



## **Survival**

*Rebecca Sherwin*

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Skye 'The Skillet' Jones has it all. Her life is a million miles away from her tragic upbringing and, on the surface, life is perfect.

Daughter of an alcoholic mother and negligent father, Skye was forced to carry herself through trauma, rejection and abandonment.

Now, ten years after she walked away from her hometown never to return, she is a new woman; a self-made, successful personal assistant and she is madly in love with her knight in shining armour.

But fairytales don't always have the happy ending you expect. Dreams can be shattered in an instant; lives can be torn to shreds and left in ruins when darkness strikes without warning.

After a life of pulling punches and suffering paralysing blows, can The Skillet step into the ring and save her mind from irreparable damage?

She has no idea the real fight has only just begun...

## **Survival Details**

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Author : Rebecca Sherwin

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Genre : Dark, Romance

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## From Reader Review Survival for online ebook

### Danielle Schaaf says

Twisted, Book #1

Tomes Rating: 4 Stars

Tissues Rating: 5 boxes

Review:

Survival was a solid 4 star read. The book opens with Skye and her twin brother Oliver doing everything they could to escape their mother and poor lives. One night Skye is brought by one of Oliver's friends (Curtis) to a cage fight, and after Curtis assuring Skye her brother will be fine, Oliver is injured and later dies of his injuries. Survival is the story of how Skye needs to pick up the pieces of her life. She starts a relationship with Curtis, but having his own issues, leaves Skye with little words, but a parting gift from Oliver. Later Skye meets Thomas, an older man who seems to be everything she was looking for in life. Skye struggles daily with abandonment issues. She is so scared of losing and loving. Survival read very much like a journal or collection of diary entries, and was very easy to follow. Just when it looked like Skye was going to get her happily ever after, life throws her another curve ball. Survival does not have a happy ending, but the possibility for more is there. Book two will be Curtis's story. I am excited to see how Curtis and Skye can intertwine their past and present.

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### Linda Field says

Survival by Rebecca Sherwin

I was lucky to have an ARC of this book, and I'm so glad I read it.

This book is freaking fabulous I loved every minute of it.

Skye had a wonderful life. A loving mother and father an older sister and best of all her twin brother Oliver. She just had the perfect life.

Until one day it comes crashing down. No explanation was given her father packed up his belongings and left.

It was hard living, moving from a wonderful house in a cul-de-sac to a two bedroom flat in a tower block and at 19 having to share a room with her twin brother this was not the life Skye wanted and neither did her brother.

Skye's life is about to become very lonely, can she learn to fight?

Will fate give her a break or will it leave her to survive alone?

This book is intense, emotional and heartbreak. Skye goes through some shit in her life, but this book keeps you wanting to turn every page.

I could not put it down I just wanted more and more and was completely gutted when I got to the end.

5\*\*\*\*\*

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### **Jessica says**

Apparently, per usual, I'm in the minority but I didn't enjoy what I managed to read of this. I felt like I was dropped closer to the middle of the story than the beginning. The writing was as if we were directly in the heroine's head and not in the good connecting with her as more than a character way but more of a holy moly edit/filter her thoughts way. The twin thing was weird. First of all, something about their relationship felt just a tad...off in a creepy way to me. Second, she is constantly talking about how close they are...hell they sleep in the same bedroom and yet she somehow misses that he's a roided up fighter? even the best fighter is gonna have marks on him. finally the tragic twist regarding him was not even a little realistic. though fighting is not without its dangers what happened was overly extreme especially given the description. Also I didn't even get a chance to catch up from not getting a real beginning and crazy things just happened rapid fire. I was lost and not particularly enjoying it anyways so I just called it a dnf

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### **Tracie Podger says**

Only once before have I cried because of a book. That book was written by Rebecca Donovan. Maybe it has something to do with the name because, Miss Sherwin, you just made me cry again. Survival is a story of just that, survival. Skye is a twin and finds herself in a life of neglect, alone, lost and scared. She finds a release from that in Curtis, a troubled man himself. She finally finds the love she deserves in Thomas. Is that love everlasting? You need to read the book to know the answer to that.

There is no doubt Rebecca Sherwin is a talented writer. She captured this reader from the very beginning. The book is fast paced and flows from chapter to chapter to the point that I lost track of time, needing to read more. I found it, even at 3am and very tired, hard to put this book down. I was saved only by the lack of battery in my iPad otherwise I would have read this straight through the night, one sitting. It's been a long time since I got emotionally attached to a book - thank you Rebecca for bringing that back for me.

This is a book that will draw you in. It has likeable and justifiably unlikeable characters. Characters that I found easy to relate to. This is also a book that made me question something - is it possible to root for two guys? We meet Curtis early on, a man with a past and needing to be fixed. I liked him, a lot. We also meet Thomas, the good guy, the man you want to marry and I was torn between the two. Both have an impact on Skye and both are important in her life at times that matter.

Some wonderful quotes and one liners and the sex scenes are nicely done - you can feel the passion as you read. This reader is now impatiently waiting for the next installment - highly recommended.

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### **Debbie says**

tissues needed

Just how many times can you be knocked down before you cannot get up again?? This book gutted me, it made me cry, laugh and cry all over again.

Skye wouldn't want my pity but oh god do I feel for her, I was quite honestly bawling my eyes out and part of me is hoping that the dark man on the bandstand in Mexico is who I think it is but I have the sneaky feeling I have to buy and read book 2.

Yes Skye survived, yes she has lived, she has seen more and been through more than one person should ever have to. I highly recommend.....bring the tissues!

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### **Philomena Callan Cheekypee says**

This is my first read by this author and I totally loved it.

I found this to be a beautiful and emotional story. I thought the author portrayed the characters really well. They came across as real to me which I loved. My heart bled for Skye. This is the second book in a row that I've read and thought seriously how much more bad luck can a character take. Thankfully Skye is a strong character.

Great storyline. I'm looking forward to jumping into book two. Loved it.

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### **Kerry-Ann says**

I have read this author's first novel, which I loved and so was very excited to read this.

All I can say is WOW!!! Once again, she did not disappoint! From the first page, this had me feeling all sorts of emotions...anxiety, pity and anger!

As the story progresses, you feel ALL the feels, until all of a sudden you feel like you have just taken a bullet!

I loved the characters and the way they were written had you right there with them, through it all. Skye is my She-ro! From the first page, you admire her strength and resilience. She IS a survivor! Curtis, who has secrets, seems like a bad boy but he has a gentleness that comes across when he meets Skye. And Thomas! SWEET MOTHER OF MARY! Thomas is ANY woman's dream man. Hot and sexy as hell but with a beautiful soul, he is the one thing Skye never knew she always wanted.

This has become one of my new favourite books and one of the best I have read. It is HIGHLY recommended.

I give this five stars only because I can't give it more!

**\*\*I WAS GIVEN AN ARC IN EXCHANGE FOR AN HONEST REVIEW\*\***

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## **Brittany Alexander says**

Skye Jones was born just a few minutes after her brother, Oliver. And ever since then, those two have been thick as thieves. Even as their family fell apart, the two stuck together, each holding two jobs, saving every penny so they can get away from their drunk of a mother.

One New Year's Eve, Skye is introduced to her brother's friends. One in particular stood out to her. Cut Throat, or Curtis. One night later down the road, Curtis shows up at her house and takes her away. She learns that night that her brother is a fighter and has been for a while now. That night changes her life forever. After the unfortunate accident, Curtis and Skye strike up a relationship. They're good together. They're happy. But one night Curtis reveals that Oliver had money saved for him and Skye, that they had more than enough to get away from their mother and live on their own. The thing is, Curtis isn't coming.

Years later, on Margarita Monday, Skye meets a guy in an alleyway. He captures her heart with a simple magic trick. Three hours later, they realize they have that insta-love connection.

Thomas is good for Skye. I mean, he's real good for her. Together they're happy, and Skye is finally living. She's living for her and Oliver. She has a purpose, a reason to wake up each day. All is good and Skye is slowly getting over her fear of Thomas leaving her...

There are just a few words that describe the reading experience I had. Let's see if I can chronologically list them... Upset. Really upset. Angry. Happy. Pissed. Concerned. Angry. Happy. Super happy. Ecstatic. Depressed. Crying. Tears. Pain.

Yeah, it's a ride. Rebecca Sherwin is the operator of this roller coaster ride and you're never going to be the same when you get off.

The only thing that bothered me in this book. The insta-love between Skye and Thomas. I can't stand it. It's not just this book, but every book, unless it's done in a certain way, no. No no no no insta-love. Things take time!!!

BUT I am just thrilled that these two got together. Skye and Thomas have a love, a relationship, that I envy. I want to be Skye, I want to feel a love like that. I can't describe it other than you watch these two and you just know that they will be together forever. It's amazing. Rebecca just has this way that makes you a part of them.

The story... yeah it's not entirely original, but it's the best damn story I've read yet. This is definitely in my top five best reads of this year. Survival was one of those books I had the hardest time putting down, which sucks because I'm at college. I couldn't read it fast enough, and I couldn't read it slow enough.

There is a scene in this book that will rip your heart out. It will leave you weak, crying, and emotionally unstable. Yeah, I cried and I messaged Rebecca and I yelled at her. I hated her for what she did, but it was one of those things she didn't plan out. The story wrote itself.

I am impatiently waiting for book two. I have to see where this is going. Five stars for Survival! And a definite improvement from her first book! Oh, I gotta go reread now.

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## **Julie says**

[image error]

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## **Em The says**

OK so as a rule I don't like cliffhangers but in this case I am happy to go with it! This book was a total

surprise and i was totally engrossed from the moment i opened it! It is not for the feint hearted that is for sure and if you are looking for a HEA then you may have to wait for a few sequels to find one!

Skye has certainly been dealt a bad hand in life and although her childhood was perfect things went to crap pretty quickly after her dad walks out. Her life is turned upside down not once, but twice. Life has totally dumped on her from a great height and thanks to a fleeting affair she realises that fighting is the only way to survive.

I have been through the wringer so many times in this book and although you feel for most of the book she has found the HEA or as near to it as she can get you then have the rug totally and utterly pulled from underneath you! I have cried and cried and cried some more when reading this and the ending just leaves you hanging. It was a total OMG moment and i am left totally waiting for the next book!! A MASSIVE five stars from me although I'm still reeling from finishing this book!

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### **Beth Diaz says**

Tissues at the ready ladies!!!

Skye had lived a very sad and sorrowful life with her family for many reasons, Curtis helps her deal with all the loss she had suffered. He also has been hurt badly and can't deal with what he thought she made him feel.

Thomas is a broken soul, and no one in his family knows why, he meets Skye in the alley besides a restaurant, Could that be it for both of them. Would they learn how to love and give again?  
Tissues at the ready ladies!!!

Rebecca Sherwin has hit it out of the ballpark yet again, I can hardly wait for the next book in this series.

The story made me cry a river, get mad like a crazy person, be happy, when a book draws this intense emotions off the readers, it's insanely good.

The characters were well cared for, with perfectly and cautiously traced back storylines, and a very tasteful and sharp story telling from Rebecca Sherwin.

It will leave you craving for more, even as "twisted" as it is, and trust me there will be more, but first you have to delve into the lives of Skye and her family, Thomas and Curtis. You will also most certainly fall in lust with some of the men in this story, guaranteed.

I promise you might get frustrated and even hate some of the characters, but you will certainly fall in love with this story created by the impeccable writer that is Rebecca Sherwin

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### **Paula Radell says**

When I was first approached about reading Survival I was only given the first few chapters of an unfinished manuscript. Realizing that it was a book about boxing, I approached it with no small amount of trepidation. I'm not a fan of men hitting each other for sport, and as a nurse, I've never understood the attraction. Having

said that, from the moment I started reading, I didn't want to stop. I could see the beginning of an incredibly powerful story, and I knew I had to follow it wherever it went.

Having read it many times since then, I can say without hesitation that it is utterly unforgettable; a soul-stirring, often heart-wrenching journey of one woman's struggle to survive when all seems lost - irretrievably lost. As difficult as it can be to travel this road with Skye Jones, it is well worth it. Told from her point of view, it's as if you are walking beside her, experiencing it all.

"Twins. You're born together, you grow together, you learn together. You laugh together, you cry together ... you fight together. And then what?"

Skye and Oliver Jones were born moments apart. Inseparable, they encouraged and supported each other when their comfortable childhood slipped away, replaced by traumatic teen years ~ a family torn apart. They dreamed of escape, planned for it, saved for it. He was her rock, her shelter, her reason for living. And then he was gone, his secret life in the ring exposed, his young life tragically ended.

When Skye had no one else, Oliver's friend and boxing mentor, "Cutthroat Curtis," stepped up to help her come to terms with her loss. A dark man with his own secrets - a man she knew would also someday leave her - Curtis offered a level of safety, comfort and release she couldn't find elsewhere. And then he walked away.

Flash forward. Enter Thomas, a beautiful, sensitive, drop-dead sexy lover who turns her life around in a heartbeat. They share a relationship most of us can only dream of. Thomas becomes the new constant, bringing out the best in Skye - helping her feel, helping her heal, helping her find her strength and even more important, giving her hope for a life she always wanted, but never thought she'd have.

Without spoilers, it is difficult to describe the chain of events that follows. One night, a flashback forces Skye to face her demons - secrets that she could never tell Thomas, secrets that she couldn't allow herself to share because of a fear that he, too, would abandon her. Just when you think you can't take any more ... you must.

This is an intense novel. It pulls no punches, so to speak. But it is also full of beautiful, tender moments, intense sexuality that will leave you breathless, and heartbreak that will make you sob. You may even have to put the book down and allow yourself some time to experience, with Skye, the impact of what just happened. There is only one phrase that comes to mind for me ... Survival is a total eclipse of the heart. I will never experience that classic song the same way again.

Read it. Experience it. Share it. You won't regret it. I can't wait to see where Skye's journey leads her in its next chapter. (But I'm certain that we haven't heard the last of Curtis ... at least I hope not!)

Total Eclipse of the Heart

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### **Prone to Crushes on Boys in Books says**

I'm sorry I don't know what happen here....did I not read the same book as everyone else. I felt confused and unsatisfied with the book. There was no connection with anyone in the story, but I like Skye and Thomas'

relationship as well as Skye and Curtis' relationship, even though it was an unhealthy one.

Maybe I'm being moody and judgey....I just needed MORE.

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### **Coco.V says**

? FREE on Amazon today (12/26/2017)! ?

Blurb:

Skye 'The Skillet' Jones has it all. Her life is a million miles away from her tragic upbringing and, on the surface, life is perfect.

Daughter of an alcoholic mother and negligent father, Skye was forced to carry herself through trauma, rejection and abandonment.

Now, ten years after she walked away from her hometown never to return, she is a new woman; a self-made, successful personal assistant and she is madly in love with her knight in shining armour.

But fairytales don't always have the happy ending you expect. Dreams can be shattered in an instant; lives can be torn to shreds and left in ruins when darkness strikes without warning.

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She has no idea the real fight has only just begun...

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### **Edward Stanbridge says**

Heart Wrenchingly beautiful!

Rebecca Sherwin is an amazingly talented writer who can convey character's true to life emotions and make the reader experience every moment of the story as he flips frantically through the pages till the wee hours of the night. I remember reading her debut novel Second Chance Hero and having the feeling of a warm, salty ocean breeze on my skin all along. Survival leaves a completely different feeling; one of gut wrenching heartache but also one of hope. Skye Jones is a strong female character and it's something I really like in a story. She doesn't revel in self pity when her world collapses more than once; she fights back, no matter how hard it is and she survives. I really enjoyed to be part of her journey so far, even if it isn't an easy ride. I'm eager to read the sequel, Revival, to get Curtis' point of view because he remains quite an elusive character through the first book. We know he has a dark past, we can suppose he's probably as afraid of losing Skye as she is of being alone, yet he pushes her away to live a life he probably thinks he won't be able to give her. A few years later, Thomas brings magic into Skye's methodically controlled universe and shows her that true love is possible. The chemistry between them is off the charts and we can really feel their love and passion for each other. She grows with him and learns to overcome some of the demons that still haunt her most secret thoughts. It was the perfect recipe for a happily ever after... till fate bites back. The writing makes you experience the events of Skye's life as if you were in her skin. This book is a must read, it's different, unexpected and the story will stay with you long after you've put it down. Keep writing, Ms Sherwin!

