



Alyssa and Dalton

Laurel Veil

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Being a teenager is hard enough, but Alyssa's mom is dying. Alyssa doesn't mind caring for her, but she resents her older sister, Rose, for having run away. They miss her and she could really use the help.

It's as if Alyssa's mother looks out for her from beyond the grave, when she meets Dalton at her funeral.

Strong yet sensitive, he gives Alyssa hope that she may one day heal as she slowly adjusts to life without her mom.

Their new friendship is soon tested when Alyssa makes a devastating discovery that will change her life forever.

Alyssa and Dalton Details

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Author : Laurel Veil

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From Reader Review Alyssa and Dalton for online ebook

Barbara Beauchamp says

Sweet

It was a sweet little love story and about normal experiences. Things that could happen and I thought it was well written. Little sad at times but that's life in a nut shell

Bridget says

3.5. shorter story than i was expecting not bad story but pacing wise felt a little off for me.

Susan Barton says

High school senior Alyssa hasn't had an easy life. Her dad died in a car accident, her sister ran away and now her mom has lost her battle with breast cancer. All Alyssa wants now is to avoid a persistent child service's caseworker so she can graduate high school and go to college. When she meets Dalton, Alyssa realizes just how lonely her solitary life has become.

Meanwhile, Dalton is dealing with problems of his own. His mother is an abusive and raging drunk who kicks Dalton out on the street. Despite this, Dalton remains a sweet and kind young man. He quickly becomes smitten with Alyssa and the two begin a sweet, yet cautious relationship.

This was truly a beautiful read. It's not often that I'm quickly pulled into a story plot, but Alyssa and Dalton had me hooked from the start.

The writing is sweet, yet absolutely genuine and I couldn't help not falling in love with these characters. Both Alyssa's and Dalton's backstories tugged at my heartstrings. I was invested immediately in the well-being of them both. Again...this doesn't often happen to me.

Not only is there CLEAN teen romance in this book, there's a bit of suspense and intrigue woven in as well. I found the subplot thoroughly engaging.

The story of Alyssa and Dalton is clearly not yet over. There are plenty of possibilities for a book series here, but this particular book is definitely NOT a cliffhanger. Kudos to Laurel Veil...she's done an excellent job creating two wonderfully multi-layered characters and I'll be looking for more from them in the future.

5 of 5 Stars, Susan Barton, <https://ebookreviewgal.com>

Rebekah Miller-levy says

Interesting, but I need more.

I liked this story. Well developed characters and engaging plot. But, I need more. The ending was abrupt and I'm left wondering what happens next. There better be a book two in this story.

Sue Lassiter says

I wasn't expecting this kind of story or I would never have read it. The book description gave me another idea of what it would be. But, once I began reading, I found myself being drawn in deeper and deeper. Having been emotionally challenged by a never-ending (it seemed) chain of events in my own life some years ago, I found Alyssa's thoughts and actions very believable. And I loved Dalton's tenacity. It would have been wonderful having a Dalton come into my life at that time. I also enjoyed the horror element and the little twist that almost changed the ending entirely. I truly enjoyed this book.

Robert Duder says

An incredible sweet, moving, poetic melancholy love story

****Warning some potential spoilers included****

The young adult genre is such a crowded spot right now. What I find with a lot of these novels is how poorly they are aimed at the demographic. Should our young adults be reading lustful vampire novels? Not in my opinion. Or jaded stories of drugs and sex? There is far too much of it out there. The very best thing I can say about this incredible story "Alyssa and Dalton" is how perfectly appropriate it is to the intended age. It is so well written, an easy read and yet a moving and intelligent story with characters full of depth and soul. It really is such a sad story on so many levels and yet it is without any of the garbage so often associated with young adult novels nowadays. This is an important story about love and loss and growing up under the hardest of circumstances. It is so achingly beautiful. It is rare for me (not that I'm a tough guy) to find myself holding back tears when reading and yet so many times throughout this story I felt so emotionally attached and moved by these characters especially the titular characters of Alyssa and Dalton.

Immediately I felt drawn to Alyssa. You feel her sadness, her desperate fight to save her mother and the intense loneliness she feels abandoned by everyone around her including her own sister. Her survivalist instincts and just her passion for her mother to protect their family is inspiring. Her reluctant relationship with Thor (a mangy dog that endears himself quickly to Alyssa and becomes her protector) only serves to make us understand Alyssa even better. In the first half of the book when she loses her mother, I felt absolutely devastated for her. It is actually a very small scene, a very short chapter but it just feels final...and powerful all in such few words. It takes some kind of amazing writer to make your gut wrench with the characters and feel their pain and sadness. There is so much more to this story. You have this legitimately real and beautiful love story between Dalton and Alyssa who find each other in the most unusual of circumstances and connect in the most unusual way. One of my favourite moments was early in the book when Dalton first sees her, mistaking her for a man chopping down a tree until Alyssa removes her cap. "I gotta find her," he exclaims and the rest is romantic history so to speak. As if this weren't enough throw in a very intriguing mystery, an incredible twist and you have one of the best Young Adult novels out there today period. Watch this book because it will be big.

I am not the key demographic to this book. And yet I still take so much away from it. The beauty of the writing and the story is that it transcends age, demographic and genre. There is nothing else out there I can think of that this even sits in the same category as and I mean that as a terrific compliment. This would be the

perfect book for you and your teen to read together and discuss. Coming of age stories can be a dime a dozen but I challenge you to find anything quite so profoundly real and intelligent. Maybe a touch of Daniel Woodrell's "Winter's Bone" and a splash of Alice Sebold's "The Lovely Bones" but Laurel Veil has captured something completely different here and I am a fan from here on forward. Her writing style is exactly what the Young Adult Genre needs. Please check this out and pass it on to a young person or a person of any age because this was truly a lovely story.

Sojourner says

Alyssa and Dalton by Laurel Veil is an absorbing and engrossing story which will endear to teens and adults alike. Though primarily targeted at young audience, this mystery, teen romance, suspense, and family drama will capture the imagination of adults as the power of love unfolds. Though I'm not familiar with author Laurel Veil, I have reviewed her book Fairy Godmothers Are for Wimps which makes for a delightful reading with life-lessons teens can learn. With a Bachelor of Science degree in Academic Studies and having taught middle school for a while, and a love for reading and writing, she has a way with words which will particularly appeal to young readers.

Alyssa and Dalton is a poignant story that will pull at your heart as you read about Alyssa's struggles. As a young girl it is not easy coping with the kind of situation she is in. She's living with her ailing mom and her older sister Rose. Unfortunately, Rose decides to run away, leaving her sister Alyssa to take care of their dying mother. Reading her daily struggles will make you want to reach out and help her.

Alyssa's mother passed away, and by a strange twist of fate she meets Dalton at the funeral. They hit it off immediately, and it gives Alyssa hope for the future. But life has a way of challenging things, often times bringing even the best of things much difficulty. Will Alyssa and Dalton survive the roadblocks in their lives? Alyssa and Dalton is a gripping story full of romance, mystery, and the power of love.
