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# Purple Moon



## Synopsis

Selena's life isn't turning out to be the fairy tale she imagined as a kid. That hope seemed to vanish long ago when her dad kicked her and her mom out of the house. This summer might finally hold the chance of a new beginning for Selena ... but having to live with her snobby cousin in Lake Lure, NC while waiting for her mom to get out of rehab wasn't how Selena was planning on spending her summer. She soon begins to wonder why she committed to give up her "bad habits" for this. Things don't seem too bad, though. Especially when Selena gains the attention of the cute neighbor next door. But when her best friend back home in Brooklyn desperately needs her, a secret that's been hidden from Selena for years is revealed, and when she becomes a target for one of her cousin's nasty pranks, she finds herself having to face the scars from her past and the memories that come along with them. Will she follow her mom's example in running away, or trust that God still has a fairy tale life written just for her?

## Book Information

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Coming of Age

## Customer Reviews

Tessa is the kind of writer who captivates you in the first chapter. A connection is immediately gained between Selena and yourself. You become intrigued by the struggles she has endured and will withstand throughout the course of the book. If it had not been for being discovered by my parents, I would have pulled an all-nighter simply to reach the end of this enthralling novel. This is without a doubt the best Christian novel I have read in a very long time. It is common to assume that it will be mundane and "preachy" because it has the label of Christian, but after reading the first few

pages, you know that this will not be the case with Purple Moon. Tessa does a terrific job with keeping the action rolling and providing a great message while not letting it seem like you are listening to a sermon. I do not have enough words to praise this book. As soon as I had finished reading the last page, I wanted to go share Purple Moon with everyone I met. I feel like it is a novel that could really change a person's life. It definitely provided me with a new perspective of myself and those around me. I advise everyone to retrieve their own copy as soon as you are able. It is an investment worth making.

Age Appropriate For: 16 and up (for under aged smoking, drinking and reverences to immoral guy-girl relationship) Best for Ages: 16 to 25 Powerful. That is the first word that comes to mind to describe this story. Selena captures your emotions and takes you on a roller-coaster ride that ends with a deep, satisfying ending. I don't normally read books about troubled teens. They normally feel so set up and fake, or so crude I blush my way through. This book felt realistic and dealt with some very hard issues in a very tactful way. Selena has many issues that have grown out of a troubled past. I found myself understanding why she did what she did. The story itself really kept me turning pages. I read most of it in one day. Her story has so many ups and downs. Tessa Hall really kept me guessing where she was taking the story. I would get so excited as Selena started making the right choices, only to see her have an understandable set back. The faith element of the book was so good. In fact, it was one of the most powerful I have read in a long time. I saw myself in many of the spiritual struggles Selena has, even though I have had mine for different reasons. It was uplifting and soothing for my spirit to read this book and be reminded I am not alone in my struggles. There were some moments I was uncomfortable, I admit. However, unlike many books about troubled teens, I felt like these situations were not added to the story in order to make me gasp or blush, but had true purpose. I thought Tessa did a great job of address some tough situations with tact and realism at the same time. I highly recommend this books for older teens and young adults who want realistic stories that are powerful and faith building. I received this book from the author in exchange for my honest review. I was under no obligation to write a positive review. The opinions in this review are entirely my own.

Purple Moon is the story of Selena, a high school aged girl who goes to stay with her cousin while her mom spends the summer in rehab to kick her drinking problem. Life hasn't been easy for Selena, she hasn't seen her father in years, after her parents split, she and her mother moved states away and she has never heard from him. Following in her mother's footsteps Selena is

exploring life by smoking and drinking and though she isn't really happy, it helps life seem tolerable. Will her summer away give her a fresh start? Or will time with her stuck up cousin keep her in her self destructive cycle? When she gets to know her cousin's neighbor better, he invites her to a Christian camp. Selena decides to go just to get away from her bratty mean cousin. While at the camp she struggles between the life she knows and the life her friends at camp have. She must make a choice about which life she wants to live. This book is really well done and is a lot of fun to read. I quickly found myself invested in Selena and was concerned about her and wanted to know what would happen. Very well done and a great read. 5 Stars!

Selena's life is far from a fairy tale. When her mother goes to rehab for alcohol addiction Selena is sent to live with her wealthy aunt, uncle, and cousin, Whitney. A friend from the past, Austin, invites her to come to his church's youth retreat, and there she begins to feel like she can start again, with new friends and a new life. Will Selena be able to escape the pain of her past that threatens to define her? A gripping tale that proved hard to put down. I was immediately drawn to Selena and her plight, she was honest and easy to relate to. She wasn't perfect, she had her struggles and her flaws and it would have been easy to make her someone to pity, but she had a certain spark and strength that truly brought her to life. The family and friends that Selena met along the way, where well done and developed, I especially liked Brooke and her oft times brash honesty. Austin was a terrific friend to Selena too, never judging her, but always challenging her to re-evaluate her life. Overall this was a book well worth reading, with a strong message that didn't come out as stiff or overly preachy. The characters were honest and realistic, and Selena is a strong heroine that I won't soon be forgetting. Ms. Hall has done a terrific job with this book, from cover to cover, and I'm hoping that there might be a sequel in store :) Highly recommend. Disclosure of Material Connection: I received one or more of the products or services mentioned above for free in the hope that I would mention it on my blog. Regardless, I only recommend products or services I use personally and believe will be good for my readers. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255: "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and testimonials in Advertising."

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