story leaving the reader to wonder "what if."

*I received an advanced copy in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are uniquely my own.

Jill says

What a great read! Sucked me in from the first page, and I found that it held my interest so well I couldn't put it down. Not many books out there I can say that about. The story is believable and intriguing enough to want to find out what happens next.

Nicole says

Annie goes on a week's retreat with a couple of friends to get away from it all - the four kids, the marriage that seems to be going down the tubes, and the arguing. What she doesn't expect to find on her retreat is the past love that left her. As a reader, there is a lot of background information filled in with Annie's past. Who will she ultimately end up with?

I found the writing to be strong in regards to the characters and their personalities. I could really relate to Annie and what she was experiencing. I found it to be a roller coaster of emotions and I eagerly awaited the end to see what would happen.

Inga says

My review:

David's Song is a book about marriage, choices, lost love, pain, happiness, cheating, finding your path. It was well written and definitely thought awakening.

The story takes you into a fifteen years old marriage. Annie, who is the heroine in this wonderful contemporary romance, is having some severe issues in her marriage with Jeremy. When she is going to a college reunion, she meets with David Andrews - a man whom she loved and who broke her heart. Since Annie's marriage is on a low tide, her heart pulls toward David.

I loved the voice of Annie. I understood her considerations and thoughts. It's always very tempting to reaching out for something that you think can make you happy and Annie needs to decide if she wants to work on an existing marriage trying to fix the problems or give it up for something she once thought she had.

I loved the way author dealt with not only the temptation itself, but how she described the battle between mind and heart. Annie knew what her heart wanted and that raised the question if she should follow her heart or not.

I think, this book leaves nobody neutral, because the reader usually takes sides and since the topics written in David's Song are eternal and about love inside and/or outside of marriage, it will raise lot of emotions and thoughts - what would I do if I were Annie?

I loved that the author does not judge and does not read epistle. I liked how she left things open for the reader. David's Song was really a great book! It was not a very typical romance book and therefore very refreshing and interesting. I highly recommend it!

Nydia Burdick says

I was given this book in return for a review. I don't normally read a lot of romances, but I needed a change of pace so I agreed to read this one. Glad I did it's somewhat of a morality tale about temptation. Annie, the main character, is having difficulties with her marriage. While on vacation in Vegas she runs into her college heart throb who is now a famous singer/songwriter. She is sorely tempted to escape her marriage and go with David. This is well written and enjoyable. I was a little off put by the college days and everyone saying that they were there to get married even if it was in a joking manner. I didn't know anyone saying that when I was in college. But that was a minor issue. I enjoyed the rest of it ---even getting aggravated at one of the character (Ellen). I mean it's a book, so why the ire? But that means the author did a killer job! Great book!!

Patricia says

Loved this book from the beginning!!! Something very refreshing! And gives you a lot to think about when you read it! :)

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

I'm not really sure exactly what to say about this book or how to say it. I'm sort of at a loss. I talked to my husband about this book after I read it because I was feeling so out of sorts.

This book definitely evokes emotions. I felt for Annie but mostly I felt guilty for Annie. She didn't seem to feel much of that for herself, but I sure did. I felt guilty and disloyal and dirty even. On her behalf.

I think all marriages have rough patches. It's working through those that makes you stronger. I know that isn't always the case, but in this case it was. Annie's husband may not have been the best communicator, but he was trying. Jeremy was faithful to Annie and tried to give Annie what he thought she wanted. He always felt second best, second choice and Annie pretty much proved that he was by her actions.

I thought Annie was selfish. I didn't like her. It was like she just threw her whole marriage and children out the window without much thought at all when dream boat from the past walks in. Even if she didn't feel loved by her husband, what about her children? Was she really just going to up and leave for some far off destination for a romp with the old flame? Where does that leave her children? What does that tell them? Oh oy.

I guess I'm just of a different mind and heart than Annie. I can't imagine renewing a relationship with someone when my marriage was still in place. Happy or not. I can see the temptation that Annie had. Of course I can. But that's when you run the other way until things with your marriage are resolved one way or another. Annie had those people reminding her of that but she selfishly chose differently.

I guess this book just wasn't for me. Just the whole topic and viewpoint. Maybe I've just seen the repercussions of these type of decisions so many times that it hits too close to my heart.

The book was well written. It obviously evoked real emotions from me which should be considered a positive.

