



Wake Unto Me

Lisa Cach

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A haunted castle, a handsome young man dead for four hundred years, one heck of a scary portrait of a witch, and a treasure hunt -- not to mention a princess for a roommate! -- all await 15 year old American girl Caitlyn Monahan when she earns a scholarship to a French boarding school.

There are secrets behind the stone walls of Chateau de la Fortune, buried for centuries along with the mystery of who killed Raphael, the charming ghost who visits Caitlyn at night. But as Caitlyn uncovers the history of the castle, nothing scares her as badly as the secret she learns about herself, and the reason she was chosen to come to the Fortune School.

And nothing breaks her heart as badly as falling in love with a dead guy.

Wake Unto Me Details

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Author : Lisa Cach

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From Reader Review Wake Unto Me for online ebook

Misha Mathew says

First I must say this. I can't express how happy I am, to finally see a refreshingly original premise in a YA paranormal romance. I started reading YA novels again less than a year ago, but was already tired of the same stale plot-lines. *Wake Unto Me* doesn't have vampires, werewolves or angels. It doesn't even have a love triangle or a protagonist who annoys you to death. In short, I loved this book!

Caitlyn has always been the odd one out. Her family and peers think she is strange. She has always felt out of place and as not belonging. Is there some place else where she is destined to be? Caitlyn also has dreams so vivid that they are almost real. Sometimes these dreams are nightmares, sometimes pleasant. Her mother, who had the ability to foresee the future, died in an accident. When a mysterious school in France offers her the chance for a full scholarship, she immediately grabs the opportunity. The school turns out to be an ancient castle turned into a school. Within the castle lie long-buried secrets, that Caitlyn is about to uncover and which might hold the key to her destiny.

I loved the author's descriptive writing style, especially the way she has imagined the castle. I have this strange infatuation with gothic castles and am drawn to books such books. The author's description of the castle is breathtaking. I could almost imagine every nook and corner of the castle.

Caitlyn is a wonderful heroine. She's neither one of those spineless whiny female protagonists who evoke a deep desire to knock some sense in to their heads nor is she an over-the-top, almost unrealistically "tough" girl. She's believable and relatable.

Wake Unto Me eloquently combines suspense, history, myth, paranormal elements and romance. Add to that a potential literary crush - Raphael, a ghost who seems more real to Caitlyn than any "real" people. Who is he? Why is he haunting her dreams? Why does it seem like she has known him all his life? Then there is the ghost of a woman supposedly haunting the castle in search of her lost lover. There's enough mystery to keep you turning the pages. There are many twists and turns; you can never guess what will happen next.

Despite this being a dark novel, there are some genuinely humorous moments. For instance, Caitlyn's shock at the "exotic" French food or when she has to draw a naked woman in the art class. The culture shock has been described well. It's very believable since Caitlyn has never been outside her hometown before.

Wake Unto Me is a delicious gothic suspense/romance which you can savour and enjoy. Thanks to the author, I might not give up on paranormal romances just yet.

Overall:

This book combines 3 things I love - gothic suspense, history and France. Of course, I love this book!

Recommended?

Yes! You need to get your hands on this book, as soon as it releases.

Anna says

I almost didn't finish this book. I got really bored at the first few chapters, but I pushed through and ended up semi-enjoying this book.

It starts out with Caitlyn, who's this misfit at her school. What I didn't understand was that she didn't seem to be much of a misfit. She's got a boy asking her to a party and two really good friends, so I don't see what her problem was, but whatever.

She then gets accepted into a French boarding school. *yawn* she makes friends, yada yada. Then there's mysterious guy in her dreams and, here's the shocking part, she falls instantly in love with him! Swoon.... er, not.

And he thinks she's a ghost, and she thinks he's a ghost and there's this moment of confusion where *you* wonder if *you're* a ghost... oh, wait, that doesn't happen. You just wonder if you've died of boredom.

Anyway, and it turns out that her sleeping spirit is a ghost or something that haunts the past, and the present and the future or something, for no apparent reason.

Oh, and I almost forgot. There's this creepy, evil witchy lady who was burned at the stake and her adopted son (Caitlyn's love interest) keeps her heart in a box. Mmmhmm. Yeah. You read that right. Her HEART in a BOX. Just a little weird. He also worships this mother-figure, even though, in my mind, she's pretty darn evil. She kills people and seduces people and overall sounds completely insane and everyone treats her like this victim... um, no. She kind of asked for it.

So, at the end, Raphael (mysterious guy in paragraph #2) dies and Caitlyn goes into this depression and fails all of her classes. Then she finds out that Raphael took over her friend's dead brother's body (ummm, creepy, much? Isn't that something that most bad guys do?) and so she's all happy again and leads the more or less evil headmistress to the Knight's Templar treasure (yep, that made an appearance, too) and then they're all like, "yay" even though this evil lady now has the witchy lady's, Bianca's, heart and will probably rule the world with her mind control powers. Um, what? And Caitlyn's not worried about this at all? *insert eye roll*

So, I think it's pretty obvious what my thoughts were on this book. The biggest part was that Bianca and Mistress Snowe should have at least *seemed* good. They seemed more or less pure evil to me.

Not something I would recommend

Kristi says

Why was I not more aware of this book and it's awesomeness!

Ghosts, romance, an intriguing history and a mystery hundreds of years old.... yeah I'm going to say it again. AWESOME.

This novel was totally not what I was expecting. I think perhaps I was anticipating the same old paranormal romance, but that is not what I got at all. And it was a welcome change!

I have to admit that I wasn't gripped by the story initially, I remember thinking that perhaps I should put this story down... mostly because I wasn't a fan of Caitlyn. I don't belong here, nobody understand me... a sob story I've heard one too many times. But then something happens to Caitlyn, and she gets interesting! And the rest is history!

One of the unexpected things was the history in this novel, I know from the authors notes that most of it was based on places she had been or seen, and that a lot of the story was based on legends, so it's not exactly factual, but it was still very fascinating!

The story was beautifully written. Cach's descriptions of Chateau de la Fortune, in the present and past were utterly enchanting! I felt like I was there along with Caitlyn experiencing the beauty along with her. And I can't fail to mention the many unexpected twists that Cach throws at the reader. Did not see a few of those coming at all! And I do love to be surprised.

Wake Unto Me is an unforgettable story layered in mystery, love and history! You'll be at the edge of the abyss, err I mean, the edge of your seat unraveling this gothic tale!

Krys says

I started Lisa Cach's Wake Unto Me yesterday morning and I just finished it up. It was okay. The book started out with such promise but fell kinda flat two-thirds through.

Caitlyn has always felt out-of-place in Oregon. She studies the past, art and history, like some girls study fashion magazines and pop culture. A good evening to her is reading a book of fine art while listening to Chopin. When she gets an opportunity to study at a prestigious boarding school in France she jumps on it, forsaking America and everything she knows for castles, and fine food, and a chance to immerse herself in culture.

At first the book is a Gothic ghost haunt. Caitlyn sees visions of the past, of the Medici family and Europe of the past. But the book devolves to a Templar treasure hunting story and with it went my attention span. I don't do Knights Templar very well, I'm afraid. Parts of the mythos intrigues me, but overall the bits of knights in the service of God... yeah, my attention veered to say the least. I wanted more of Catherine de Medici and Rafael and the hauntings, and my interested was ill rewarded. Just like that. My interest quite literally deflated in the final 100 pages. I skimmed the latter part of the book.

While not for me, this may interest people for the Gothic quality of the story. And the characters in the school are all intriguing, though a bit flat dimensioned.

3 out of 5 stars. I wish I didn't have to resort to skimming the end.

- review courtesy of www.bibliopunkkreads.com

oliviasbooks says

An unexpected, work-related reading assignment turned up, which I will use as an excuse to abandon this book after 72 pages, *although* I wanted to let it simmer on my bedside table for a while.

Is it so bad, you ask? Oh, it's not bad.

- I just don't care for bordom-school (oops) boarding-school stories at the moment - especially not for those including blue-blooded royal-bitch-room-mates
- the moody, goth-like, thrift-store addicted, I-am-different-from-everybody-else-where-is-my-great-destiny-invite-me-to-a-french-castle heroine, who in my mind looks like Emily the Strange, grates on my nerves
- the evil or not so evil sisterhood searching for "The Dark One" promised in their prophecy switched on all the cliché-screamers inside of my head and alerted my suspicion-mode
- I wanted a cute ephemeral ghost and got a solid Medici-time guy visited during time-travelling dreams.

Go ahead: buy and read it, but read the description first and forget about the cover. It has been switched at birth.

Nic, don't you buy the book. I'll mail it next week.

Morgan F says

15-yr-old Caitlyn Monahan is bored with her life in rural Oregon. She's interested in classical music, art history, period novels, not pop culture and boy drama. When she is offered a full-scholarship at a boarding school in France, she leaps on it. Anything that might introduce her to a more exciting life and a chance to meet her Prince Charming. However, life at the Fortune School isn't as idyllic as she would hope. Caitlyn has always been plagued by frightening and realistic dreams, which she thinks are the result of having a prophetic mother. Now her dreams are becoming more and more intense, immersing her in a world 400 years in the past, a world where powerful women are burned at the stake and young men wear armor on horseback. Caitlyn is thrown into a mystery involving the Fortune School, the de Medicis, and a handsome young man named Raphael.

I think this book is marketed poorly. Its portrayed as a ghostly romance story, but its really not, at least for the first two-thirds of the story. For the majority of the book it is a historical mystery, something I particularly enjoyed. I can see how it might be boring though, to those not interested in the genre. The novel also didn't follow the stereotypical girl-goes-to-boarding-school-finds-out-she-is-special story line. Yes, there were elements in there, such as the smug bitchy girls, but for some reason it just didn't read like standard YA. The tone was different, and it definitely held my interest.

I did not like Caitlyn, however. Her whole thing was "No one understaaaaands me. I'm too original. I shop vintage!". She is exactly the same as every other frighteningly dull teenage girl, except her taste in music and clothing was "cultured". She was not anything special, and she lacked spunk and (to play off the book's French setting) *joie de vivre*. Boohoo boohoo, Caitlyn, go whine up someone else's tree. Oh, and I also didn't like how her one main goal in life was to get a guy. Realistic to a vapid teenage girl, perhaps, but it still made her seem shallow. I mean, she's going to live in fucking France and her main concern is finding a hot guy? Remind me, why is she the heroine again? Oh, cuz she is the one that's gots the powahs. Got ya.

Actually, pretty much all the characters lacked life and dimensionality. The most likable for me anyway was Naomi, but that is not saying much seeing as she was also as flat as a penny on the railroad tracks. And the romance between Raphael and Caitlyn was ehhhhhhh. At first I was like, are they actually going to take it

slow for once? How can THIS BE? And then before you know it, they were all up in each other's personal spaces saying how they can't live without each other. Damn, I should have shut off my sarcasm valve. I think I jinxed it. And then Caitlyn got all depressed and shit when she thinks Raphael dies (slight spoiler here, but whatevs). Its like YOU MET HIM LIKE THREE TIMES. And you didn't even know if he truly existed for most of them!! Way to be a Bella, Caitlyn.

Also, I felt like Caitlyn either was slow on the uptake or jumped to miraculous conclusions given few facts. Are you a genius or TSTL? Decide.

Overall, it was different but at the same time painfully disappointing. It has a different vibe from the other YA paranorms (even if this review provides examples to the contrary), but it still wasn't that great. The best aspect for me, easily, was the de Medici/Templar/historical mystery thing. I like me history.

Zemira (Kylo Ren fangirl) Warner says

Even though I'm a sucker for boarding schools and goth-like characters in the end it wasn't what I hopped it would be.

The beginning was interesting, unfortunately it didn't stay that way for long.

What I hated the most was that Caitlyn fell in love with Raphael so fast. It was like: *"I'm driving to my school for the first time; oohhh there's a guy on a horse, I feel somehow connected to him; what now, I am dreaming of him, he can use a sword, I can see him taking a bath, I am so embarrassed, he is the guy I was saving myself for..."*

Okay...

[image error]

Chelle (crazytrinket) says

Wake Unto Me is a story of an ordinary girl (Caitlyn) who is having a freakish nightmare. She wanted something different in her life so when she received an invitation/scholarship to study in a French boarding school, she immediately jump in to the idea. There she discovered a lot about herself and the mysteries surrounding her dreams. She met a very gorgeous guy Raphael, who haunts her in her dreams. And of course, they fell in love. Instalove should I say. And also somehow she discovered that she is a lot special than what she thought she is. Sounds familiar right?

Well although the plot of this story is too similar with the other paranormal/fantasy genre books that I've read, I still kind of like reading it, but just a little bit. Be warned that this is definitely a slow paced book. I think that the story only got interesting when I reached the final 100 pages. I nearly gave up on this, but in the end I decided to just finish reading it and be done with it.

Now the writing style is pretty ok, I like the historical aspects of the story. She did in fact incorporate the info about The Knights Templar and the missing treasure in the story but I don't think it was explored well. I need more details, but sadly it was not delivered. It is a pretty well wrapped-up but found the ending a little bit rushed and too conventional. It was like she did that just to have a happy ending but I found it awkward and unrealistic. Though I must admit that I am pretty much surprised about the mysteries of Caitlyn's life

when it was finally revealed, I sure didn't expect that.

If you want a paranormal, ghost story with a touch of history, go ahead and give it a try.

Leilani Lopez says

I want a boy from 400 years ago... As long as he is my my dreams first!

Cach really knows how to write a boy who is 400 years older than you, you can only see him in your dreams, an excellent treat!

Right after reading the Prologue, I was hooked. Like most Prologues, it left me questioning and wanting more! After Chapter 1, the book had all of my attention. I sat at my brothers football practice, reading instead of watching him as I should have. This wasn't the first time I've seen him, nothing stopped me from reading *Wake Unto Me*.

The setting of the boarding school in France was well written and beautifully imagined. As was the characters of Caitlyn and her dream boy. The character of Caitlyn Monahan or as the kids of at her high school call her, Caitlyn Moan N Groan, was a pleasure reading about. Caitlyn is a girl who was the out cast at her high school and never thought she would get to have an adventure. Her dream boy was just living his life 400 years ago and thought of nothing until her met this girl who comes and goes at her convenience. What he did not know, was he was actually the dream in this story. Though he was supposed to be the knight in shining armor, but in the end, who was really saving who?

I found quite a bit of Caitlyn in myself as I continued the adventure in *Wake Unto Me*. I appreciated the imagery between the present and the past. While the setting was the same, the actions of the characters were very different and lovely.

Wake Unto Me was a memorable read in which I devoured at my brothers football practice. For those who may not know how long that is, it's two hours. It not only made me laugh out loud, gasp, and sigh but had my mom who was with me tempted to steal the book out of my hands and start reading herself. Cach proves that nothing can keep you away from true love. Even if you are sixteen, at a boarding school, and in a foreign country. Not only is can you find love in a foreign country, but even in the most unlikely place.

Girls, and maybe even boys, *Wake Unto Me* is an eye opening love story in which you will never look at "historical" love stories the same again.

~Tina~ says

What I thought was suppose to be a haunting love story, turned out to be something different, and not at all what I was expecting. It's not necessarily a bad thing, but sadly I couldn't love this as much as I wanted too. Lisa Cach is a very skilled writer and the dedication to her historical details was very impressive. But I found it a bit to formal and dry and it didn't quite have that desired punch to keep me engaged.

The plot line is very clever and I enjoyed the ghostly mysteries, but then the storyline moved on to religion and the treasure of The Knights Templar...which isn't something I'm to familiar with and even though I did find it somewhat interesting, I didn't find it captivating.

While I liked the idea of Caitlyn and Raphael, I had a hard time connecting with them and felt there romance wasn't believable, even for a paranormal story.

Basically, I just don't think this one was for me.

With that said, I still think anyone who enjoys historical, supernatural and mystery should find **Wake Unto Me** an entertaining read, I think I was just expecting something entirely different.

Nic says

• • •

I really wanted to like this. I had heard so many great reviews on blogs but I was BORED. I felt like I was studying a history book. It may have just been due to the fact that historical genre is not my thing (but then again I have just read two historical books this week and loved them) so I don't think that is the case. The concept had potential but it needed to have writing that flowed effortless.

Thank you to Olivia for sending me a copy

Sandra says

Caitlin Monahan described herself as freaky. Even though she has friends and a family who loves her, she still felt she didn't belong because of her freakiness.

Dreams were always a constant companion of Caitlin. She never knew or understood what it meant so she kept a journal for her dreams. Her dreams were mostly nightmares, ghastly figures who scream at her which was why she called them Screechers.

Everything changed when she received a scholarship to a prestigious school in France. Her dreams were becoming more and more real like Raphael, the gorgeous adoptive son of Bianca de Medici who was burned at stake as a witch.

The longer that Caitlin stayed at Chateau de la Fortune, the more she learns about the mystery of the castle, the people who owned it and herself.

Wake Unto Me definitely was one of the most interesting books I have read so far.

Really interesting!

At first, I thought it was another YA paranormal ghost story.

It's not!

Ms Kach gave a whole new twist to the concept of ghosts. I was surprised at how much I thought it was possible to be dead and alive at the same time. It was just gorgeous. How everything came together at the end of the book was fantastic. I never expected it to end the way it did. At first I thought Caitlin just was

time travelling and this book would somehow be similar to one of my favorites, Timeless, but it's not. She was time travelling but there was more to the story than just that.

This book was full of all my favorite genres: romance, mystery, the gothic feel and history. At the author's notes at the back of the book, she gave her sources of information and which ones were based on true historical facts and which weren't. If I didn't read that, I wouldn't have guessed that some of the historical snippets from the book were just fiction. That was how well-woven everything was in this book.

At first I didn't really like Caitlin much. She thinks so badly of herself. She felt like she didn't belong and nobody wants her and stuff like that but as the story progressed she became a very likeable character.

Raphael was well... Unbelievably gorgeous! Hahaha. Well, I always fall for the guys rather than the girls in books I read. One thing I like about his was his faith in people. I admired him more because of that.

Caitlin's friends, Amalia and Naomi, were too hmm... How would I say it? Excited? They weren't skeptical as most people would be when you tell them about something supernatural. It wasn't normal. Well anyways, I liked them so I'll stop at that.

Ms Kach's writing style was impeccable. She described Chateau de la Fortune precisely as if it was real. As I was reading it, I felt sort of an ache to see the place for myself. Also, I loved her new take on how ghost were like. It was UNIQUE. There were so many things in this book that I wasn't expecting which is totally an awesome thing!

I would like to congratulate Ms Kach for doing a great job. Most of the books released nowadays were series, it's a good thing this one wasn't. This book was so rich with everything that I got me curious as to how she made everything fit in just one book.

4.5!

Savannah (Books With Bite) says

I LOVED THIS BOOK! It may not seem like a dark book, but it is. Everything in it was so surprising and emotional I want to read it again just for the pleasure of it.

Caitlyn Monahan has vivid dreams. Dreams that are real. And in her dreams she meets him. Haunted by her dreams and thoughts by him Caitlyn takes an opportunity to go to a boarding school in France, but once she gets there, her dreams are worse. All of the sudden, her dreams are so real she can't tell the different anymore. And what's worse is now she is falling for someone in her dream. Caitlyn discovers secret about the boarding school she is at. Secrets that have to do with her.....

This book was just amazing! The plot, the writing, my goodness even the twist and turns I did not see was just awesome. This book was written so suspensefully it had me at the edge of my seat! I could not, would not, put this book down. I stayed up half the night just to finish it. And I was glad that I did.

Ms. Kach did a superb job writing this. I can't express how good this book is! I was just amazed, hooked, taken by surprise, and just totally awed by this story.

This is a must read and you should most definitely pick this up.

Nhi Nguy?n says

I came to this book expecting to read a haunting love story. Instead, I got a bizarre journey to find a long lost treasure and a girl's soul traveling through times. I mean, how ridiculous does that sound? The description of this book didn't truly reflect what the book is about, and I blame whoever wrote this description. And I think this explains why the book receives such low rating on Goodreads, despite having very promising plot and premise.

I may have been felt like I was cheated and lied to, but I would totally welcome a story that is different from what I wish to read, as long as it's engaging and exciting. Instead, "Wake Unto Me" was a boring mess that wasn't captivating, uplifting or, inspiring. Everything was written in a dry way, and all the parts or details isn't linked to each other in a coherent manner. The romance wasn't described thoroughly, and I felt like it was an unnecessary part. I found it hard to follow the story, and after some time, I didn't know what I was reading. I skimmed through the last few chapters just to see what the ending turned out to be, and to be honest, it was kinda cliché and ridiculously predictable.

The only good thing about this book is the history background that the author injected into her novel. The story about all the conspiracies in France and Italy's medieval time is very entertaining, although the author got the details about Bianca de' Medici wrong - she was dead at the age of 6, as the author wrote in the Author's Note part.

Bibek Thapa says

3 1/2 stars

The best thing about this book is how everything comes together in the end. It's like the satisfaction that you get once you've finished a very complicated puzzle. My only problem was the romance: it just felt a little forced. And the main character sometimes was a little too obsessed with finding her "Knight". Other than that it was pretty decent read.
