



# Vérité

*Rachel Blaufeld*

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## Vérité Rachel Blaufeld

That's me—Tingly Simmons—athlete, foreign-language major, professor lover, obsessed idiot girl. Definitely not a frat rat or sorority slut. I've never even played beer pong.

I ditched the vapid, soulless high-society life of Los Angeles for the promise of something more meaningful in rural Ohio. Accepting a track scholarship for college, I tried running my way to happiness, but instead I ended up sleeping with my French professor and falling head over heels for him.

When that relationship fell apart, so did I.

Barely hanging on by a thread and using the most absurd coping skills, I was determined to hide behind my past indiscretions. That was, until I met Tiberius Jones. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd learn the truth about love from a six-foot-five basketball player.

## Vérité Details

Date : Published June 2015 by Rachel Blaufeld Publishing

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Author : Rachel Blaufeld

Format : Kindle Edition 280 pages

Genre : New Adult, Romance, Sports and Games, Sports, Academic, College, Contemporary Romance, Sports Romance, Contemporary

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## From Reader Review Vérité for online ebook

### ♥ Jx PinkLady Reviews ♥ says

The cover is so beautiful.....

Verite is the love story of Tingly Simmons, an athlete and foreign-language student, and a talented Basketball player called Tiberius Jones who is sweet, caring and relatively innocent....

In her recent past Tingly has made a few ill advised decisions, one that left her devastated. She's now searching for something meaningful in her life and to move on from past mistakes and misplaced loyalties. She's searching for the truth about love.... The question is, will she find it?

This College set sports New Adult drama began with engaging dry anecdotal story telling. There are moments throughout the story that I enjoyed. The premise is one that I found both interesting and appealing and the ethos behind Verite is lovely. With the opening chapters the author drew me in with her beautifully written prose and made me smile but as the story progressed I began to feel a slight disconnect to the feel of it. I've tried to consider why because, in truth, many of my reviewing friends, including people whose perspective I hugely respect, have enjoyed this story to a far higher level than myself. I didn't always feel fully invested in elements of the story arc. I found the heroine to be irksome and somewhat immature in her ways and her parent's story line didn't quite work for me so unfortunately a large part of the angst impact was lost on my emotions.

The hero is undoubtedly the highlight of the story for me. He's so sweet and there are some lovely moments between the protagonists that will appeal to readers of College romances.

The sentiment of the story is beautiful and if New Adult is your first love when it comes to reading then this author will no doubt tick many boxes with her sporting story of love and truth.

### Excerpt

(view spoiler)

\* Amazon US \* Amazon UK \*

Advanced copy provided by the author, via Flirty Subs PR Services, in exchange for my honest review thoughts.

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## TeriLyn says

\*\**Verite* generously provided in exchange for an honest review.\*\*

It's LIVE! *Verite*

### 5+++ "That's pure good, babe." Stars

This author keeps getting better and better! What I love about stories written by Rachel Blaufeld stems from the honesty and forthrightness from her characters. Each character she writes presents itself to the reader as someone real, someone who's fighting a battle, making hard choices and owning up to their faults.

A New Adult stand-alone romance novel, *Verite* excels in the genre. Rachel Blaufeld broke the bad boy/good girl mold with a story about a broken, self-perceived bad girl in Tingly Simmons and a strong, kind, gentle giant in Tiberious Jones. Through her exquisitely honest and poignant writing, Blaufeld blazes through racial stereotypes and taboo affairs to provide a truly captivating, heart melting tale of the forever kind of love.

Told strictly from her point of view, Tingly Simmons shows us she just wants to be loved. As a young woman on the brink of personal freedom, she felt attention and worth from a man unwilling to give her the right kind of relationship. Wanting so badly to be loved, Tingly makes a colossal mistake shaping her emotionally and scarring her from understanding the true essence of the emotion. I commend Rachel Blaufeld to highest degree possible because Tingly Simmons is not a heroine I'd usually love but I do, I LOVE HER. Her self-deprecation feels completely genuine, the motivation behind her actions completely warrant her behavior. Everything about this character feels true to the story and the character herself. She owns her mistakes, she uses them as a shield to protect herself from feeling and it helps progress her growth throughout the story. I understood Tingly in such a way that I was prohibited in finding fault with her actions. A testament to the great writing and honest character development of this author.

Tiberious Jones. My feelings for this hero run deep. He's a true hero to Tingly. He breaks down her barriers. He's honest and kind. Tiberious is a quintessential good guy. If there were more men in the world like Tiberious Jones, the world would be a better place. He's the guy you hope your son grows up to emulate. He's the guy that scares away the demons in Tingly's head and pushes her to believe in the self-worth she inherently knows she possesses. He refuses to let Tingly run and hide from something true and real. He constantly fights for what he believes. He stands up for himself. He's appreciative of his past and the fortunes his mother worked to provide. He has no room for stereotypes or frivolous judgment. The man literally staves off heart ache. Tiberious Jones forces Tingly to believe in not only herself but in the fairytale while concurrently gives the readers hope for their own personal fairytales.

Rachel Blaufeld is so very good at "real" fairytales. Her characters are true themselves. They carry the

simple plot of the story forward so gracefully. She surrounds them with strong secondary characters who you want to be friends with too. Friends whom defend and love her main characters just as the readers do. This author never leaves out the mistakes we as humans make especially at this vulnerable time period in our lives. She doesn't sugarcoat the consequences or make light of one's own failures but rather uses them to provide an example, a base to grow and achieve greatness.

Rachel Blaufeld achieved her own greatness with *Verite* by breaking stereotypical boundaries that shouldn't even be in there in the first place. She achieves greatness with blunt honesty and vulnerability in her exquisite writing because *Verite* is as honest and real as a NA romance can get and it's absolutely stunning.

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### **Paige says**

*Verité* was a wonderfully unique NA read. Take what you usually know about NA and twist it all up. Here the hero is the one doing the chasing while the heroine is the one trying to find her way. I loved that Ty never gave up on Tingly (best character name ever btw) and that he was dedicated to her even when she would get scared and run. I loved that Ty wasn't typical and while Tingly did get a bit frustrating at times, I understood that she had things she had to overcome. Plus the ending was just so smiley. Can't wait to read *Dolce*, the next standalone in this series. I think I've found a new author and series that will be a favorite.

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### **Michelle says**

\*ARC provided by the author for an honest review\*

This was just great I could put it down Rachel just keeps getting better an better

This story is about Tingly she as had a pretty messed up life so far an she is only just turnin 21 she is a really bright girl she's has an athletic scholarship an knows 3 foreign languages she as had a really shitty yr she made the mistake of fallin 4 her French teacher Pierre an got caught she thought the world of him but he just left her then her spleen failed and had 2 have a op on that there is only so much someone could take but this was the start of an new yr so she just wanted 2 get on with her work an enjoy her running she knew everyone knew what had happened with her an Pierre but she just kept her head down

With everything that had happened last yr Tingly had 2 go back an do study hall it was part of the scholarship this is where she bumped into the gorgeous Tiberius he is on the basketball team an he seem 2 like her but Tingly doesn't want 2 get close 2 anyone after goin through the shit yr an then goin through therapy but Ty c her differently an she finds it hard 2 believe but she just keeps pushin him away even though she does think he would b what she needs so just not sure if she can do it again

I thought this story was really really good I did like Tingly even though she can b a lil annoyin at times but her parents an just bastards I can't believe the things they will do 4 money it's just sick an then the whole Pierre stuff was so hard on her an then the way she grow up with her shitty parent an they wonder why she was wild an ended up leaving 2 live on her own she is a really strong character an I do like that about her the only thing at did annoy me was the way she just kept pushin Ty away even after everything he does u just

know hes a great guy

Tiberius/Ty is just so caring sexy an would just do anything 4 u his carin side is so cute it just made me luv his character I just could get enough of him even with the stuff that Tingly as been through he doesn't care the past is the past but al Tingly ever does is run it another thing this man as is patience cause thing get rough between then she just runs an it's so annoyin cause there so good 2gether sexy time is hot an the kissin is hot but Ty just won't just up on them

The book is really well written an the story is filled with everything u need 4 a great story the characters were great an not just the main 1 I would luv more from Jamel an Stacey I liked the way that got put in so I would luv 2 know what happened there but I would high recommend this book an the rest of her books there great xxx

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### **Jen says**

#### **3.75 Conflicted Stars**

***“Vérité . . . that’s the first time anyone has ever given me that,” I half mumbled, half whispered to myself.***  
***“What?”***

***“The truth. You’re the first person to give me the truth.”***

Time for some big time honesty. This book had my emotions all over the place and it's taken me over a week to get my thoughts in order. Not necessarily because of the big time feels this story evoked, though at times it most definitely did, but more because of what I *wasn't* feeling. Confused yet? Me, too but here goes nothing.

***“I’m not who you want to be friends with, because I’m not right. And by not right, I mean fucked up in the head all the way down to my soul.”***

Tingly Simmons has spent the past year trying to get her life together. After an affair with her engaged professor is publicly exposed and she's forced to take a year off from both her studies and track team, the beginning of a new academic year finds her at a bit of a crossroads. Questionable life choices and an unstable relationship with her parents have left her floundering and wondering who the hell she is. Is she the girl who uses sex to manipulate and get what she wants? Why does everything that matters to her seem to turn toxic in a hurry? These thoughts seem to run in a constant loop and to say homegirl is feeling lost and confused would be an extreme understatement.

***God, he was such a contradiction. A muscular wall of an athlete with a hard body and clearly an iron will, yet a soft heart and the grin of a little boy.***

Tiberius "Ty" Jones, unlike Tingly, isn't confused about a damn thing. At school on a basketball scholarship, he's had a clear vision of what he hopes to achieve from the moment he set foot on campus. Meeting Tingly and wanting her is no different and he knows with certainty she's meant to be in his life. Whether Tingly thinks that's a good idea or not.

Yep, even though Ty is sweet, smart, resilient and hot as hell, our gal Tingly resists any kind of relationship with him. You know, because even a friendship could poison all that's good in Ty's life. Lather, rinse and repeat. This goes on for a loooong time and I found myself wanting to shake the ever loving shit out of Tingly more than once.

***"Shh, don't ruin it. You don't have to be the big, bad Tingly for me. I missed you, and that's it. Don't say it back. Don't give some explanation. And don't run away."***

Bottom line, what did I love? One word: Ty! It's not often I find myself swooning like a pervy cougar over a twenty year old but I'm not ashamed to admit Ty brought the major swoons. Yes, I had some of those pervy moments but I was also struck by how damn *good* of a person he was. His life had been anything but easy up to this point and he still managed to keep his head above water and triumph.

On the flip side, I never found myself connecting with Tingly and therefore couldn't understand why Ty was so hell bent on having a relationship with her. She pushed him away and ran from him **Every. Damn. Time** they started to get close and because this story's told from Tingly's POV, I never caught the gist of what was so special about her that had Ty pushing for more.

This could've easily been a 3 Star read for me and though I didn't connect with Tingly, I still thought the writing was excellent. It's difficult to keep me reading a book where the main character doesn't really float my boat but Rachel Blaufeld managed to do just that. I found myself becoming invested in this couple and ultimately rooting for their HEA.

*Copy provided by the author in exchange for an honest review*

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### **Christy says**

#### **4.5 stars!**

This is the second book I've read by Rachel Blaufeld. I enjoyed the first, but this was so much better for me. I really connected with the characters and loved the direction the story took. It's a wonderful NA coming of age book and one that will stay with me.

Tingly is coming off a rough year. She's made some poor decisions in the past, but she's determined to turn it around. To focus on school and track (she's an athlete on scholarship). While doing some mandatory study sessions, she meets Tiberius Jones. A new guy on the basketball team. Ty likes Tingly right away. There is something about this girl that makes him want to reach out and be friends with her. Tingly doesn't make that easy for him.

Ty befriends Tingly and gives her the nickname T Rex (which sounds a bit silly but I absolutely loved). He brings her into his fold with the basketball team and even though it's a bit rocky at first, he gives her a place to belong. A new normal. A group of friends that are like family.

I love stories about falling in love. Ones that aren't rushed and where you can actually see and feel it happening. Once Ty talks his Rex into becoming friends with him, it's not long before she's falling. Even though she tries really hard not to. Ty is a persistent guy. He's genuinely a good person. He was raised the right way and it shows. I adored his character. Tingly did things that irked me, but in the end she always came around.

This is not your every day sports romance. It's not just a book about an interracial couple. It's so much more than that. I loved the writing style, the flow of the book and the characters. Even the ones that took me longer to like, I ended up loving in the end. These characters aren't perfect (well, Ty is pretty close) but they're real. I know this is a stand-alone but I'm hoping down the line Blaufeld will give us some spin offs- a Jamel, Trey or Lamar book ;)

If you like sports romances, coming of age stories and/or new adult reads, this is one I would highly recommend!

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### **Mandy says**

4.25-4.5 stars

Tingly hasn't made the best choices in life. Just last year, she got caught having sex with her French professor in his office. A year later, after therapy and some time to recover, she's back on the track team and ready to get her life back together. She's not looking for a relationship, she doesn't do relationships anyways. Tiberius is a freshman basketball player. He's not like the other guys on the team, he doesn't do hookups. He's kind, sweet and thoughtful. He's exactly what Tingly needs, even though she doesn't know it.

I really enjoyed this story and the main reason why is Tiberius. He was perfect! Tingly and Ty were opposites and kind of a role reversal from typical books in the genre. Tingly is the more experienced sexually and has used it to her advantage over the years. Ty is a one-woman type guy and sex needs to mean something to him. There is instant chemistry between these characters. Tingly was not my favorite heroine, she ran away too much and I didn't like the way she treated Ty in the beginning but as the book progresses and you get to know her, it makes sense why she is the way she is. Ty is incredibly patient, more so than she deserves at times and he really brings out the best in Tingly. I also really liked the supporting characters. I look forward to reading more by this author.

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### **Beverly says**

*Vérité* is the story of two college athletes at Hafton University and that's about the only thing these two have in common at first glance.

Ty is a basketball player, from ghetto in New York and has the reputation as being a great guy. He is the exact opposite of Tingly. See Tingly is a track star, from an affluent family, and has a reputation as a slut. Together they are quite the contradiction.

Ty doesn't care about Tingly's past or reputation he sees something in her and wants to be friends. It's an uphill battle for sure, because Tingly can be very difficult to say the least.

What impresses me most about this story is the character development and slow build of their relationship. There is no insta-love, plenty of awkward moments and growing pains. I loved feeling like I knew the characters and seeing their growth.

My absolute favorite part of this story is Ty. He is 5 star fantastic! He seriously made me swoon so many times. He is protective, honest and just a good guy. He is forgiving and trusting, he honestly made this story for me. Tingly is a little bit more difficult to love and did wear on me, but in the end I did really enjoy falling in love with the Ty and Tingly.

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### **Arabella ~?AB?~ says**

**★★★★ 4 Stars ★★★★**

Now LIVE!

Amazon US: <http://amzn.com/B00ZM532HG>

Amazon UK: <http://amzn.to/1G3fTay>

This is a story of 2 athletes, both of which have come from entirely different backgrounds.

Tingly hails from LA and is from a family who are high in the social standings, where only outer appearances and reputation matter. She is on a track scholarship at a college in Ohio, so very far away from the people and lifestyle she hates. A girl who only wants to be loved for who she is, she is recently back from some time away, after being caught naked with her French professor. She is ashamed that everybody knows that she slept with her teacher, and mortified that she thought that what they had was love.

One day whilst at study hall, she meets a Freshman basketball player who wants to get to know her, but she cannot fathom why and tries her hardest to avoid him.

Tiberius is from Brooklyn, NY and on a Basketball scholarship. He grew up in the hood, with a single mother who fought for him to be a good person and to fit in and make something good for his life.

Ty refuses to let Tingly push him away, her coping mechanism is to run and boy does she like to run.

Let me tell you about my love/hate relationship with this book:-

1. Love = Tiberius aka Ty was a big sweet giant, who had compassion and morals (unlike his fellow team members, who were all dirty players, although somewhat loveable). He made the book for me, his determination to get through to the sweet but feisty girl that he was drawn to was admirable, he really fought for his girl. Also, he was a complete gentleman which is quite unusual in books these days.

2. Hate = Tingly aka Rex was one of the most annoying heroines IMO. She was a bitch, and I understand it was a self defence mechanism, but she didn't really have that many redeeming qualities, she just annoyed me when she kept running when the going got tough with Ty.

Overall though, I really enjoyed reading this book. It was engaging and I loved the flow of the writing and the fact that it was a bit different to other sports romances out there at the moment. Once Tingly got over herself, the romance between her and Ty was adorable and gave me a big fat smile. I would love to read more about Jamel, Lemar and Trey, Ty's team mates.

**This is a standalone new adult novel, told in Tingly's POV.**

*ARC gratefully received from the author in exchange for an honest review*

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### **Polly says**

Why did it take me so long to read this one? I loved it!

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### **S.M. West says**

#### **5 Vérité STARS**

It's always extra special when you go into a book looking forward to it and just get blown away! **Wow, this one just crept up on me and stole my breath away. I simply loved this story. This is one of my favourite books for the year!**

The tale is simple. Tingly Simmons (aka T-Rex,) born filthy rich, could have anything and everything money could buy but having someone (family, friend or otherwise) to care for her, love her, be real with her and honest with her is something she's only dreamed of.

Screaming for attention, Rex does what many would do in her shoes, she seeks any kind of attention (all bad) to feel something, cause a stir and piss her parents off, which frankly, I totally think they deserve. In the

process, she degrades herself and chips away at any self-worth she may have.

Coming back from a year of therapy and being red shirted from the track team for a major indiscretion with her French professor, Rex crosses paths with Tiberius Jones (aka Ty).

**I so want to describe to you the beauty that's all Ty but you MUST experience him for yourself.** He's this freshman, basketball star with youth and innocence when it comes to the opposite sex yet he's got this protective, take charge, and honest nature that was so beautiful, refreshing and mature.

Ty...

Ms. Blaufeld created two completely opposite characters both with their own flaws and challenges that are just so captivating, real and raw. This story she's crafted and gifted anyone that reads **it is the beauty of truth, of being real with another, soul to soul.** And while so simple in theory, it's not easy to find and when you do, it's a rare thing of beauty, which is exactly what's she's given us.

**"Feel that Rex? That's my heart beating for you. You can push and shove and run and whatever other stupid shit you want, but I'm coming for you."**

**"I like you too, Ty, but I don't get why me?"**

**""Cause you're not into me for my jump shot or my jersey. 'Cause you got the best smile when you let it come out. 'Cause you're kick-ass fast in your running shoes. 'Cause you're tough and sweet, but don't even know it."**

I highly recommend this book. If you love deep, sweet, moving and memorable romances, this is for you! This was an alley oop for me!

\*\*ARC generously provided by author in exchange for an honest review.\*\*

**For more reviews and blog posts.**

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**Val Shameless ?? Steamy Reads ?? says**

The cover gets a million stars, because GORGEOUS.

The book itself gets a strong solid 4 stars.

Full review to come...

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## **Claire Robinson says**

### **4 - "Be extra-ordinary." Stars!**

It wasn't a real surprise to me that I absolutely adored *Vérité*. This isn't the first book I have read by Rachel Blaufeld and I know for certain it won't be the last.

### **"Let's think of the now."**

There is one thing that you can guarantee, and that is that this is an author who takes the standard and popular tropes and gives them a unique and refreshing spin. Once again I was absolutely blown away by the level and skill of the author's storytelling and depth of characterization for Tingly and Ty's romance.

### **"Feel that? That's my heart beating for you."**

Both athletes, trying to make their way through college, and whilst Ty is a Basketball player, Tingly is a runner, but not just on the track, in every sense of the word. If things get difficult Tingly is the first off the blocks and out the door.

### **"Leave your running for the track. Leave your past where it belongs... in the dirt. If you're gonna run, run to me, to your future, to being happy."**

You can understand why, when pretty much everyone in her life and her past has dumped on her from a great height or used her for their own agenda. And I must admit I was worried that this '*Cut and Run*' type of relationship would get repetitive in it's telling for me, but with everything else they had going on as a couple it actually added more depth to their eventual coming together in all senses of the word.

### **"Want you, all of you. Not just once or twice, or just for fun. Want all of you... The naughty and the nice, especially the nice, because I'm scared to death I'm going to screw up and not be the man you need when it comes to the naughty..."**

There is a massive amount of charm and vulnerability to both of these characters, and it was nice to see the author mix it up in relation to who was the inexperienced one in the relationship. You cannot help but feel empathy for them both, for everything they experience as individuals, on top of everything they have to deal with and get through on the path of becoming a solid couple.

Loved it, can't wait to sink my teeth into *Dolce*, the next book in the *Love at Centre Court* series, due for release on 21st January 2016.

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## **Rachel says**

\*\*\*Truth & Love - do they work together?

Tiberius is so special. HOPE you have a chance to meet him!

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**Michelle says**

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[image error]

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