



Pregame

Taylor Wade

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Brookelyn Lane transfers universities to escape her dangerous past and the demons that haunt her. Starting her sophomore year at a new school, Brookelyn promises herself that she won't let history repeat itself. That means: no boys.

When arrogant and athletic Gabriel Harris enters Brookelyn's world, closely followed by the mysterious, tattooed charmer, Wes Walker, she struggles to keep both of them from capturing her heart. She soon learns, however, that it's easier said than done. Brookelyn finds herself falling hard and fast. Just as she starts to figure everything out, Brookelyn's past finds its way to her present, and her world is turned upside down as she's forced to face off against her worst nightmare.

Pregame Details

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Author : Taylor Wade

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From Reader Review Pregame for online ebook

Amanda says

An easy 5 stars

I loved this book, I haven't put it down since I first started reading it, I was well and truly gripped.

At the beginning when Brookelyn met Gabe at Dusty's I thought he sounded gorgeous and was so funny and sweet and I thought to myself 'Aww I think I'm gonna find me new book boyfriend if he carries this on' and then when they left and seen someone she described as "more breathtaking then Gabe" I thought 'Noooooo don't do this Gabe sounds lush' ha ha.

But as time gone on and the 2nd meeting outside Dusty's where she's with Wes (the boy more breathtaking than Gabe) and Gabe insulted her I was like 'Ooooh Hell No' I hope she never even thinks about going there again ha ha and I fell in love with Wes even more after that, I think I've definetly found my new book boyfriend *Swoon*

I am absolutely in love with Wesley Walker, Mmmm! So sweet, caring, funny, protective and H.O.T with a sexy jealous streak Perfect ;-)

I love how he was so caring and gentle not to push her about her demons a proper gentleman with a sexy bad boy image.

And the beach ball moment ha ha oh that was hilarious I proper laughed out loud.

Overall I would definitely read this book again and it will be going on my favorites list.
And I'm looing forward to reading more books from this author in the future.

Lesley says

I received this book in return for an honest review.

Brookelyn transferred to a new college in an attempt to start over after a horrific event. She's fortunate enough to now be with her best friend as her roommate as she tries to move on and even begins to date again. She meets 2 guys, both of which are interested in her and as she gets to know them better, one of them just might be worth her taking a chance on love again, but what will happen when a piece of her past pops up again? Will the guy she's interested in be up to the task of standing by her even after she confides in him about her broken past?

I loved this book!!! I loved Brookelyn's strength as she tried to move on past the traumatic event and I loved her friends! I was a little on the fence for one guy but as we learned more about each one, I was definitely all for her chosen one. So sexy and so willing to protect her from unkind words from others. Of course he's not perfect and makes his own mistake and makes Brookelyn question her relationship with him but he's definitely forgiveable. Even when her past comes back with a vengeance, my love for her hero grew even more, which I didn't think would be even possible.

I was pleasantly surprised when I realized that this is Taylor Wade's first book and even more impressed that she's only 20 years old. Pregame was so well written that I'd have thought that Ms. Wade had so many more published books under her belt and I eagerly look forward to seeing what she writes next!

Kirsten says

3 1/2 stars

This was a pretty well written book, although I will admit that the errors in spelling and word usage are what caused me to knock the rating. All in all, it was a well thought out book. I liked the fact the Brookelynn realized that she had to deal with what had happened to her previously before jumping into another relationship. I also liked that despite the outside packaging, which was very tantalizing, Wes was so thoughtful and considerate to Brookelynn. He didn't pressure her on anything, just let her set the pace at which she was comfortable. And he was there for her when it mattered the most, putting her above everything else. Loved that. I would also have to say that the first guy, Gabe, had issues of his own to work out. He was spiteful to Brookelynn and Wes, and the punch he received in the face was well deserved. I was glad that Brookelynn was able to tell not only Wes, but the rest of her friends what had happened to her in the past, and they stood with her. Very well done for a first time author Taylor! The story line was compelling and moved along, I very much liked most of the characters except the ones I wasn't supposed to.

I received a copy of this book in return for an honest review.

Jamie Baker chrystal says

ARC given by the author in exchange for my honest review

I'm going this story 4 stars.

After switching universities because of something horrible that happened to her Brookelyn has chosen not to date. When she goes out to a club with her best friends she notices a guy watching her. Gabriel is the first guy she seems into but has told him many times that she just wants to be friends.

That is until she meets Wes who is the opposite of Gabriel. He's got tattoos and at parties he always has someone on his arm flirting with him. Once her and Wes get to know each other she realizes that him and Gabriel have past history together but the spark she has with Wes is more than she has with Gabriel. Their relationship starts working out and she learns to trust Wes until her ex-boyfriend shows up and almost destroys everything.

This story was good. I liked how Brookelyn was able to open up to Wes and starts to experience life again. You really get a feel at how deep their connection is!

Scott Spotson says

Okay, I'm a guy, so maybe I shouldn't be leaving a review. But I've read other chick lit books, and some are

great!

The writing is clever and designed to pull you in. There are layers of emotion conveyed by each character. We are drawn in to how they think, act, and behave for themselves and toward others.

I felt the characters were somewhat self-absorbed and narcissistic. True, in a romance book, the ultimate aim is self-satisfaction and love for the other, but in this book I felt that the characters could have had a more realistic grounding in the everyday tedium of life. Such as family obligations, college marks, sports teams, and just hanging out with friends and enjoying their company. (They're all in this book, just not at length).

For example, in Slammed by Colleen Hoover, which is a GREAT chick lit book, the boyfriend had a job teaching high school, and they both had to deal with loss of parents and caring for younger siblings. They also had a intriguing hobby, writing and acting out poetry. Here in this book, I felt the main characters were constantly on a quest for hedonism. Parties were quite common and there is a lot of flirting going on between guys and gals. A lot of the conversations in the book are centered on guys.

My favourite part of the book was when Wes, the boyfriend, meets Brookelyn's parents and has to pass their "tests" in order to gain approval. That part felt realistic, down to earth, and warmly conveyed.

The author writes well. It is just that the story would have had some other angle to it that would have grabbed my rapt interest. I have no doubt that this author will come up with one soon!

Vanessa says

I received this book for in exchange for an honest review

First of all, I want to get my gripes out of the way. Here we go: Spell check, editing, reading through and reading again, getting someone else to read through. These are all essential in order to publish a book that people enjoy reading. It takes a lot for someone to write a book and put it out there for the world to scrutinise. Having to develop a tough skin, knowing that some people just will not enjoy what you've written. At least make it a little easier for yourself by ensuring that basic things are covered. Last gripe: The character Gabe, who the protagonist described as arrogant, in the next sentence was described as 'humble'. No. These are two opposite things. Especially when the main character did not know Gabe at all when she made this assessment. You cannot see both things in a person in such a short space of time.

Now that my gripes are laid out on the table, I can say, that I honestly did enjoy this book. I enjoyed the story, the romance and the friendships. It did warm me to find out at the end that the book was written by a 19 year old, which I think explains the authenticity of the voices of the characters.

I would recommend this as a story and hope that my criticisms are taken in the spirit they were meant.

J. says

I received a copy of this book for an honest review.

From what I understand, this is Wade's debut novel and I really think she did a damn good job. This is probably between 3 and 3.5 stars for me in all actuality. The story was great and engrossing (I read it in one

sitting). I just feel like I would have been more satisfied seeing the relationship grow between Wes and Brookelyn. I always feel like I'm missing something when a chapters starts with "weeks went by" or something of that nature. Also, I feel like the book could have used some more editing. There were little mistakes throughout the book, but nothing that drove me crazy to the point of putting the book down.

One more thing that I think felt a little off for me: (view spoiler)

Here are some things I **loved** about the book:

1. The beginning of the book really grabbed my attention. I loved that the prologue's voice is unknown. You realize it is a guy but you don't know who.
2. I like that it starts out like it could be a love triangle story.....
3. Love Brookelyn's story (view spoiler)
4. Loved the secondary characters. I actually would love to read a story about Savanna---I felt like there could be more to her story. (view spoiler)
5. Loved Brookelyn's pet name ---Wes wanted to be unique and he accomplished just that!

In all, wonderful debut novel from Taylor Wade. I will definitely be looking for books from her in the future. She is a talented writer, and I feel her stories will only improve. Thank you Wade for allowing me the opportunity to review your first book!

~*Ella Lee*~ says

4.5 Stars!

This was a great read. I really enjoyed the heroine Brookelyn and all her friends. It starts out making you think one thing...before we meet our hero Wes...and you're like...whaaaa??? Whoa! Okay, I like this better. The whole description of Gabe didn't have me going "gaga" so I was happy to find out that it was Wes that's our true hero. And boy howdy, hero he was! I was a little confused about Wes's character from the beginning. He started out being so aloof and cool....and careless. Especially after what Gabe said happened. I didn't know if he was going to be one of those you hate to love or love to hate kind of hero's.

Turns out he was a hero I love to love! A little slow in the steam department. I think that maybe there is only one real sex scene in this whole book. There is some build up to it, that's kind of steamy, but overall, this book isn't about characters building a relationship off of a sexual one. This is about characters building love out of actually falling in love with each other and then it gets physical. It's kind of refreshing to read a book like this. There's so much erotica out there now that most of our book relationships start out pure sex. It's almost too innocent sounding when you read a book like this. But then the farther you get into it, the better. Our heroine is a tortured one. She has a very scary past incident that made trusting men hard to do. Our hero comes in and shows her that if she can confront her demons, they can have a love strong enough to help her move past them.

There is definitely Damsel in Distress moments in this book. I love the brother Reese coming in and turning their happy little world crazy a little bit.

I am very interested in the other characters Elle and Savannah. I hope one of them hooks up with Reese. I also hope we get to hear tons more about Brookelyn and Wes.

Overall a very good read. Could have been more steamy,a little longer, a little more in-depth about Wes and Brookelyn's relationship instead of "October came and went..." or " It's been a few weeks of us dating"...I would have liked to hear more about that time skipped over with them together.

I do recommend this book. Very sweet read.

Faye says

3 stars

I instantly got hooked when I started reading pregame but I must admit that I did not expect to enjoy it. Lately my taste for NA is an on - off switch but I still like reading them in between.

I really like Brookelyn's character despite what happened to her because of a past incident. She's a strong person who tries to/overcame her past.

The story flow was going especially during the introduction of Gabe and (especially Wes). You think the first guy is the one but apparently there's another. Even if she her misgivings in having a relationship with Wes, she did. Sadly, I found the depth of their relationship lacking although I find their Brookelyn and Wes' relationship very sweet. I like that Wes is letting Brookelyn set the pace of their relationship but like I said I wanted to see more. Despite it not being a really steamy romance (which I don't really mind) them being finally together made up for it.

I also love the relationship Brookelyn has with her friends and brother and that she was able to be open up to them and that they got her back.

What can I say about Gabe, well, he definitely has issues including a history with Wes. I do understand where he's coming from but they way he treated them was trash. In the end it was sorted out but with Wes conclusion not so much.

I received a copy from New Adult Book Club

~Kate~ says

I saw that this book was up for review on a Goodreads page that I am in, I thought it sounded like something that I would enjoy so requested it and I am really glad I did...

With this cover I love the background as it really does make the book stand out, I also love the use of colours. What I am not too sure about is the position of the title which I feel like it should have been more centred than it was plus I think it should have been bigger as it looks a little lost with the close up of the lips and the font size of the author.

As soon as I started this book I found it very enjoyable and the more I read the more I fell in love with the whole story. There was a major issue addressed in this book which I don't normally like to read about but I found that Wade did a brilliant job in tackling the issues raised. Even though there was some really dark moments there was some much needed light relief that had me chuckling along with them. The romance side of the story was very well written and I could feel the sparks shooting of the pages even when Brookelyn held herself back (but no one could blame her for that after everything she went through). The only thing wrong with this book was the grammar and spelling as it was really bad in some places and it really

distracted me but I didn't pull the rating down too much as at the end of the day it was independently published and the story was just too good to take the rating down even further.

I loved all the characters that we was supposed to like and hated the ones that we most definitely should. Brookelynn was a fantastic character who was a strong and courageous as well as funny even in her rough times. Wes was one of those 'bad guys' that really have a heart of gold. He was so sweet and there for Brookelynn when she wasn't sure he would be. Both their friends was great and really made the book so much better with all their banter and antics (watch out for the beach ball scene as it is hilarious).

Overall this a book that you should look out for especially if your a fan of Beautiful Disaster.

Dee says

3.5 stars

I received this book for free in exchange for an honest review. I was hooked by the blurb and it didn't disappoint. I really enjoyed this story, the characters were relatable and the drama that is involved is realistic and not over the top. The story involves a terrible situation Brookelyn was put in the previous year which had her transferring universities and swearing off guys. Of course this leads to her meeting two very hot guys that become interested in her.

I loved both Brookelyn and Wes and the relationship that developed. Brookelyn is a strong and determined woman and Wes is thoughtful, loyal and a real hero on many levels. The secondary characters were just as enjoyable to read about. Elle and Savannah are Brookelyn's roommates and Jade was in one of her classes and with their boyfriends become a devoted group that brings a fun element to the story. The group often goes out to frat parties and the local bar and when combining with the two guys after Brookelyn, drama is soon to follow. Once Brookelyn decides on the guy she wants to be with her past integrates with her present leading to the dramatic end.

My only fault with this book and the reason for the lower rating was the spelling and grammar errors throughout the book, which at times had me rereading and trying to interpret what was being conveyed.

I recommend this book to all who love the college scene and the characters journey of self discovery and the ups and downs in their life.

Kate says

I was given an electronic copy of this book by the author in exchange for my honest review.

I just learned that this is Ms. Wade's debut novel, and I am truly impressed. I love me some new adult romance, but am always a bit conflicted when it comes to reading about young college kids-- I love the handsome heroes, but often cringe at the ridiculous behavior of the teens in the books. For the record, it's been about 10 years since I lived in a tenement-style off campus apartment with 8 other co-eds, and about the

same amount of time has passed since I last had a college athlete lick salt and cheap tequila from my belly button. BUT, I don't feel like it's been THAT long that I can't recall what it's like to be at a college party. With that said, not every author can nail the college scene, but I feel like Taylor Wade did exactly that (it does not go unnoticed that the book's title is just kind of perfect)! I liked her descriptions of the people and places around campus-- they had just the right amount of detail to help my mind fill in the blanks with memories of my favorite campus center coffee shop, dive bars and clubs.

In terms of the actual story, I fell for Wes immediately, so extra points to Taylor Wade for creating an instantly likeable (and you know, charming, tattooed, athletic and often shirtless helps too) hero. I liked rooting for Brookelyn and Wes, and their storyline was just the right amount of sweet to keep my clicking to the next page on my Kindle (I don't want to rant, but like I noted above, not everyone can write college characters. There are just SO many stories where all of these guys can't wait to jump into a dramatic relationship with some girl while they fend off the unwanted attention of EVERY other girl on campus). The author did a great job of making Wes romantic, while still likeable and real (Spoiler Alert: Wes talks to a slutty girl at a frat party! Like I said, I'm not that far-removed from college, and if memory serves, boobs get a lot of attention...this pretty much remains a constant in your 30s too).

As an aside, I kind of feel like this book was everything I wanted Beautiful Disaster to be, but just wasn't (seriously, someone explain to me the appeal of that book, because I just don't get it)...

To sum up- great debut by Taylor Wade!

Felicia says

I really enjoyed reading this book!

This was a really well done New Adult novel, especially since this it's the first for this author. I loved how the story starts out with Brooklyn as she meets Gabe, who is more into her than she is him. She is trying her best to stay away from relationships for her last relationship with her boyfriend almost broke her. Her fear that she may find herself in another relationship like her last one is what's holding her back.

Then...we are introduced to Wes. The more I learned about Wes, the more I liked him! Wes was such a great character and had the perfect blend of everything that makes a great male romantic lead. Once Wes is introduced, you may think that this story is a love triangle and some scenes are love triangle-ish, but that is not what this story is about. I loved Brookelyn and Wes together as well as all of their friends. The friendships and interactions were so realistic and the characters really came to life. As the story goes on, Brookelyn's past comes back to haunt her and Wes is by her side - (You will fall even more in love with him!). Brookelyn's past contains some elements that may be hard to read but they were so well written! The description in this book was great - I could see every scene clearly in my head and I appreciate this so much from authors that do this.

I Definitely recommend this book! I enjoyed every minute of it :)

****I was given a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review****

Molly Rensch says

I didn't even make it half way through. terrible

—•(-•The Insomniac Book Hoarder•- says

Received an electronic copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

What can I say? It was entertaining, albeit a draining read, but nonetheless good in its entirety.

Initially, when I saw this book and its premise, I wanted to read it, devour it; It showed such promise. Then, when I read that prologue, I was just as ecstatic- I love my men intense and romantic. But my interest seemed to have waned from then on. The story revolves mostly around Brookelyn Lane, a university student who lives with two female friends; the story mostly consisted of parties, social interaction and boys; as well as an underlying issue that we as readers come to grips later on.

A lot of the storyline consisted of party after party and considering they're all but uni students, we don't get to really feel like they're at university somehow; a filler here or there was added to make up for being in college. In the goodread's synopsis it made it seem like you have two men vying for Brookelyn's attention, which it does- but one of them is gone as soon as the other one came in. So, there goes that, then another guy from B's past comes knocking back in- but no worries, it's no female harem here; just some (view spoiler). She had a pick of three totally different (but somehow also similar) 'men'. And I say men lightly as they still all act like boys in need of some more growing up . One's a cocky smarty pants who too cliche to even be taken seriously, who coincidentally is still on the rebound (view spoiler), the next one is The One; who's apparent bad boy person is too hot to ignore and no matter how many times our heroine's inner monologue tells her that she doesn't need a new love interest in her life, she goes for him anyway- a reformed 'man whore' so to speak. The last and definitely not the least male in Brookelyn's life who I'm going to elaborate because he is basically our denouement in this story..

I didn't really connect with any of the characters, their conversations were somewhat stilted and immature. I found all characters to be one dimensional and shallow; but hey maybe most college students are like that nowadays. There was also a lot of slut shaming during 92% part of the book- this was directed to a female who's been extra attentive to someone's boyfriend and casually touching them. But, damn, the anger was most directed to the female and not so much the male, I mean it's the guy's fault really- he's the one in the relationship not the girl. But, whatever, he was easily forgiven anyways and redeems himself later.

Some spelling and grammatical errors, like mistaking heroin as heroine. But, otherwise an okay debut novel
=)
