



## Trace Evidence: A Virals Short Story Collection

*Kathy Reichs, Brendan Reichs*

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**Trace Evidence: A Virals Short Story Collection** Kathy Reichs , Brendan Reichs  
**A collection of four short stories based on the Virals series from *New York Times* bestselling authors, Kathy Reichs and Brendan Reichs!**

Fans of the Virals series will be thrilled with this companion volume that includes three short stories originally published as eSpecials as well as an all-new, never-before-seen Virals adventure! *Shift*, *Swipe*, *Shock* and the new story *Spike* give further glimpses of the Virals' world as they work with Tory's famous great aunt, Temperance Brennan, to solve more mysteries, take a look at where it all started before they became Virals, and get to the bottom of an attempted sabotage at Kit and Whitney's wedding.

## Trace Evidence: A Virals Short Story Collection Details

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Author : Kathy Reichs , Brendan Reichs

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## **From Reader Review Trace Evidence: A Virals Short Story Collection for online ebook**

### **Ashley says**

This was everything I needed after I finished Terminal (the last book in the Virals series). It was sweet and hilarious. It definitely adds to the overall series.

I would recommend that you read this after you read Terminal, but if you just can't wait, here is a reading order recommendation:

1st story: can be read any time

2nd & 3rd story: after the second book in the series

4th story: you should only read this after Terminal, because this takes place after Terminal and contains major spoilers.

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### **Ayan says**

This reminded me why the Virals series is one of my favorites!

All stories were just so much fun to read, and it felt like re-reading books the again, but actually not because it was a completely different story. It was just awesome for them to work together again, sleuthing and solving mysteries. Even though, compared to the actual book way less risky and dangerous- it was still nice to read and to see my favorite characters again. I missed Tory, Ben, Shelton, and Hiram; they were such a smart and hilarious group.

Plus I had to read that last story, because Terminal ended in a cliffhanger! (view spoiler)

If you like sci-fi books, and books about kick-ass teenagers with crazy-awesome abilities solving crimes then please do yourself a favor and read Virals!

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### **Nessa says**

Of course, I loved these stories. And I liked the way Spike finished the series.

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### **Daisy says**

Quality Rating: Four Stars

Enjoyment Rating: Four Stars

The Virals series has been one of my favourites for years. Considering it's one of the only young adult science-based mystery adventures with a female protagonist and diverse cast out there, I would happily throw it at just about anyone to read. Admittedly, the short stories aren't as good as the actual novels, and

they petered out in believability towards the end, but they're well worth the read and more than worth recognition. The fact that this is pretty much the only novel with a heroine who is damn clever, ambitious and acknowledge as both by herself and those around her is so important.

As a side note specifically about this collection: I did not realise how much I needed that final novella to satisfy me. The book wrapped up the sci-fi adventure elements of the story, but there was so much left between the characters unsaid. Spike fulfilled that and damn the payoff felt good. I can leave this series in happiness now.

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### **Beatrice says**

Wow, just wow! This was an amazing comeback from Kathy Reichs (I was really lucky to meet her in November)! The first story was my second favourite, it made me laugh and cry, I read it really fast. Then, in the second one, we got to see again the detective aspect of the books and the Virals. Even though it's my least favourite, I still enjoyed a lot seeing for the last time the pack solving a crime. Then, oh gosh... the Virals at ComicCon! When I started to read it, it just made me so happy. The geeks in their element. But really, it was so fun to read. And then, oh my gods... THE LAST ONE WAS SO FREAKING GOOD. And the ending, oh gosh... cuteness overload. I ship Tory and Ben sooo fucking much. Favourite one of the short stories by far. The last two took me longer to read just because I'm in finals week and it's just so much studying. I definitely recommend it if you love Virals as much as I do :)

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### **Carla says**

It's no secret I love the Virals series.

And that I ship the hell out of Tori and Ben.

I loved the first and the last story the most, because they added something to the main storyline. Loved that we could see how Tori met the boys for the first time, that was honestly so cute!!

Quotes:

*“...they valued what was inside more than out. They remind me of...me. At least, the me I want to be.”*

*“Great. Round up some old ladies at a wedding and get them to commit vandalism. No problem at all.”*

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### **Mylaine L says**

A Tory quote describing my feelings regarding this book would be "Blargh". I think short stories are always.....well too short. We never have time to truly get into the story before it ends. Admittedly it was nice to reminisce about the old gang.

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### **Alisha Tarran says**

As some of you may remember, I got to review the Virals series and I completely loved it! I'm still hoping Terminal wasn't the last book and that there will be more because I didn't want to leave the characters or the

world behind! So it's just as well that there's this handy novella collection, and I loved delving back in to the world! It's a brilliant collection of stories, each short story fills out the world of the Virals even more, filling things in or wrapping things up. Each is fast paced, but still has plenty of detail and complexity to it, as well as being well written. You're thrown straight back in to the world of the book, the novellas are just as funny, just as full of action and cute moments between Ben and Tory \*wink wink\*

#### Shock

Shock is all about when Tory first came to live with Kit, and ya know..the first time she actually met him! It shows her first arriving at Morris Island and first meeting the other Virals, as well as Whitney. It's one of those missing scenes that I'd been curious about, wondering what it was like for her when she first got there, how she first met the boys and so on, and this novella answers everything. Kit and Tory's first meeting was kind of hilarious because it was so damn awkward, typical Kit really! Although he's a lot more collected when we see him in action with a turtle. We get the first impressions Tory had of the boys, some key places from the other books are pointed out to her, and a certain hideout.

It was interesting to see the three boys interacting before Tory became a part of their group, and seeing what they were like together and so on, as well as seeing how they acted when they first met her and how Tory viewed them all. Tory and Ben from the beginning though...I love those two!

#### Shift

Shift is set between book two and book three, and we get Shelton, Ben, Hi, Kit Tory AND Temperances point of view's. You get to see what they all think of each other, and in the boys cases what they think of being Virals. You get a front row seat to Tory's relationship with Tempe as well as seeing it from the other's POVs. Not to mention seeing what Ben thinks of Tory! There's a mini mystery to solve as someone has broken in to Lab 3 and stolen equipment, and I liked how the mystery had detail to it, but was nicely wrapped up at a perfect pace.

#### Swipe

Swipe is set between book three and book four, and the gang are hanging out at Comic Con. I know it's fictional, but I was still jealous, okay! When a Terminator robot thing (I have no idea about Terminator okay, it was a T-800 whatever that means!) is stolen right from the convention floor, the gang has to solve the mystery. I LOVED how the Bones panel was mentioned, I definitely had a chuckle over that! I loved the setting, it was everything I imagined Comic Con to be \*ugly sobbing\* We get to see Tory and Tempe working together, and I'm struck by how different book Tempe is from show Tempe. We have another detailed mystery, that's fairly complex considering how short it is, neatly wrapped up without being rushed!

#### Spike

Spike is perhaps the most anticipated of the novellas, being that it's set after Terminal! Whitney and Kit are getting married, and someone is trying to sabotage the wedding. I was genuinely surprised at the culprit as well! Talk about pathetic! ANYWAY, we see how everyone is getting on after the events of Terminal, including Chance. I loved seeing Ben and Tory together, and then the bit at the end! SO CUTE YOU GUYS, SO CUTE! The ending is kind of perfect, some things are resolved, but then...there a couple of things left a little bit open, which gives me hope for another book. I will never give up hope for another book!

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## **Kathy Martin says**

TRACE EVIDENCE collects four novellas in the Virals universe. The first is SHOCK which tells the very beginning of the story when a grief-stricken Tory meets Kit, Ben, Hiram, and Sheldon for the first time. I liked the way the kids became fast friends and I liked learning how they discovered their clubhouse.

SHIFT and SWIPE tell about other mysteries the kids use their Viral powers to solve. SWIPE is particularly entertaining because it takes place at San Diego ComicCon and also stars Tory's great-aunt Tempe.

SPIKE is the final story in this collection and takes place at Kit and Whitney's wedding which seems to be beset by a number of "accidents." These are the post-Virals versions of the kids who are growing up. Ben has graduated from high school and is planning to go away to college.

I liked that the stories were told from a variety of viewpoints with all the Virals taking a starring role. Sometimes it was a little hard determining whose viewpoint the reader was seeing the story from when the viewpoint changed at a chapter break. A few times I had to figure it out by who was being described.

This whole series was a fun science fiction series that was also a great story about families and friendship.

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## **Krista says**

The stories were cute and it was really fun seeing how the gang got together. It was also interesting getting a chance to read the stories in the other characters perspectives. The final short story was following the final book and I wished there was more to it to be honest.

4/5

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## **Shela Muriel says**

I loved this book! it was amazing my favorite short story has to be swipe because of how funny it was its worth the read now I've officially completed all of the virals books!

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## **Wendy says**

"Trace Evidence" is a Virals short story collection that begins with excerpts from the "Shift, Swipe and Shock" novels and adding a new investigation at the end at the wedding of Tory Brennan's dad Christopher (Kit) Howard to his girlfriend Whitney DeBois.

In the first of the three stories Tory Brennan's introduced to her father Kit and new friends on Morris Island while helping to save a turtle in distress. A break-in and stolen equipment at the Loggerhead Island Research Institute prompt the second adventure as Tory and her friends who've been infected by a supervirus that scrambled their DNA investigate, while Tory's Aunt Temperance joins the third mystery uncovering clues to the mysterious disappearance of a full-sized Terminator replica at Comic-Con.

In the last story Tory, Ben, Hiram and Shelton have to find the culprit who's sabotaging the Kit Howard and Whitney DeBois wedding. Although short in length the plot's intriguing as ruined flowers, an unstable platform and spiked icing on the wedding cake are the only clues to the misfortunes plaguing Tory and the wedding party. Their super senses supposedly lost, the action never stops as the four sleuths interact telepathically to expose the culprits and bring a happy ending to the celebration.

Like all the Virals novels, the characters are unforgettable adding high-energy, and tension to each drama as it unfolds. In the final story tempers flare between wealthy, arrogant Chance Claybourne and strong-willed and loyal Ben Blue who doesn't appreciate the overly attentiveness paid to his girlfriend Tory. Yet for all the drama there are humorous moments too with portly, quick-witted Hiram's sarcasm and quick action when he topples the wedding cake before anyone can taste the icing.

I liked "Trace Evidence" and continue to be a fan of the Virals' adventures and their investigations. I hope this isn't the last we'll see of these intrepid sleuths.

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### **Gabi Leoncini says**

This book was amazing. I cannot believe it is over. This is the last virals book I will ever read.... I'm not crying at all. The first and last novellas were fantastic! Some of the best I've read and my soul honestly aches to think that it is all over! I can only pray that somehow... some way they'll be more..! So amazing!!

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### **Jan says**

Set of four short stories. I actually read them in between the appropriate longer novels, and they added some details to the main story lines. Well done short stories.

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### **Hilary Fudge says**

I love the Virals series! This short story collection gives you everything you could ever want. It gives a prequel, a story after the last book and 2 during.

I love that Tempe was included in this series as well, I love the Temperance Brennan series as well so it's so fun when they mix together.

This book did an amazing job or reminding me why I love these characters so much. The story "Shift" was a great intro into how Tory came to be living with her dad and meeting the boys for the first time. The story "Spike" did a great job wrapping up the story that was left needing more after "Terminal".

They get solve crime and get into trouble, and they wouldn't be the Virals Pack we know and love if they didn't. ?

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