



## You Wish...

*Terry Tyler*

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YOU WISH

Terry Tyler

YOU WISH was the winner of the "Best Chick Lit/Women's Lit" in the eFestival of Words 2013.

Do we control our own destiny - or might it be determined by fate, coincidence, luck...or even magic?

Ruth, an amateur psychic with a husband who smokes cannabis for breakfast, is haunted by a tragic event from her teenage years which, she suspects, was the result of a wish she made on an allegedly enchanted stone. Too embarrassed to admit her fears, she keeps her secret to herself for twenty-five years.

Petra is the perennial singleton amongst her friends, unable, she thinks, to fall in love. She comes across the stone at a Psychic Fair and makes a wish, just for fun. As the wish begins to come true she wishes she had chosen her words with more care.

Spoilt, weight-obsessed Sarah wants nothing more than to be "size zero". As her life spirals downwards into the seedy world of drug abuse and addiction, she remembers the day at the Psychic Fair when she wished for her heart's desire.

When Ruth learns of the fates of Petra and Sarah she is forced to confront her guilt and discover the truth about the Wishing Stone...

Terry Tyler's debut novel is a quirky contemporary drama exploring the themes of family affairs, infidelity and guilt, incorporating jealousy, drug abuse and the obsession of a Facebook stalker, against a backdrop of secrets and superstition.

### **You Wish... Details**

Date : Published November 5th 2011 by CraniumX

ISBN :

Author : Terry Tyler

Format : Kindle Edition 196 pages

Genre : Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Fiction, Contemporary

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## From Reader Review You Wish... for online ebook

### Alan Shaw says

I've never met Terry Tyler but as writers we follow each other on Twitter and Facebook. A few weeks ago this novel showed up as a free Kindle promo and I decided to give it a go.

Straight away I liked the way she timestamps her chapters, and is not afraid to write long ones when they serve the plot. I also like her occasional non-linear approach when she takes us back or forward in time in a way that whets the appetite or gives a sometimes chilling new perspective. It's effective, and always makes me feel an author has worked that bit harder to deliver the best possible reader experience.

The plot tracks the course of several individuals who long for something seemingly unattainable – losing weight and falling in love are examples - and make a wish in the hope that their dreams will be fulfilled. We get good background on them followed by what happens next in respect of their wishes. At the heart of this is a tale of the origins of the stone they wish on together with details of certain conditions with which they may or may not have complied.

Their stories are interesting and hang on the fascinating hook of the reader being aware of the novel's by-line of being careful what you wish for. There are sequences of tension, drama, and humour and along the way the book also delivers some interesting observations on austerity Britain. I found one of the stories particularly gripping and admired the skill with which the sexual tension in it is generated.

The conclusion of the novel is extremely effective and includes a splendid last page plot twist. I recommend this accessible but intelligent book to anyone who enjoys a good read and a story that once begun has to be finished.

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### Claire says

Review: You Wish by Terry Tyler Publication Date: 5th November 2011

ASIN: B006423HGW

Source: Author provided a copy in exchange for an honest review.

Rating: 4½/5

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Synopsis:

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Review:

Although I've read a few books by this author, I'd somehow neglected to read her début, so she very kindly provided me with a review copy.

You Wish features several different, unrelated characters whose stories are intelligently interwoven around their chance encounter with the Wishing Stone. There are characters to love, characters to loathe and characters to intrigue; all beautifully written in that deliciously descriptive way that great writers have, making you feel like you know them inside out, making you care about what happens to them.

I really enjoyed this book and highly recommend it.

About the author:

Terry lives in the north of England with her husband, and has published ten books on Amazon. Readers say she has created her own genre, which lies somewhere in the area of contemporary drama and romantic suspense, with the occasional bit of rock fiction and mystery thrown in.

LAST CHILD is her latest release; this is the sequel to Kings and Queens, both of which are modern day parallels of events that took place during the Tudor era of history. Terry is now at work on a third 'history revisited' novel, this time based on the women behind the Wars of the Roses. Terry has a blog on which she writes about anything from her favourite TV shows to observations about social networking trends, and also writes for the UK Arts Directory about self-publishing. This year she started a new book blog; on this you can find her own reading choices and those she reads as part of Rosie Amber's book review team. All three blogs are widely read. She is an active Twitter user, and can also be found on Goodreads and Facebook.

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## **Lynz says**

Yet again Terry has won me over!!!!

This was the first of Terry's books I downloaded before I'd read or even heard of the author Terry Tyler. & I have read all her books before I set down to read this....& now I'm asking myself, why did I?

It was a GREAT read!!! & I loved it.

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## **Kate's Book Spot says**

I got this eBook when it was available as a free download from Amazon, I discovered this author on Twitter and this is the first book I've read from her so I had no idea what to expect.

The prologue was very intriguing, it involved the police and raised many questions in my mind. Chapter one came along with a mind, body and spirit fair which introduced me to the main characters - Ruth was very

likeable but a bit of a worrier (the reason for the worrying was revealed later on in the book) and she had found herself in rather an uncomfortable situation. Petra seemed like quite a detached character to begin with, particularly where relationships were concerned but then her obsessiveness shone through and I found myself cringing at some of her excessive online antics. Sarah was moody and very selfish, once I had gotten further into the story I discovered the reason for this and I have to admit that following her on a downward spiral was difficult to read.

The wishing stone brought these women together in a very clever way and the results were entertaining but also quite worrying, especially the drug use. There were a few moments of laughter for me and I loved the way the author had included Facebook throughout with talk of status updates, friend requests and all the social etiquette that goes along with it, this was a part of the book that I could really relate to.

As I read the last few pages I laughed at what it all meant and found myself looking back at the whole story in a different way. The message that I took from the book is to be careful what you wish for because you just might get it!

This was an interesting and thought-provoking read, I look forward to reading more from this author.

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### **Peter Davey says**

'You Wish' is the first novel I've read by Terry Tyler and it more than came up to expectations. It's a tight, imaginative and poignant story, ingeniously structured and fluently told with an impressive cast of very human and humorous characters (Sarah's job interview at the optician's, for example, is hilarious and so recognizable). It's also a highly perceptive psychological study of adults and young people alike, particularly concerning the emotions of (often irrational) guilt and anxiety which can fester in our minds and consume our lives. Also, it achieves the difficult feat of presenting the gritty surface of everyday reality while suggesting the magical and supernatural which may be lurking just beneath it and be woven into it. This is handled with such subtlety and restraint that the author avoids the trap of so much 'magic realism' - that of getting carried away and demanding too much of the reader's suspension of belief. Not only was I kept guessing throughout about the direction the story was going to take and how it was going to resolve itself but also found myself thinking about the very nature of life itself and the forces orchestrating it. In a society which is constantly feeding our desires and aspirations, do we really want or need the things we are constantly wishing for, and are our lives really governed and determined by our choices and free will anyway? This colorful novel is so thought-provoking, with so many nooks and crannies and nuances that I would happily read it again and know I would find new things in it. If I could give it more than five stars, I would. Superb.

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### **Francene Stanley says**

Halfway through the novel, I emerged from the intense revulsion of wishes going haywire for two women to read about a third couple who had wished on a magic stone at a fairground. My mind drew back in horror to think of how their normal, happy lives could change.

That's when I realized the brilliance and subtlety of the author's plot. Apart from a few editing glitches, Terry Tyler's writing in deep point of view drew me along through each woman's slide into degradation. The writing flows smoothly, and plot progresses to a surprising conclusion for the main character.

## **Zoe Saadia says**

I picked *You Wish* after I read another book by this author, so I was expectant. Still this book managed to surprise me. From the very first chapter I was drawn into the story in the way I'm not used to. Maybe it was due to the characters that were very well developed, or maybe I kept swallowing chapter after chapter because I never knew what will happen next. I had my guesses, yet the story managed to surprise me with every turn, going into places I would never guess it might go. Toward the end I found myself reading slower and slower; I didn't want this story to end. I wish there was a sequel to this book, but at the same time I know there could be no sequel - the end was rounded up too perfectly, it didn't leave any loose ends.

Two weeks later, after I finished this book, I'm still thinking about the characters as though I had known them for real. To the point that I found myself willing to lend my Kindle to a friend with no e-reader, so she could read this book too. I wish there were more people I could have discuss this book with. Luckily, this author has more books to offer, so I already picked another one into my Kindle.

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## **Dianne says**

What happens when a carnival psychic, who struggles with her conscience and the part she is playing, a couple of young British women and a “magic” wishing stone cross paths? Ruth is vague with her predictions, leaving their interpretation to the customer. Seriously, almost anything can be twisted until it has a feeling of the spiritual or supernatural forces at work. She reasons that if someone is happy with what they hear, it is their choice to choose the path their lives will take. The wishing stone is another matter and when seventeen people pay to make a wish while rubbing it, Ruth knows from experience that seventeen people could become train wrecks just waiting to happen.

Sarah and Petra already have more hang ups than a phone solicitor in their quest for the perfect life, the perfect happiness, the perfect love and the perfect body. Each becomes obsessed with themselves, Sarah, in her quest to be beautiful, thinks thinner is better, whatever it takes, from yo-yo dieting to drugs. Petra wants to be loved, and falls for every guy who looks at her, misinterpreting a brief fling with undying affection, turning into a twisted and jealous stalker. Are these lives truly effected by their wish on the stone or have they become so obsessed with false ideas about happiness and love that they have made their own worlds into nightmarish caricatures of life?

Terry Tyler has put her own spin on looking for love and happiness in all the wrong places, creating a sharp and biting look at the inner workings of the mind that avoids reality and responsibility for their actions while never accepting the view others see. She has used familiar platforms to ostracize her characters, with her use of un-friending and blocking a person on social media; the ultimate slam and ridicule. With a core set of characters and several satellite characters that play huge roles in their own way, I felt I was walking into a world where everyone forgot how to communicate and value themselves. Fortunately, Ms. Tyler did sprinkle some humor with in to lighten this otherwise heavy tome while delivering a message that rings true for everyone. Was I amazed by this gem? Yes! Did Ms. Tyler hit me between the eyes with the depth of her writing? Oh, yes, I'm still reeling from her words. Highly recommended, just remember, this is not sunshine and smiley faces, this is a slice of reality on steroids. Remember this next time you make a careless wish.

Publication Date: November 5, 2011

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Print Length: 196 pages  
Available from: Amazon  
Reviewed for: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

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## **Maria says**

Wow! Just wow! I loved this book. It's funny, insightful, thought-provoking, well-written, contains realistic characters. It's the perfect book if you want to escape into a story. Terry Tyler's writing style is very relaxed and easy to read. It's reminiscent of Marian Keyes at her best. If you like contemporary fiction that will make you laugh out loud, and will keep you interested all the way through, you should read this book.

The story revolves around a Wishing Stone. Various characters make wishes on the stone and their lives seem to be changed because of it. But the question is, did their lives change because they made a wish on the stone, or did they just choose to think that? The book cleverly looks at the idea of fate and destiny versus choice and free will. It follows the life of the main character Ruth from the 1980s to the present, and the various people she has come into contact with because of the Wishing Stone.

The book covers a variety of topics, such as obsession, drug addiction, Internet stalking, relationships, reality TV chat shows.

You Wish is an entertaining book that you won't want to put down. I felt as if I really got to know the characters and could sympathise with their problems.

The ending was particularly poignant, I thought, bringing the various parts of story together beautifully and really making the reader think about whether we create our own reality or whether there are other forces at play.

This is a must read, and Terry Tyler is now one of my favourite authors. I will be reading her other books. This type of book makes me proud to be part of the indie publishing world.

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## **Scott Bury says**

### **Independent book review: You Wish**

I admit it, I am probably not the target audience that Terry Tyler had in mind when she wrote You Wish. I'm the wrong sex. But I still liked it.

You Wish could be categorized as "urban paranormal fantasy." Set in the southern part of the UK and spanning a period from the 80s to 2010, You Wish is about Ruth, a woman who scrapes out a living as a psychic advisor at county fairs and other events, and some of the people she comes into contact with.

As a girl, Ruth finds a magical wishing stone: supposedly, if you touch it and make a wish, the wishes come true. Ruth is deeply conflicted: on one level, she laughs off such a possibility; on another, she's afraid of the power of an object to grant wishes and keeps the stone hidden most of her life.

However, one day her young daughter sets up a little display at her parents' psychic display at a local fair; for a charitable donation, anyone can make a wish on the stone. Three people wish on the stone. One, Petra, wishes she could fall in love like all her friends do; Sarah wishes she could lose weight to achieve her lifelong goal of wearing Size Zero clothes; and a childless couple wishes they could conceive a baby.

The story traces how events conspire to realize these wishes—and the horrifying, yet easily foreseeable effects on the characters' lives.

### **What I liked**

Tyler skillfully weaves the separate stories of the characters together, even bringing some of them back together near the end. She also brings tells Ruth's back-story well, showing how the young Ruth acquired the wishing stone and the emotional roller-coaster a school-age girl goes through. I have to admit, I've seldom had much patience for the drama of the average teenage girl in fiction, but Tyler really knows how to make her reader see through Ruth's eyes. In a few chapters, Tyler also shows very believably exactly what Ruth is afraid of the stone's power.

Another thing I really liked is the realism of the story. All the characters were three-dimensional; no one was just an evocation of Tyler's favourite TV show characters. And the marginal lives of the modern psychics, pathetically selling paintings and psychic readings at fairs and conventions to supplement their social assistance cheques, skimping to raise two children while finding money for dope, shows me that Tyler is not only a skilled observer and reporter of life around her. She doesn't buy the romantic line that psychics and marginal artists sell. She also shares (I think) my own understanding of "magic."

### **Weaknesses**

There were very few things about this book to criticize. Sure, there were occasional typos and awkward sentences, but I defy you to find me any book without a few. (Stieg Larsson fans, give up now.)

There were some long information dumps, about the back-stories of Petra (the girl who wished to fall in love) and, to a lesser extent, Sarah. Tyler wrote several passages about Petra's pursuit of her true love as if she were summing it up for a book report. Many critics have told me to "show, not tell" in my own writing, and for the most part, I think they're right.

### **Summary**

Overall, however, this is an excellent story, skillfully told. Congratulations to Terry Tyler for proving, yet again, the independent authors are producing excellent books.

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### **Alison says**

Very enjoyable intelligent chick lit style novel about a magic stone and what happens when people wish on it. That sounds a bit trite but the book brings in eating disorders, mental health issues and more and it's very thought provoking. Picked up free or cheap for the Kindle and I already have another book by the author to read!

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### **Debbie Bennett says**

I needed a lot of perseverance with this book. Not because it wasn't good, but because it mysteriously deleted itself from my kindle after I'd read the first chapter! Amazon wouldn't let me download it again and it took me a while to find a backed-up copy to drag-and-drop back onto the kindle...

But worth the effort. This book surprised me because it breaks all the "rules" of writing. Lots of telling, lots of exposition and an unusual structure for a novel. But I really enjoyed it. Excellent writing and an ability to get right under the skin of the characters. This was all very believable stuff and very addictive reading. Sometimes I wanted to yell at the characters, which is always a sign of a good book.

And I really wasn't sure how it would end. All through, we never quite know - is there magic involved here, or not? Are we really responsible for our own actions or are their higher powers at work? A clever resolution to a great novel.

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### **Mandy Baggot says**

This was my first Terry Tyler novel but it won't be my last. The book follows the stories of would-be fortune teller, Ruth, her family and all the people who made wishes on a magical stone at a Bank Holiday fair.

Sarah wants to be thin, Petra wants true love...you follow their lives after their wishes and see if anything comes true. And what of Ruth? Does she really believe in magic and the stone's power?

I confess that I didn't like any of the characters but that didn't matter because they were so well-portrayed and their stories were so intriguing I was rapidly turning the pages to find out what happened.

Definitely recommended!

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### **Julie Powell says**

I thought this story was very well written and hooked me from the beginning. The characters bring it alive and I could relate to the very real feelings it evoked within them. I didn't think the book was about luck at all, but more about the decisions people make and the consequences of them. It was very cleverly put together and I loved that 'extra' ingredient that always triggers my imagination - the idea of magic.

I don't give spoilers so I cannot say much more.

Highly recommended.

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### **Femaleangelus says**

Not at all what i expected and a really enjoyable read with characters that you actually care about and have depth.

I've got her next book downloaded to my kindle and can't wait to see what that one brings. really looking forward to reading more from Terry Tyler

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