



## Tell Me How This Ends

*Victoria De La O*

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## **Tell Me How This Ends** Victoria De La O

Brothers Jude and Ryan McAllister are inseparable. When Jude stepped in to raise Ryan after the death of their mother, it became the two of them against the world. But the scars it left were bone-deep. Then Lizzie Price comes along.

Lizzie hopes Ryan's kindness can help heal her wounds from a toxic relationship. But when she meets Jude, their powerful attraction makes him difficult to resist. The problem is, Lizzie doesn't realize Jude and Ryan are brothers, and they don't know they're falling for the same girl.

By the time the truth comes out, everyone is in too deep. Ryan is in love, Jude is in denial, and Lizzie wants both brothers. All of them agree that no one deserves to get hurt. But love and desire have a way of testing even the strongest bonds.

## **Tell Me How This Ends Details**

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Author : Victoria De La O

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# From Reader Review Tell Me How This Ends for online ebook

## Rebecca Leon says

**Highlights: shifting perspectives reveal the insightful inner narratives of the three main characters; shoutouts to the Yay Area abound.**

This is a quick but fulfilling read. I was so eager to find out what would happen next that I devoured this book in less than a day--stealing hours from sleep and every break in the day to do so.

Although I am definitely the book's intended audience, I have read maybe two romance novels in my twenty-odd years. This book was better than the one Nora Roberts book I've read!

I tend to assume that the characters in romance novels are one-dimensional, gendered stereotypes I have never met or would never want to meet in real life (with the exception of Sporty, Scary, Baby, Posh, and Ginger).

Victoria De La O's characters feel complete and familiar. Every page proved there was more to them beyond that initial introduction, and I wanted to know each one. Even her peripheral characters were honestly depicted. *Spoiler alert: judging by book 2's preview chapters, some of those peripherals may take center stage.*

There are people in these pages we've met before--friends, foes, family members, and sometimes ourselves, reflected in another's eyes. And I don't just mean the good parts, either. All the painful parts of intersecting lives are there, too--the misguided and careless words, the people who let us down, and the people we've let down.

Fortunately, there were plenty of moments that reminded me why we place ourselves in someone else's crosshairs in the first place: the chance encounters that may bind us to the people who ultimately have the power to heal and reveal us; the intimate connections we make in dorm rooms, classrooms, bedrooms, break rooms, and sitting on bar stools.

If you're already a diehard romance/NA reader--you'll love this.

If you recognize that some of the most compelling stories are the ones we tell ourselves and the people we love, then you'll love this book as well.

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## Christina says

4 Stars - 2 Flames

To be honest, it's taken me a couple of days to think about this one. Not because it wasn't good. Nope, I needed to figure out how I was going to write a review for this story. This is more than a story for me. It's more like a journey. A journey that each character has to learn from individually, and it's wonderful.

Lizzie isn't the typical California girl. She's from Utah, has four brothers and is trying to escape a toxic

relationship that she's had to heal from. She's had her eye on this cutie in her class (Ryan) and finally gets the nerve to ask him to "tutor" her. While out celebrating with friends, she meets Jude who is kind of in this "just friends" relationship with one of her girls. Even though he's "off limits", the chemistry between them isn't just physical, it hits the emotional nerve and she can't seem to get him out of her head, even though things are moving along with Ryan.

Ryan is the torturer who is finally getting his chance at happiness with Lizzie. Little did she know he's had his eyes on her for a while and was beyond happy that she's asked him for help. He can't believe that she doesn't mind his stutter and sees him for him. Something he's been fighting to get his older brother to do for a while now. Things are going great with Lizzie, but things come crashing down before long.

Jude is the guy that can have any girl he wants. He's hot, confident, has a good job and knows what he wants. Or so he liked to make others think. So when Lizzie and Jude get into a conversation the night they meet, he's amazed at how well she actually reads him, and it's thrown him off his game. Not only has he tried to give her a little of him, but she's turned him down for someone else and that's NEVER happened before. Even his brother notices that he's not his usual self, and once the truth is revealed, it all makes perfect sense.

So what do you do when you meet two guys that you're attracted to (differently) and need to make a choice? Do you choose the safer bet? Do you go with your desires? And what in world do you do when you realize that the two are not only brothers, but are living together in the same house? This story throws each and one of those questions our way and we're along for the journey to end all journeys for these three. Each one of them has their own insecurities that need to be addressed and figured out. I loved how each one achieves that in the end. I was really nervous that there was going to be a tragedy in order to resolve the issue(s), but thankfully, there isn't. I would have hated being in Lizzie's situation, but I think that she handled it the best she could have, eventually.

This story flowed beautifully for me. The time line seemed just right, keeping things moving at a realistic pace. I'm surprised that this isn't a series though. There seems to be more than enough characters to go around (even a spin off). I wouldn't mind seeing if anything happens between a certain brother and friend. Just gonna throw that out there...hint hint...LOL.

\*I received this book from the Jeep Diva in exchange for my honest opinion.

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**Rê says**

#### **4.0 "That's how you write a freaking love triangle" Stars**

ARC via NetGalley

Thank you, Swerve!

You guys, I did not expect to love this book this much. To be completely honest, I was kind of asking myself why I had requested a book with a "The Vampire Diaries" (minus the vampires) love triangle, since I had such a traumatizing experience with the whole Stefan-Elena-Damon dynamic. #TeamStelena in case you don't already know.

Anyway... I feared this would be messy and the author would ruin the main character by making her force brother against brother while turning the MC into someone so selfish I couldn't stand her (yeah, CW-Elena, I'm talking about you!). But, guys, I was wrong. So wrong.

Warning: Sorry, but hard to keep some spoilers out. They aren't huge spoilers, but still...

(view spoiler)

There were a few things here and there that I wished had been different, but they're so small compared to the beauty of the relationships and the complexity of these characters and the situation they were involved...

Go read this books, guys. Even if you're not a big fan of love triangles, go read it.

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### **Kristyn - Reading to Unwind says**

This book follows three main characters. Lizze who is college student studying nursing who then meets Ryan a classmate. Lizze thinks Ryan is cute and asks him to tutor her so she can get to know him better. Lizze one night goes out with some friends and meets Jude who keeps her on her toes and challenges her. Lizze doesn't know for a small portion of the book that Jude and Ryan are brothers. Jude practically raised Ryan so they are very close.

Things I loved was the way the author used the multiple POV's throughout the book. I find love triangles to be a little difficult of a topic, but the author does a great job switching in between the character's thoughts to show us a lot more of what is going on. I never felt like the love triangle was overpowering the book and I never wanted to yell just pick one, it was handled extremely well. There were other issues going on with the characters that the author took her time to go through. Also, the author goes back a few minutes when she changes POV so that we get to see the same situation from another POV. I loved the author's style of writing and her ability to keep the story moving along.

Lizze is a very interesting character in the book. We know that something happened in her life to make her move from Utah to CA, but we don't get the full story until we are a good portion into the book. I sort of thought it was something worse than what happened, but still it was something awful that she went through. We can tell that Lizze is very guarded and that she is going to give 100% of her attention into a situation. I feel that Lizze has a large amount of personal growth during the book and she also comes into the book as more confident than her past.

I go back and forth with Jude and Ryan I wanted to like one more than the other, but in the end, they are both different and bring completely different things to the table. They each have a lot of rewarding qualities as well as things they need to work on. I think that Jude is a little hard around the edges, but he has a lot of weight on his shoulders and doesn't know the right amount of balance. Ryan seems a little sheltered from what Jude is holding so he appears to be more carefree. The author did a great job creating two distinct male leads that don't overshadow one another.

My biggest downfall with this book is more towards the end and without giving any details away I feel like in a relationship you need to have closure. I felt like the change in relationships wasn't discussed enough for me. I guess I wanted a big blow out and that isn't what I got. I felt like there were a lot more emotions going on and I don't feel they were fully expressed at the end.

I would suggest this as a weekend read or beach read. The book is easy to follow along with and I got totally lost in the book, which gave me trouble putting it down. I just wanted to know how it was all going to play out and what was going to happen. I would want to read this when you have more free time to read.

I received a copy of this book from Barclay Publicity for the purpose of providing an honest review. This does not affect my opinion of this book.

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### **Siobhan Davis says**

I cannot believe this book is a debut work because it is an absolute triumph and Victoria writes like a seasoned pro. I am blown away by the complex characterization, witty prose, intense emotional connection, and the overall exemplary execution of this story.

I hope to God we don't have to wait too long for the next book because I am already DYING to read it, especially after that little sneak peek we were given at the back of this book. I'm also really happy to read that the other brother is getting a book too because I would've been upset if there was no potential for him to get a HEA.

I don't like giving away spoilers in my reviews so I'll try to keep this spoiler-free even though it's quite difficult to talk about the relationships without giving anything away.

Lizzie has relocated to start afresh after a toxic relationship that almost destroyed her. Having grown up in a houseful of brothers, she needs to forge her own path in life and start making plans for her future. She is naturally wary of boys after her most recent experience but has had a little crush on Ryan, a boy with a stutter who is in one of her classes. She plucks up the courage to ask him to tutor her as a way of starting something with him.

As this happens, she meets Jude on a night out with her girlfriends. Jude is hot with a player rep and he's currently bedding one of her friends. It's immediately obvious that Jude and Lizzy share an intense chemistry but she won't give him the time of day. After a steamy dance, they agree to stay away from one another because he can't give her what she wants and she doesn't want to take a risk that he might change his mind because she can't afford to get hurt again. So they walk away from one another.

Lizzie's relationship with Ryan is hotting up and she really likes him. He is hot, sweet, and adorable and the type of nice guy you have no hesitation in bringing home to meet the folks.

She discovers he is Jude's brother when she wanders into Jude in the kitchen of his house in the middle of the night. This is the part where everything turns extremely messy and I'd love to delve into it but, as I said, I don't want to spoil the story for anyone.

The three main characters were expertly crafted with flaws and weaknesses that were gradually revealed. The inner dynamics of this tangled relationship were fraught with delicious tension and conflict that had my heart racing and my stomach tied into knots. I knew how I wanted it to end, had a strong sense of *how* it was going to end, and I could scarcely read it in parts because I was so caught up in the beautiful torture, but I adored every single page and I really didn't want the story to be over by the end.

Jude and Lizzie were both very selfless people who cared deeply about Ryan. Ryan was secure in Lizzie's love because Jude did such an admirable job of raising him after his mother and uncle died. My heart broke for Jude - he was always willing to sacrifice his own happiness for his brother, even if it was killing him on the inside. Lizzie was the only person who seemed to be able to get through to him, to connect to him in a way he never even knew he wanted, but he couldn't have her.

Lizzie, for her part, wanted to do the right thing but it was so hard. I love how the author explored the notion of being able to love more than one person at the same time. It's never happened to me but I've always believed it possible. The fact that the two boys in this love triangle were brothers only added to the story. It felt so impossibly tragic at times and although my heart lapped up all the angsty-drama, I worried it would all be too much.

The ending did kinda go as I expected but it was heartwarming because I wanted that brother to reach that conclusion, to do the right thing by his brother, even though it was hurting him. Bravo.

My only complaint (and it's not really a complaint) is that when they finally get their act together (after they leave the nightclub) the scene is completely skipped over and we are given a recap by Lizzie the next morning. OMG! I was waiting the entire book for that! That was a little disappointing but it still doesn't detract from the fact that this was an utterly addictive read. I literally CANNOT WAIT to read the next two books.

I voluntarily reviewed a complimentary copy of this book as supplied by the publishers via Netgalley. All the opinions expressed are my own.

## **Priscilla Garcia says**

### **Very Good!**

I have to say I love the way the love triangle was handle. Why? Because the lead wasn't like those type of girls I hate reading about that doesn't give the other guy a change (in this case Ryan). By the way my favorite one was him (Ryan) it's been a year that I keep falling for the second leads of the books/dramas/movies. To be truthful I find the lead girls who fall for the leads kind of shadow. In this case I kind of get it Jude was a great guy too. But why is it always that the lead girl keep falling deeply with the ones that are "better looking" like they always say Jim is really cute but Jeremy is a total hottie. Can't they see it beyond that. Like I said at least Jude wasn't a douchebag here like in other books. Girls in books/dramas/movies keep falling for the guys that threat them bad, belittle them while they ignore the guys who are there too comfort them the ones that wipe the tears.

The only thing that disturbs me is that she went too far with both of them. That is the reason I gave it a 4.5 stars. How can the brothers look each other in the eyes when they know both of them had sex with the same girl. Years and years can pass but that still stays in your mind. I just think if that would of happen how would I feel, let say I had a sister and she start to date a guy and I say I loved him first so she says is okay i will dump him and I will leave but what about when she comes back and she hugs my boyfriend who was her boyfriend I would think of the time they had sex. I just couldn't do it. Maybe I'm not that opened minded.

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## **1-Click Addict Support Group says**

Talk about a love triangle! This story was intense, emotional, and I couldn't put it down!

***"Everyone's life has stories worth telling."***

Lizzie has been crushing on this guy in her class and decides to ask him to tutor her. Around the same time, she meets a man who she has an undeniable chemistry with. But she's too afraid to try.

***"What do you want from me?" she asks. Her lip is trembling, so I put my thumb on it. "Everything. I don't think there would be anything left after I was done with you."***

She decides to go with the nice guy, Ryan. He is good and kind, and everything that she thinks she needs. Until she finds out that chemistry guy, Jude, is his brother.

***"How long am I supposed to pretend that I don't have a right to care? That I don't want you? That I don't need you?"***

So which brother does she chose? Or does she end up with no one? You will have to read this story to find out. With a cast of amazing secondary characters and emotions so strong, it is not a story you want to miss. I loved every minute of it, even when my heart was breaking. And I cannot wait for Sam's story next! ~  
Tiffany, 4.5 Stars



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## Jennifer says

Review for Read and Share Book Reviews

ARC provided via Netgalley for an honest review

Oh my word talk about an incredibly angsty read! My stomach was in knots the entire story. This little love triangle between Jude, Lizzie and Ryan was hard on the ole ticker. My heart ached and I will even admit I had some tears streaming down my face a couple of times throughout this one.

All of these characters had been through so much and they all deserved happiness in their lives. I'm not going to lie for most of the book (honestly, really all of the book) I wanted them to be a happy threesome, even though I knew that would never really work out in the end. They all fit so well together how anyone could choose one over another was beyond me. I couldn't even choose a side and that is unusual for me. It was gut wrenching, I mean really gut wrenching.

I love how the Author wrote the story from all three sides. As a reader it was so valuable to be able to be in all of their heads and to know what they were thinking, feeling and experiencing. I adored the love and admiration they had for one another and the connection they all had been missing and needing. The way that the Author interweaves all aspects of this story and their lives together was simply amazing.

"if it can't be me, please let it be him"

That sentence completely gutted me. G-u-t-t-e-d me!

Go one click this one, grab a box of Kleenex & some chocolate (trust me you will need it) find a nice quiet place where you can be alone and immerse yourself in Jude, Lizzie & Ryan's love story. You won't regret it!

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## Marielle says

So yes, 5 stars. I didn't want to stop reading at bedtime. I put my kindle away, but picked it back up again and finished the book at 3 AM this morning, not once having felt drowsy. This book, a debut, is just so amazingly good!

When in doubt or curious: don't be and start reading this now!

But... this isn't your typical romance. It's hard, emotional and for the longest time really hard to imagine that a believable HEA is possible. I thought it worked out wonderfully (hence the 5 stars), without skimming over all the awkward situations the premise warrants.

Tell me How This Ends has some things working against it for becoming a 5 star read for me. But as my rating shows, for me that turned out to be just theory.

- it's first person POV. Not my favorite.
- it's a love triangle, which usually includes secrets. Tricky to find a balance and have all characters come out strong and not drag the secret out too long.
- three POV's (instead of just the hero and heroine) while I like focus on the main couple.

However, Tell Me has managed to find just the right mix to make it all work very well.

First: the choice to write as three POV's, works out great. We see all there is to see from all points of view and it not once felt as if I wanted to skip anyone.

Second: the characterization, background and motivation for all three leads is terrific, which makes the entire situation, and the solution, credible. Nobody is the 'bad guy', everyone suffers, everybody is to blame at one point or other, and all three characters show good growth.

Third: there is a credible HEA for two of the three main characters. But the third one, isn't the one left out, or just sad, but heroic too, and gets a HFN. And since a sequel about two minor characters had already been published, I suspect a HEA for that character somewhere in the future.

Fourth: Jude. Sigh. What a guy!

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### **Jeanie says**

Ah, finally an intelligent NA book! These are getting to be few and far between.

Warning: this book has ACTUAL human emotions in it. It's not your standard NA f-fest. Personally I start to skim over the sex scenes if there are too many or too boring. For my tastes, this was just right. I'm way more interested in emotions anyway. And TMHTE had a good dose of them. The scenes with the bros particularly got to me. Many wellhandled scenes between the three main characters. Looking forward to more.

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### **Haidoulina says**

#### **3.5 stars.**

I have mixed feelings about this story... I liked Jude right away and I wanted him to take the girl... But as the book progressed I didn't want him to end with Lizzie, because things.... Ryan was cute, a likeable guy but I had no major interest in him.... As for Lizzie, she's the one who has me tangled up... I can understand some of her actions but I don't agree with many of them.... I liked how the story ended but at the same time I'm disappointed how it ended... I know, I'm not making any sense....

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### **Amy says**

DNF at 36%

I was so hopeful with this one.

\*sigh\*

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## **Dawn Nicole Costiera says**

Tell me how this ends by Victoria De La O is not your run of the mill love triangles filled with debauchery and indulgence. It is a story that is uniquely woven with devotion, loyalty and selflessness... Three broken people struggling with their own inner turmoil, who ultimately put each other's happiness before their own... Two brothers that not only share an incomparable love for one another, but the affections of one girl. Both needing her for different reasons and her needing them just as much.

"Most heartbreaking things are done out of love."

What would you do if the person you loved the most, fell for the same girl as you? Would you be selfish or selfless? Knowing either way you will be hurting... could you do the right thing? Tell me how this ends is the perfect title for this book. Expect the unexpected... It's way more than it's synopsis. There are many wonderful messages throughout the book. Some of its contents include: sacrifice, maturing, self reflection and learning ones self worth.

Two beautiful brothers. Who are wonderful in their own ways....

Jude is the older brother. He is mister cocky and confident. He's not one to be tide down. The love em and leave em type. He had to grow up fast... He's always taken care of his younger brother. He's the strong one and the man of the house but often aren't the strongest people the most broken?? Jude is closed off and runs from his feelings.... (btw I LOVE HIM)

Ryan the younger brother. He is so sweet, gentle, romantic and less confident. He wears his heart on his sleeve....

This choice should be easy for Lizzie...

I adored this girl. She's been through a lot but stayed true to herself and always put everyone's feelings above her own. She has a huge heart and it's big enough to love both boys! Egh. What's a girl to do, when your heart and head are at odds???

It's hard to believe this is a debut book. It reads with an effortless fluidity and the craftsmanship of a seasoned author. The characters and plot are complex and vivid. I was completely transported into their world and I felt all their emotions. It was well paced, disclosing its many layers slowly, as it drew me in further and further.

I am soooo looking forward to more books in this series.

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## **Book says**

TELL ME HOW THIS ENDS promises to deliver an intense story of two brothers in love with the same girl and one girl caught in the middle of two brothers. And, man, did it deliver! I loved this book. Loved it. The voices of the characters and writing styles were fresh. I truly felt as though I connected with all three of the main characters and found myself inwardly cringing as the tension built wondering how in the world the book was going to end well with so much conflict.

Victoria De La O brings us Elizabeth or "Lizzie," a rural small-town girl from Utah, living in California on the west coast where she attends college. She has some emotional scars from a past relationship, but she is healing, and instead of running from men and relationships altogether, she's just being choosy about who she

trusts her with her heart. So, when she meets smart-mouth, seemingly cocky, and emotionless Jude she rejects his propositions, despite the intense chemistry between them. And I mean, intense! The author did an excellent job of immersing the reader in the story and really making them feel the tension and connection with the characters. Even though Jude put off this very casual, cocky, player exterior, Elizabeth saw right through him to the core right from the very beginning. She could read him as though she knew deep down what was going on in his head, which is part of what drew him to her. Because he had never before met someone that called him out on his own bullshit so blatantly and so quickly. And I loved this no-nonsense attitude about Lizzie. It made me truly enjoy her character.

Naturally, Elizabeth decides Jude has nothing to give, that he's too scared to offer her anything other than a roll in the sheets, so she dives headfirst into a relationship with a nerdy student from her class--Ryan. Only, she comes to find out after their first night spent together that Ryan and Jude are actually brothers. Talk about surprises!

The story is told from three perspectives--Lizzie, Ryan, and Jude. I loved being able to be in all three heads. Especially Jude's because he really had gotten the short end of the stick in life. He lost his mother at a young age, and then when he and Ryan lost their only remaining relative and caretaker, their uncle, Jude went about the process of gaining legal custody of his teenage brother as only a sophomore in college. Most of Jude's teen and college life were about raising his brother and softening the blow of all the crappy things they had been dealt in life, and so when Ryan asks him if dating Lizzie would bother him, he does what he has done his entire life and that's be selfless. He gives Ryan his blessing and despite the voice inside her head that says this can't end well, Lizzie dives in head first. Only, she falls deeper for Jude. And Jude pines away for her while watching her with his brother, slowly dying inside with every kiss.

The tension in the book was phenomenal. Even though the premise of the book isn't necessarily something new, the way it is written and the emotions behind the characters were authentic and so well done. I loved everything about this book. Everything. Once I started reading, I couldn't put it down, and once it was over, I was depressed!

I tend to be pretty picky with the new adult novels I read. In fact, I steered clear of them for a bit because I was getting sick of the overly-cliched plots, the juvenile writing, and the graphic sex. This book was well-written, with awesome tension, and the sex was hot without being overly graphic--no quivering appendages here! (lol)

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## **Kisses A says**

3\* for Jude and that's it.

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