



Ending a Broken Journey

Melissa L. Delgado

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A childhood crush who moved away. An adult love that shattered her world. Twenty-seven year old Mackenzie Tillson hasn't been living for quite some time, rather, just existing. Life is passing her by and even with the love of her friends and family she can't quite seem to snap out of the disconnected bubble she has created around her. Moving day by day as a shell of a person who once knew what it meant to live.

Until one day, the boy who first had her heart comes back. With a vengeance...Drew Dean has been apart from the girl he loved all of those years ago for far too long and now that fate has provided them with a second chance, he will make it clear to her that she is, and always has been the one for him. But what Drew discovers in the process, is Mackenzie may just end up being completely unreachable.

Is it possible to get through to someone who has no intentions of ever letting anyone in again? Can a person find their way through the darkness and emptiness they've created? For Mackenzie, trudging along in life alone is where she feels she deserves to be. But will she find it in her to fight and break the barrier of the internal distorted view she has of herself? Or will she let everyone and everything slip away? As Mackenzie tries to piece together the remnants of her shattered existence, she inadvertently discovers life, love and loss are one in the same. A hopeful journey to be taken with an ending to fill the emptiness she's carried for too long.

This book contains adult situations and some explicit language.

Ending a Broken Journey Details

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From Reader Review Ending a Broken Journey for online ebook

~ Becs ~ says

I very much enjoyed this and I'd like to thank the author for the opportunity to read and review this book before publication.

Drew and Mackenzie have known each other pretty much all their lives. Mackenzie had a huge crush on Drew but he moved away with his family and they've not seen each other for years. Now Drew and his brother Jax have moved back to town to work with Mackenzie's father on a merger between their companies. He can't wait to see Mackenzie but he's shocked when he finally catches up with her. Gone is the carefree, fun-loving tomboy he remembers with incredible fondness to be replaced by a beautiful but incredibly sad woman who is a shell of her former self. He's determined to find out what has happened to her and even more determined to put the light back in her eyes and the smile back on her face.

“Sweetheart,” I pull her flush against me and raise my hand to brush my thumb against her bottom lip. “I see you and the insecurities you carry around.” I put my index finger against her lips to assure her I'm not done, “and I want you to know, whatever did happen to you? Whatever delusions that last asshole put in your head, the one who helped to make you think so poorly of yourself, are wrong. The way you see yourself, Kennie, is wrong.” I pause and lightly shake my head. “I know it's wrong, because I when I see you, I see so much more.”

Drew – I really fell for him. He's easy-going, charming, sexy and very funny. His two passions in life are Mackenzie and his car – a 1966 Buick Skylark. When he looks at Mackenzie, he's staggered at how much she's changed and can see the pain and suffering in her eyes and wants nothing more than to bring back the girl he once knew and secretly loved. I adored him a lot but I confess that I fell hook, line and sinker for his younger brother Jax who is even funnier and covered in mysterious tats and scars that I can't wait to find out more about. Together the two of them along with Mackenzie's very protective older brother, Kip, really made me fall in love with this series and I can't wait for their books too.

Mackenzie is a woman weighed down by the experiences of the past. She hasn't just lost her self-confidence, it's been shattered and completely destroyed. We do get to find out what has happened with her and her ex-Wesley and how her former friend Sammie was involved. In fact, the first time Sammie strutted onto a page in her towering stiletto's I heard the wicked witch music from the Wizard of Oz and wanted to hiss at her like an angry cat! I confess Mackenzie's lack of self-worth really got to me after a while – I just wanted to shake her and snap her out of it. Thankfully, Drew is far more patient than me and Mackenzie is stronger than she believes and things will all come together.

I very much enjoyed this as a standalone love story and also as a foundation for a new series. Along with Mackenzie, Drew, Jax and Kip we're introduced to Mackenzie's best friends Ade and Cass and the six of them together were a joy to read – it felt like watching an episode of Friends. There's some real laugh out loud humour in here too as I read with a goofy grin at some of their antics and conversations. This is Kip and Drew discussing Halloween when Kip decides to dress up as Tarzan.....

“Anyway, have you decided what you're going to be for tomorrow night?”

“Nah, I haven’t given it much thought. You?”

“Fuck yeah I have! I’m going as...wait for it...Tarzan!” He yells this as if it’s the most brilliant idea he’s had to date. I burst into laughter.

“Tarzan? Really?”

“Hey, no judgment from the boring and undecided. Halloween is my favorite holiday. You know why?” I shake my head at him. “Because, it’s the one time of year girls don’t mind dressing as slutty as they can. It’s a beautiful thing my friend.” He claps my back grinning.

The writing style drew me in right from the first page even before the characters did – to me it felt mature and sophisticated and Melissa Delgado has a real flair for poetry as Mackenzie pours all her sorrows out into a notebook that Drew has given her with some really heartfelt prose. There’s great character development – I felt like I got know the central six characters very well and really grew to love them all and am looking forward to more from them. I thought the pacing was excellent – nothing annoys me more as a reader than when an author gallops through a story with a load of ‘he said, she said’ and glosses over the deeper emotions. I need to absorb what’s happening and see the characters do this too and experience how they feel about events and I thought Melissa Delgado did this brilliantly. Mackenzie was a tad slow to shake off all that lack of self-worth but it’s worth sticking with her for the truly delicious ending and epilogue. The story is told as an alternating POV from both Drew and Mackenzie and flash backs to them as teens and I knocked a star off as I found the alternating timescales a little confusing – sometimes I had to pause and think about whether I was in the here and now or back in the past but it’s a minor gripe and the book has yet to go through its final edits before publication.

To sum up - an incredibly promising debut from a new author – really looking forward to the rest of the series. Most especially Jax’s story. Le Sigh!!

4 stars

Series Reading Order – Journey Series

Ending a Broken Journey – due August 3rd 2013
Ending a Torn Past – Jax’s story – due early 2014
TBC - Kip’s story

Anne OK says

3.5 Stars

Melissa Delgado’s debut novel is well-written and there are no outrageous editing errors. Lately, I’m finding this fact to be a huge and pleasant surprise – and one that is very much appreciated. The long lost friends to lovers plot is intriguing and satisfying and, with the addition of the beautiful and emotional poetry

throughout, there was a refreshing and captivating allure to it. MacKenzie or “Kennie,” the lead female, had a severe case of doubting her self-worth that irritated me beyond limits. Her whining and negativity absolutely wore me down. By far, the secondary cast carried the momentum throughout this one in my opinion. They cast some sunlight into an otherwise dreary and dismal setting. I liked this book but didn’t love it.

I will however continue with the series to get Jax’s story – his character was endearingly comical and who could help but fall a little bit in love with a tattooed playboy with a heart of gold.

Debra says

♥ 4 STARS ♥

Kick-ass debut by a new author to watch out for!

Ending a Broken Journey was an absolute joy to read. It was a beautiful, emotional and meaningful journey of a girl who's been broken down by her past experiences. She's been broken down by life itself, but during this journey full of love, friendship, heartbreak, betrayal, forgiveness and second chances she starts to learn the true meaning of life.

Author Melissa L. Delgado has written a memorable, heartwarming story filled with beautifully written poems in which the female lead expresses her deepest thoughts and emotions.

"Trying to change for someone else will ultimately leave you lost."

When we first meet Mackenzie, it's immediately obvious she's not happy with her current life. Events of her past have left her miserable and heartbroken. All she seems to be doing is *existing*, rather than actual *living*.

She feels numb.

Useless.

Unworthy.

Empty.

Broken.

She tries to hide it, but her brother Kip, her best friends Ade and Cass, and her parents notice. She's not the same girl she once used to be. Something happened between her and her ex Wesley, but she refuses to tell anyone what went down exactly. All anyone knows is that it left her heartbroken and reduced to a shell of the person she used to be before she started her relationship with him. No one seems to be able to get through to her.

That is, until Drew Dean comes back into her life...

When Drew and his brother Jax come back into town, Mackenzie doesn't realize her whole world is about to turn upside down. When they were kids, Drew and Mackenzie's older brother Kip were best friends. Since Drew's younger brother Jax was the same age as Mackenzie, the four of them became fast friends. Mackenzie and Drew both secretly had a crush on each other, but neither of them ever had a chance to act on their feelings before Drew's family abruptly moved out of state when they were teens.

Now, after so many years apart, they're back in each other's life and Drew is determined to bring back to life the cheerful, vibrant Mackenzie he once used to know.

"I know I've been gone for a while so I have a lot of time to make up for. Rest assured, it starts with getting to know the 'new, improved Kennie' you speak of."

When Drew and Mackenzie start spending more and more time together, Drew is the one who can finally make her feel alive again. He's the one who can make a smile without effort. And slowly but surely, he's the one who might be able to help her past all the events that made her into the broken person she is now.

"There's a reason we were brought back together. I know it. I can feel it when I'm around her."

The two of them have so much history and flashbacks throughout the story give us an idea of all the important and meaningful memories they share. The story is told from an alternating POV between Drew and Mackenzie, that way we get a really clear idea of how both of them are feeling.

Although Mackenzie feels empty inside, she still has a strong personality and as the story progresses she starts to show more and more willpower to destroy the demons that hunt her. Drew, on the other hand, has been determined from the start, and I loved that about him. He's patient and understanding and it's impossible not to fall for his sexy, flirtatious and sweet ways of bringing the "real" Mackenzie back to life.

"Kennie, I want to make you feel wanted. For all of the times you doubted yourself, what you were capable of, how beautiful you are inside. Mackenzie, I want these things for you because you deserve to feel all of it from someone who knows exactly what he's got."

At the beginning of their journey, Mackenzie starts out broken, but together with the help from her loved ones, she slowly but surely starts to revalue the meaning of life.

Mackenzie, Drew, Kip, Ade, Cass and Jax all become close friends and the six of them sort of had a Friends-like vibe around them, which made the story all the more fun to read. I loved all their interactions and that fact that they stood by each other no matter what. I especially loved Jax though, Drew's scarred and tatted up, yet quirky younger brother who managed to literally make me laugh out loud at times. I can't wait to read his story, as well as Kip's, as the series continues.

"I love you"

"One more time?"

"I. Love. You," I hear her giggle.

"Forever, Kennie. I'll love you, forever."

Kennie's journey may have started out *broken*, but somewhere along the way she was able to pick up the pieces. The pieces to create a new journey, a journey where Kennie comes out on top.

****ARC kindly provided by the author in exchange for an honest review****

E.L. Montes says

I had the honor of being Melissa Delgado's Critique Partner and what a journey it's been. First, I think it's fair to share how Melissa and I met. Right after the release of "Disastrous" I felt alone in the writing/book world. I didn't associate or know any authors, because I was so new to it all. I was invited by a reader to a Private Book Club Group on Facebook. That's when I met a great deal of wonderful readers/bloggers/writers. All of us shared the same interest, which in turn made us all equal. I loved this group to run to when I needed my next book fix, or to just simply interact with other book nerds like myself.

One day another follower posted a review for SLAMMED by Colleen Hoover. The review was written by Melissa L. Delgado (who we still didn't know each other yet). But it wasn't just any review. It was a beautifully written poem. The poem moved me and made me cry. Yes. Cry! That very day I was feeling down, almost wanted to give up, that maybe this book world was too much for me to handle. Until I read Melissa's poem that is. That poem lifted me up, brought the reality back as to *WHY* I wrote my story to begin with and allowed me to feel the desire to write again.

I commented under the post of how much that poem meant to me and I asked permission if I could use it as my screen saver to my laptop. So every time I felt down I can simply read it and be inspired again. Melissa Delgado instantly sent me a private message. She felt humbled and honored that *I* felt inspired by *her* poem. After a few messages back and forth we began talking more. I read a few more of her reviews for other books that were just as equally beautifully written. I messaged her and said, "You know, have you ever thought of writing your own book? You have a gift of inspiring and moving others with your words." She said "Actually, I am." And the rest was history. We never go a day without speaking (except for the 5 days I was on vacation and it was torture for the both of us. LOL.)

So it wasn't a surprise when she asked me to be a part of her writing process that I jumped at the chance. I couldn't be any prouder of her debut novel and the more she writes the more she improves. I know for a fact she'll be well known in no time.

Ending a Broken Journey, is a book about hope. About when other's believes in you when you can't believe in yourself. It's about how a broken person can indeed be brought back together and happy. Mackenzie "Kennie" Tillson, is an ordinary woman, with family and friends that love and support her more than anything. Though, after a five year verbally and emotionally abusive relationship, a terrible act causes her fiancé, Wes, and her to end their engagement. You would think after finally escaping a relationship that only brought hatred and turmoil to herself that Kennie would finally be free and move on. But she doesn't. How could she move on after being told that *she's not good enough, or skinny enough, or sexy enough* from someone that was suppose to cherish and love her? Her insecurities within herself and her relationship were

the reason she pushed away from those that loved and cared for her the most, causing her to be nothing, but an empty shell of herself.

[image error]

When the Dean Brothers, Drew and Jax Dean, (HOTNESS PEOPLE! TOTAL HOTNESS), move back to Florida to merge their company with the Tillson's company **EVERYTHING CHANGES.**

Drew Dean was childhood friends with Kennie's brother, Kip. Drew was also Kennie's childhood crush. When Drew first sees the "grown up" Kennie he's floored with how beautiful she's grown to be, but when he looks at her all he see's is a hollow Kennie. Not the lively, tomboy Kennie he used to know. And Drew is determined to stop at nothing to find out what happened to this Kennie and bring her back.

[image error]

What I loved so much about this story is that you are not only introduced to the present but also the past. In each chapter we are given flashbacks. There were flashbacks of Kennie's relationship with Wes. As well, as childhood flashback with, Drew. The flashbacks with Drew and Kennie were my favorite; it brought their relationship full circle for me and helped me connect with these characters immensely.

[image error]

Kennie, also writes in her journal using Poetry as a way to cope with her feelings. And as you know Poetry is the reason that brought Melissa and I together, so when she said she might throw poetry into the book I was ALL FOR IT.

Not only do we have the two POV's of both Kennie and Drew. Melissa Delgado, wrote wonderful and realistic supporting characters with strong family values. Kip, being Kennie's Protective Older Brother. Cass and Ade, Kennie's two best friends. Jax (OH Jax. SIGH) the goofy younger brother of Drew. Jax stole every scene he was in. I fell in love with him. Although Jax is charming and funny he has a dark side as well and it just so happens we get to explore his story in his own book *Ending a Torn Past (Journey #2)*. I'm excited to be a part in his journey as well!

In all, this is a book that you definitely should give a shot. Kennie and Drew's story isn't fast pace, but I wouldn't want theirs to be, I thought it was beautifully written and perfect for THEIR story. Their HEA.

RELEASE: August 3, 2013 Add to your TBR LIST!

Patrycja says

Heart shattering and gut wrenching story that will definitely sweep you off your feet and keep you on your

toes to the last page, Ending a Broken Journey is spectacular debut novel, that will leave you breathless. Fantastic mix of second chance romance story with journey of damaged woman who looks for closure, Melissa L. Delgados's novel astonished me in the best way possible. Add to the mix great, heart clenching poems and I was sold.

This beautiful story follows Mackenzie, young woman who see only emptiness. Her true self started slowly fading away leaving only shell of girls he used to be. She's barely holding on. Every day is like small step toward the end. Tragic relationship keeps haunting her, long after it ended.

"I, Mackenzie Alexa Tillson, see emptiness.

Emptiness and hatred.

Hatred for myself, hatred for those who betrayed me, hatred for being so naïve, and ultimately, hatred for the fact that I haven't truly moved on from any of it."

Despite the fact she has great family and friends, she can't open up to them. She feels ashamed, used, broken.

The day Dean's brothers come back to her life, after eleven years of absence changes everything. Drew and Jax have special place in her heart. Jax's her former best friend, while Drew is her teenage crush that she's never forgotten.

Can they pick up the shattered pieces of girl they once knew and help her survive?

Drew's and Mackenzie relationship is wonderful! It's slowly building and you can literally feel who they are growing to love each other once more. I instantly fell in love with charming and sexy Drew.

As much as I loved Kennie, there were times she was a little bit overwhelming. Her willowing in self pity sometimes was too much to handle. In most situations I could understand her, but in few places I wanted to really shake her.

Overall, I immensely enjoyed reading Ending A Broken Journey it tugs on your emotions and the amazing poetry drives the story in another deep direction . It's fantastic story that will leave your heart swollen and extremely satisfied. This novel leave you with a wicked sweet feeling!

Christie«SHBBlogger» says

★★★★★ You Have To Love Yourself First Stars!!

WOW! What can I say, other than this book was amazing from start to finish. It has such a beautiful love story and tells a story of incredible personal growth and endurance of the human spirit. It's about how when life beats you down, you beat it right back and come through it a better, wiser person.

You can't let other people's betrayals mold and control YOUR life. And it told in such a touching and heartfelt way it will leave you thinking about the journey that you just went on while reading this book. I don't have adequate words to tell you what this book made me feel. And that is the perfect indication that the author did their job. I really have to spend some time on this review, so stay tuned...

xrysa says

4 Love , Live , Life stars

Life is unpredictable, You are never prepared for what will happen. Life is unfair. Life may have won the battle but that I-I will win the war.

This book is the author's debut and it was really good. I loved almost everything about it except from the ending .Seriously , it's not the ending , it's me. I dont know why I hate it so much but thankfully there was an epilogue that saved me from serious frustration. Also it was a little slow in some parts but overall it was a great read. Melissa is a promising author and I'll gladly read more of her books.

The story

Kennie has great friends , amazing parents and a protective brother .She shouldn't feel alone but she does. Incidents of the past are still tormenting her. The memories are haunting her and she doesn't seem to have forgotten what happened to her .No one can reach the dark places in her mind and figure out what happened . They have no clue aside from the fact that her engagement failed. A guy broke her heart or he hurt her in other ways?

Drew is a friend from the past. He was her brother's best friend who had moved town and now after so many years he is back with his brother Jax. He has also a past that wants to hide and I have to give him the credits that he is doing a great job on this domain .Drew and Kennie used to be very close but now as adults things might be more friendly between them.

I'll help in any way to bring old Kennie back.

After all these years he can easily notice that something is off with Kennie. Those blue eyes are now lifeless , she is not the same and he is determined to bring her back.

My thoughts : Why I loved it? It's easy to answer, I could connect with Kennie. Kennie is not your ordinary girl towards whom you'll feel bad for what happened to her but you will sympathize with her. Truth to be told the final strike wasn't what made her that way but the journey that she'd been through.

There isn't a worst thing like **psychological war**.(Does it make sense to you , or is it completely Greek ;p). Most of us either have been through that sh*t or we had a friend that experienced it. I belong to the second category and trust me , it's awful to see your friend helpless knowing that you can't do anything to help him/her. There is a point that you start feeling guilty yourself and wondering why him? Anyway, before you open your mouth you must think whether what you'll say will have an impact to the others life. Unconsciously we blurt out things without thinking because that's one of the man's characteristics but we won't understand what it feels like being the victim if you haven't been in that position by yourself.

How can anyone be good for me when I haven't figured out how to be good for myself?

Hmmm I saw somewhere that the next book is about Jax *grins*
OMG I cant wait!! I loved this guy. Seriously? Who can resist tattoos??Apparently not me....

Arc kindly provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

For more reviews check our blog

<http://readmore-sleepless.blogspot.gr/>

Stephanie says

Oh Yeah...I'm reading the ARC copy!!!!

I had the great honor to read the ARC copy of this book and I will always be so grateful to Melissa L. Delgado for asking me to read this beautiful book. Melissa is beyond talented and her story is more than just a typical romance book. She has poetry through out the whole book and that was just beautiful. It gave the book so much more feeling, it was different and so moving. I also loved how the story was told by both POV's. Both POV's would think of something from the past that reminding them of what was happening in the present. I absolutely loved that. I really felt that made the book so special along with the poems.

You will fall in love with Drew. He is sweet, gorgeous, romantic and totally swoon worthy. You will adore Mackenzie, she is beautiful inside and out. Plus, we get a whole cast of characters that are awesome and you will enjoy each and everyone of them.

If you are looking for a true romance book and more...then Ending a Broken Journey is your book. You will learn about heartbreak, trust, friendship, loyalty and true love. I wish I could tell you about my favorite scene of the book, but that would totally ruin the surprise, but I can say you will love the ending and Drew. You might find him to be one of the most romantic men you can ever read about!

Ending a Broken Journey

Amy says

I love Jax!

This book is so relatable to so many woman. 1 bad relationship leaves us wondering what we did wrong, why aren't we good enough... Mackenzie is in a daze, just barely surviving her last relationship. But it isn't until an old friend shows back up and makes her realize that having a chance at love is worth putting your heart out there again.

I loved Drew but Jax stole the show for me. Can't wait until his book!

Melissa is a new Indie author and Im already anticipating her next book!! Can't wait to see what's next from her!

Christy says

4-4.5 Beautiful stars!

A beautiful debut novel about love, trust, friendship, second chances and healing.

Mackenzie hasn't been herself the last year or so. After ending her engagement with her fiance, she has been different. Her family and friends don't know why, they just try to be there for her the best that they can.

She is broken, damaged, numb. Just trying to get through day to day. She does the best she can to pretend around her best friends and brother, but they see through it. Mackenzie has put up a wall that no one can seem to penetrate. That is, until the Dean brothers come back into town.

Drew and Jax Dean grew up with Mackenzie and her older brother, Kip. Kip and Drew were best friends, and Mackenzie had the biggest crush on Drew. When he moved away before her first year of high school, she was heartbroken. Drew also had feelings for Kennie, but then he moved, plus she was his best friends little sister. He couldn't go there. Now, things are different. He can tell Kennie isn't the same. The spark that was in her eyes is gone. Drew is persistent and begins to break down some of Kennie's walls. Along with Jax, her running buddy, they are able to get her to open up more to them in a few weeks than she has to her

friends and family in years.

“The way you see yourself, Kennie, is wrong. I know it’s wrong because when I see you, I see so much more.”

Drew’s life hasn’t been perfect the last few years either. He has had some relationship issues, family issues etc, but now he’s with Kennie again, it’s a second chance for him.

Drew was the best. Charming, sweet, sexy. I adored him. He worked to get Mackenzie to open up to him, to build her back up. He was able to show her just how special she is.

“Kennie, I want to make you feel wanted. For all of the times you doubted yourself, what you were capable of, how beautiful you are inside and out. Mainly, I want these things for you because you deserve to feel all of it from someone who knows exactly what he’s got.”

“All of these years later, we still found each other. The wait for you was completely worth it.”

Mackenzie has always had feelings for Drew- you don’t just get over your first love. It takes her a while to get over her self doubt, feelings of no self worth. Drew makes it easier. She is falling in love with him all over again. Just as Mackenzie is starting to heal, get stronger, learn to open up and love again, something happens that could potentially ruin it all... Secrets come out, trust is broken... will they be able to get it back?

There’s no way I could’ve ever known the true meaning of happiness without having experienced true sadness; my true sadness.

A second chance at a first love, these are some of my favorite types of books! Such a beautiful and heartwarming story. The story is told in dual pov’s, which happen to be my favorite. It also takes us back into the past, which was nice. Mackenzie’s journey was real and seriously heartbreaking. Feeling empty, unworthy, useless because of thoughts someone else put in her head, it just made me so sad. To see her come back out of her shell, the strength, growth, self worth- it was a beautiful thing.

Her journal entries/poetry were amazing, a great addition to the story. The writing was fluid, the pace of the book was great, not too fast or slow. I really enjoyed this story. Another wonderful thing was the supporting characters. Drew and Kennie’s brothers, and Kennie’s best friends. They were all a vital part of Kennie’s growth. As much as I loved Drew and Kennie, Jax was my favorite character in this story. I am so interested to see how his book goes! A fantastic debut novel I would recommend!

ARC provided by author, Melissa L. Delgado, in exchange for a honest review

Alisa Kaminski says

I was given the exciting privilege of reading an arc copy of this book. Thank you Melissa for this amazing opportunity.

Ending a broken Journey is an amazing debut novel with an even more amazing cast of characters. This book has it all. Love, heart break, friendship, and more importantly, three hot and sexy main characters. I mean, gah!!!! You can't get enough of any of them.

Makenzie and Drew have been friends since childhood but family and life situations tear them apart. When Drew comes back what he finds breaks his heart. The Kennie he knew is no longer there. She is now a quiet and unhappy woman with secrets. She has been hurt so badly by a previous relationship that she just sort of exists. She feels that she isn't worth love or worth happiness for that matter. Drew Dean is determined to break through her walls and fix what is broken. Kennie has an amazing group of friends that include her two best girl friends, spunky and sassy Ade and Cass and her charming and handsome brother Kip. Drew and his brother Jax quickly become entwined in the group. This story is told by both Kennie and Drew's POV. The way it is written, it was very easy to follow and adds so much more depth to the story. From each characters point of view, we are given snippets from the past that led them to where they are today. It really is an emotional ride to follow Kennie's transformation in this book. She works so hard to fix herself from the inside out and let everyone close to her in.

Now I have to focus on the other characters. OMG Jax!!!! I want more of every last tattooed inch of him. He is sarcastic, funny, cocky, and all around sexy as hell. He becomes a great friend to Kennie right away. They are able to pick up right where they left off years ago. I found myself looking for more interactions with him and can't wait to learn what secrets he has from his past.

Kip is the typical over protective brother to Kennie. He will do anything to protect her, even if it is to protect her from his best friend. I don't feel like I got to know him well enough in this book but hope there will be more of him to come from Melissa. I also hope that we will get to know Ade and Cass more personally in the upcoming book.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book as a stand alone novel. I was a little nervous when I saw that Ending a Torn Past was coming in 2014. I was afraid I would get sucked into this story and have to wait to see how it ends. It was nice to not have a cliffhanger for a change. I can't wait to see what's next for our Journey characters and whats next from Melissa.

Melissa says

So...*maybe* I'm biased because I wrote it...again *maybe* ;)

****UPDATE****

I hear there are a variety of dear old Jaxon "Jax" Dean lovers...so for now, check out his interview with Sweet Dreams Book Blog! <3

<http://beautifuldreamer26.blogspot.co...>

Michelle says

ARC copy received on exchange for an honest review.

Recently I've been in a bit of a book funk, everything's starting to look the same so when this came up for review I jumped at the chance mainly because then I wouldn't have to decide what to read next. I'm so glad I did :) The first thing I saw when I started was a quote, "'When I look back on my life, I see pain, mistakes and heart ache. When I look in the mirror, I see strength, learned lessons, and pride in myself", Author Unknown'. Now usually I don't actually share anything from the actual book as I don't want to spoil things for others, but honestly, I just found those words too profound not to share. I think it's something we can all in our own way relate to, and for me, it really was one of the best book openings I've come across so far. Then it's on to the prologue which is so heart-wrenchingly beautiful that very early on I got the feeling this was gonna be an unputdownable hangover book. Mackenzie is broken, that much is obvious pretty much straight away. Saying that though I loved her 'voice', you want to get to know her, know what her problems are and ultimately, how to fix her. I found myself totally rooting for her all the way through, she wasn't a typical whiny book heroine just waiting for the right man to come save her. As for Drew, he was a great character, definitely book boyfriend material. He was cute, sweet and funny. In fact all the boys were totally cocky but laugh out loud funny, especially Drew's little brother Jax, his one liners and banter had me in fits on more than one occasion. I loved that Mackenzie had such a close knit loyal group of friends, including her older brother and two closest girlfriends who supported her without pushing their own ideals down her throat. She also had parents who even though you don't see much of them are clearly supportive and love their children very much, not something I've seen much of lately in books. There are so many different threads running throughout this story but at no point was I unsure what was going on because of it. It does tend to add a bit of mystery to the story though and keep you guessing, as much as I wanted to find out what had happened to Mackenzie, you don't actually find out till quite a way through and even then it's only snippets, there were several points in the book I thought I'd figured things out only to be proven wrong which was actually a nice thing to happen cause for me it meant that the book was at no point predictable. Thankfully there was no cliff hanger ending but so many things in the book were only hinted at and I for one, would absolutely love to see more books about these characters. The author has a very fluid style of writing, at no point did it feel forced or stilted and the humour throughout the book really helped lift the emotion. This was a roller-coaster read that had me up half the night just so I could finish it and find out what happens, no matter how itchy my fingers got I managed (barely) to refrain from skipping to the last page and seeing how it ended. Really glad I let things play out the way the author intended cause I was not disappointed by the ending in any way. There were alternating POV's but this was done in such a way that it was easy to tell who was speaking and it was great to be able to get a glimpse of more than one character's opinions and perceptions. The book does contain adult situations and quite a lot of swearing however I think it's done well enough to satisfy most tastes, it wasn't constantly people pawing at each other, but what was there was extremely well written but not overly smutty. Overall it was a great read and pretty much guaranteed to do well upon release, and an author I will be keeping an eye out for from now on :)

Jennifer Kyle says

Melissa L. Delgado is my friend and reading buddy, her reviews here on Good Reads have grabbed a lot of fellow readers' attention as well as author nods. Her writing is beautiful and many may not know that she is truly a poet at heart and participates in Slams, a female Will Cooper so to say.

As a fan of books that are more than a story but a journey she was inspired and encouraged to write her own book. I can't say enough on how talented I think she is and how cleverly she incorporated her passion for poetry through the pages of this novel.

Ending a Broken Journey tells the story of Mackenzie Tillson, a woman who many readers will be able to connect to. She is surrounded by great family and friends but hurts from her past failed relationship haunts her. Mackenzie suffered through some really harsh kicks to her self-esteem and a reader finds her barely coping and still processing all the the aftershocks to her psyche.

"I, Mackenzie Alexa Tillson, see emptiness.

Emptiness and hatred.

Hatred for myself, hatred for those who betrayed me, hatred for being so naïve, and ultimately, hatred for the fact that I haven't truly moved on from any of it."

Mackenzie's world and armor is rocked when after eleven years Drew and Jax Dean return back into her life. The Dean brothers were family friends and through terrific flashbacks a reader is privy to back story on Mackenzie's childhood crush on Drew Dean.

Mackenzie's girlfriends, Cass and Adriane and her brother Kip are just fantastic. Those Dean brothers are just yummy! The dialogue amongst the characters is fun, sarcastic and Drew and Mckenzie's relationship reconnection was a fun ride!

I found Kip, Jax and Drew really hot, sexy and witty and the journey of **self love** a worthwhile topic.

This story is a true journey told in alternating pov of Mckenzie and Drew and is complete with a hea. There are steamy sex scenes, humorous outings as well as some kick ass poetry.

"...When I look at myself,

I see all of the reasons I will never let life pass me by,

Ever again,

I see all of the reasons,

Why I lost the battle,

And now, see all of the

reasons I came out on top,

I see all of the reasons on

why I won my war."

Take a journey with Melissa L. Delgado's debut novel. I hope you will enjoy her writing half as much as I do!

I had the opportunity to beta read for Melisa L. Delgado