



## Awakening

*Tracy L. Higley*

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# Awakening

Tracy L. Higley

**Awakening** Tracy L. Higley  
Awakening  
Critically-Acclaimed Romantic Suspense Novel

## **Kallie Andreas is a mystery, even to herself.**

Seven years ago Kallie woke up in a New York City museum, injured and traumatized. Alone and unclaimed.

Despite her shattered memories, she's worked her way into a position as assistant curator in that very museum, and now she wants nothing more than to pursue funding for her project--assembling pieces from the ancient Minoans.

But then the blackouts start. Lost time, stranded in terrifying danger, frantic visions that can't be real. A threatening phone call may be nothing more than paranoia and madness. Or perhaps not.

It's time to start seeing her psychiatrist more often.

Kallie's doctor challenges her to keep a journal, but her writing morphs into something else... What begins as a romantic fairy tale becomes an allegory of a woman plunged into crisis in the ancient past, in the misty islands of Minoan Greece, home to myth and legend.

When a mysterious billionaire invites Kallie to scour the black market with him for the most valuable of all Minoan treasures, the key to their lost language, Kallie can't resist. Dimitri is wealthy, charming and good-looking, but she's not interested--not in someone who's clearly hiding secrets of his own.

Together, the two embark on a global quest to find the Key, through some of the most exotic and beautiful locations in the world--unraveling the mystery and pursuing leads, all the while resisting romance in Italy, under the Santorini sun, and among the pyramids of Egypt.

Meanwhile, Kallie's memories are bleeding through and her journal has turned violent. She's teetering on the verge of a breakthrough, but what devastating truth has she been suppressing?

When a strange woman who clearly knows Kallie's real identity tries to murder her, it's clear that Kallie's past and present worlds are colliding, in a deadly crisis that will finally reveal the shocking mystery of her past.

## **But will the truth leave room for love?**

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*Click the Look Inside button above to read the first chapter...*

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Romantic Suspense Novel Categories:

- > Romantic Suspense Adventure
- > Romantic Suspense Historical

*With page-turning romantic suspense and evocative scenes set in exotic locales, Higley's novels transport readers into a romantic adventure they won't soon forget.*

## **Awakening Details**

Date : Published July 23rd 2014 by Stonewater Press (first published July 1st 2014)  
ISBN : 9780990600503  
Author : Tracy L. Higley  
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Genre : Mystery, Romance, Christian Fiction, Fiction, Thriller, Christian, Historical, Historical Fiction

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## From Reader Review Awakening for online ebook

### **Lisa Johnson says**

Title: Awakening

Author: Tracy Higley

Amazon Link: <http://www.amazon.com/Awakening-Tracy...>

Pages: 366

Year: 2014

Publisher: Stonewater Press

Fabulous! Readers will quickly become engaged in the story of a young woman named Kallie who has worked hard to earn a position at a museum with her specialty in Minoan history. Judith, her boss, is a woman who pushes Kallie to become more than just a woman who hides behind her desk. Add in the mysterious male character of Demitri who asks her to go on a trip searching for a relic that might unlock the language of ancient peoples.

Kallie has been seeing a psychiatrist because of her blackouts and her repressed past, which at times causes problems in her life. When Kallie begins to journal, she writes a story from the perspective of a character she has named Chloe who lived with her family as a princess on an ancient island. This is such an engaging tale that includes questions of faith, seeking to understand oneself and romance. Danger is always lurking around the corner as Kallie travels with a team of people that Demitri has organized.

The audience will read of many travels to various places around the globe, interacting in dangerous liaisons all for the search of a relic. At times, lives are in peril and at other times there is a faint feeling of being watched, but for what purpose? When I began the book, it took me a chapter or two to capture the idea how the tale was going to go when I have been used to Tracy's Biblical/Historical novels. Awakening is vastly different from those and quite refreshing.

There are moments I am reminded of the adventure in the present time with a glance into the past. I wondered who the villain in the story was and would they be caught in time to prevent loss of life. When a friend and I first heard of the novel and when I realized it was going to be published differently, we couldn't wait until the book was ready. One of the biggest blessings for us was to know Tracy was releasing both the hard copy and electronic copy on the same day. We usually have to wait for some time to pass between published works electronically before they become available in print. I hope Tracy takes this path again in publishing her works, because not everyone can or does want to read a book as an eBook.

Thanks for this awesome adventure Tracy; it was beyond all my hopes or expectations!

My rating is 5 stars.

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."

Other reviews can be read at <http://seekingwithallyourheart.blogspot.com/> . Also follow me on Twitter

@lcjohnson1988, FaceBook at <https://www.facebook.com/lisa.johnson...>

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### **Amy says**

I love how this author wove an exciting tale of modern meets ancient mythology...I was completely surprised

by the connection! Sometimes the romance was a little too predictable, but the premise of this was fun, adventurous and interesting. I was waiting for the main character's therapist to be an evil mastermind or something. ;) Overall, a nice light read!

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### **Karen Dean says**

Waking up in a history museum in New York City, Kallie has no memory of her past. In fact her name, Kallie Andreas, is one given to her by her mentor and now boss, Judith. After years of therapy and education, Kallie feels comfortable in her role of historical researcher. She is particularly interested in finding a key to unlock the previously untranslated Minoan language. Into her safe, ordered world comes Demitri Andreas, a millionaire philanthropist, who seems to have the same goal. He wants Kallie to head up a team to travel the globe in search of this key.

As Kallie proceeds to embark on this quest, she begins to have flashes of a very strange tale set in the Minoan culture. As she begins to write it down, the story continues to flow and something about it becomes familiar. In the meantime, it seems that someone is following her, putting her life in danger. What will be the final resolution?

I have read several other books written by Tracy Higley. This one is a little different, as she usually ties it to some part of the Old or New Testament. This one is set in the time of the Minoans and Myceneans. She has a passion for ancient history and her extensive research is always outstanding in her books. She usually touches on time periods which are not always written about.

I received this book from the Book Club Network in exchange for my unbiased opinion.

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### **Bekah (WillBakeforBooks) says**

Seven years ago Kallista Andreas woke up in a New York City museum with absolutely no recollection of how she got there or who she was. The museum's curator, Judith, helped Kallie get back on her feet with a job—even named her after an ancient city. Even though she is comfortable in her new life, Kallie can't help but feel the empty ache of her past everywhere she goes. She feels like she is going crazy when the blackouts begin, along with scary hallucinations that feel incredibly real. Then Dimitri Andreas—a charming and wealthy philanthropist—offers to give her a team on a search to find the most valuable Minoan treasure called the Key. Despite knowing it could be a dangerous quest, Kallie can't resist and thus begins the grand adventure to find the lost Key and, in the process, find herself.

I read *The Queen's Handmaid* last year and fell in love with Tracy Higley's poetic writing style and her full-of-life characters. This book reminded me again of why I should read more from this talented author!

*Awakening* was the perfect blend of past and present, legend and reality. It had global adventures, intriguing mystery, soulful romance, and suspense that kept my eyes glued to the pages. I thoroughly enjoyed it!

Usually I don't like books that blend two different stories, but surprisingly I wasn't bothered by this one.

Probably because I really enjoy history. My only complaint, and the reason I didn't like this one more, was that sometimes the writing was maybe just a little pretentious. I had a hard time with the flowery words in the side story, but that could've been just me. Other than a few minor quibbles, I have to say that it kept me intrigued enough to finish within a few hours. The ending was predictable, but beautifully told nonetheless.

If you like books that contain history, romance, modern-day treasure hunts, adventure, and suspense, then

check out *Awakening*! It was a solid read that was perfect for cuddling with a warm cup of tea on a rainy day, which I did. ;)

<http://www.willbakeforbooks.com/2015/...>

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### **Sarah Vanscoyoc says**

Unique, compelling storyline!

*Awakening* is Tracy Higley's newest book. I confess that I haven't read any of her works before, so when offered a chance to read this one, I jumped at it. I have to say that I really enjoyed it!

I was aware that she is known for writing excellent historical novels, so I wasn't sure how a modern one would be, but I believe she pulled it off wonderfully! The details and descriptions were wonderful; I could vividly picture each location and really enjoyed the history that was woven into them. Kallista Andreas is the main character and being that she is an assistant curator, there was a lot of historical facts and myths involved, which was interesting. I actually found the details a little confusing at first and struggled to get into the story, but after wading through the first couple chapters, I was quickly engrossed and found I didn't want to put it down.

Kallista "Kallie" Andreas is a very unique main character. She has woken up every day for 7 years unsure of who she is or where she belongs. Her life revolves around the museum where she was found and now works. As she faces the 7-year anniversary of when she was found, she begins to experience blackouts and strange dreams. I fell in love with Kallie almost at once, because she is just so broken, for lack of a better word. She has hidden herself away in her research, blocking out the world and the questions she can't answer. She is passionate about her research, and has an inner strength that she doesn't see. When faced with the idea she may be going crazy, I was impressed that she continued to move forward. I loved watching her grow and become who she truly is throughout the story, even without any of the answers she desired.

Dimitri Andreas (no relation) is the hero of this story, though we don't know as much about him as I would have liked. Despite the fact this book is written in the third person, we never get to see Dimitri's point of view or know what he is thinking, which was disappointing for me. We do know that he is strong, kind, and a bit of a rogue. After he meets Kallie and learns they share a passion for all things Minoan, he offers her the chance of a lifetime - to travel the Middle East and Europe in search of a key that could unlock their lost language. I did enjoy getting to see him through Kallie's eyes and falling in love with him right along with her. I loved how kind he was to her and how he continually pushed her out of her comfort zone. I also loved the realness found in him - I had wondered what he might be like, seeing as how he is rich. But he is definitely not stereotypical.

Their romance was sweet, if a little less involved than I had expected. Kallie struggles with knowing nothing of her past and is unwilling to enter a relationship while she is so unsure of her origins or where she belongs. Dimitri pushes her a little bit, but once he understands her reasons, allows her the distance she desires. I thought there might have been a little more romance, since they are traveling to exotic and interesting locations together, but I have to admit that I actually began to enjoy the lack. It allows the reader to focus on Kallie and the mystery there without being distracted by trying to keep up with anything else.

Speaking of keeping up, I had an interesting time remembering what had happened last, every time I had to put the book down. They was just so much going on and something was constantly happening that I had to refresh my memory fairly often. It also helps that for a while there appears to be two storylines happening at once and the reader is left wondering when they will ever connect. I really enjoyed the suspense of it all! Ms. Higley is great at ending a chapter at just the right place that ensures you have to continue reading, otherwise you'll be completely useless, because you're trying to guess what will happen next!

I found the spiritual side of the story to be very interesting. A lot of the plot focuses on the characters, Kallie

in particular, searching for the truth. She has studied Greek, Egyptian, and Minoan mythology as part of her work at the museum, along with a multitude of other religions and is unsure which is truth and which is simply myth. She is also surrounded by a team that shares very different beliefs. I enjoyed her journey as she attempted to separate fact from fiction, truth from lies. A favorite quote of mine is this, "If there is no Truth, then the search for it is meaningless." Chloe, page 348

I thought this summed up her search quite well and is also relevant to reality. So many people search for the truth, but give up, accepting the opinion that there isn't an absolute Truth. In actuality, it simply has to be separated from all of the things that masquerade as truth. I also appreciated the honesty in the ending. We aren't left with a confession of faith, which may have seemed unrealistic with everything else that was going on and considering the relatively short time span the story covers, but instead the characters continue to ask questions and search for the answers to them.

I believe I already managed to mention the couple complaints I had, so I won't go over those again. I'll just end by saying that I really enjoyed this book and will definitely be looking for more of Tracy's stories!

I highly recommend this book if you enjoy adventure, mystery, and a surprise ending!

I received a copy of this book from the author through The Book Club Network for my honest review, which I have given. I was not required to write a positive review and have not been compensated for it in any way. All opinions expressed are my own.

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### **Deeann Barreau says**

#### **Awakening**

Your story's are amazing, the descriptions you give make a person feel like they are there seeing and feeling everything. I couldn't put your book down until I finished it.

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### **Elizabeth Goddard says**

Tracy Higley always writes gorgeous prose and imagery, and she's done it again with Awakening, weaving together romance, intrigue and mystery from the past and present into one of those rare, unforgettable reads that stays with you for days after you've finished. This is the kind of story world I've been longing to enter. The kind of story world I'm reluctant to leave.

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### **Jeannie says**

I didn't finish it. It started out grabbing my attention. And I was very interested . But I'm not into mythology. I got tired of the characters being thrown in and out of ancient and present time without explanation. I read several chapters and got the impression there may have been some reincarnation. Since that's something I don't believe in, I'm sure that put a sour taste in my mouth. I realize the answers may very well be explained at the end of the book, but I just couldn't push myself to finish it. It was a library check out and even with the pressure of a return date, (after a renewal) I still couldn't finish it. Just not my type of read.

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## **Janice Dick says**

One night, a young woman finds herself in a New York museum with no memory of who she is or how she got there. An employee gives her a job researching an ancient civilization, the Minoan culture, and that becomes her life. Kallie is content with her place in the basement office of the museum, until she is thrust into the limelight at a fundraiser. It is there that she meets Dimitri Andreas, a wealthy and dashing benefactor of the museum, whose favor she must seek. Her sales pitch is a disaster, but she meets Dimitri personally, and he seems more interested in her and her research than in her failed speech.

A series of unforeseen incidents bring them together, but they come from different levels of society, and Kallie harbors her secret of a missing past. When she is asked by Dimitri to join a team to Egypt to look for artifacts from the Minoan civilization, she realizes she has a strong affinity for the region. She also comes to see that Dimitri Andreas is also not the person he seems to be. When their desires would pull them together, their secrets keep them apart.

The sequence of events creates plot intensity, the characters are strong figures who seek their true identity with integrity and courage, and even the artifacts they seek are not what they expect. Throw in an antagonist who cares for nothing but the end game, and the intensity increases.

I particularly enjoyed Kallie's journey of self-discovery, allowing her true character to emerge.

This novel bridges a gap between historical and contemporary fiction.

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## **Sarah says**

Age Appropriate For: 15 and up for violence, romance, and weirdness

Best for Ages: 18 and up

It's been over a month since I read this book and I'm still not sure what to think about it. It was vivid, kept my attention from beginning to end, and yet was so different anything I have read. The faith element that is normally predominate in Higley's writing was missing, yet still felt like it was there. It is a hard book to describe.

The characters were all vivid, not one lay flat on the page. All of them are deep, wide, and complex, even the ones that are seen briefly. It's one of the things that gave the story such a draw. I felt like I would know Kallie, Dimitri, and the rest if I met them.

Kallie's inability to remember her past is done well. She is both desperate to find out who she was and afraid of what she might have been. I stayed up late to finish this book because I had to read the end. Honestly, not too far into the book, I figured out what it took the characters most of the rest of the book to discover, but I still couldn't help but keep reading.

The settings, all around the globe, were realistic and vivid. I felt almost as if I had been on vacation to Egypt and Italy by the time the book had been finished. Higley did a great job of describing the locations.

The things that I didn't like about this book: As I stated before, I missed Higley's strong faith element that is so key in her other books. The hints in this book were not what I have come to expect from her. However, I'll say that perhaps people who dislike religion in their books will enjoy getting to read Higley's work. They would find little if anything to offend them in here.

There were also a few brief mentions of nudity (non-sexual) within the pages. I honestly found them unnecessary and did nothing to add to the story. However, because it was not used in a sexual manner and not overly described, it was easy to also ignore.

The research that was put into this book seemed stellar. I felt like I came away with an education, although I didn't check the facts. I loved the blending of history and myth in the story.

Overall I found this a well-written, highly entertaining book. I'm still not sure whether I love it or think it is odd.

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### **Rachael says**

This is a hard book to categorize. I read it thinking it was a contemporary Christian suspense, but it is steeped in Greek mythology and has a significantly supernatural bent that surprised me--I wasn't expecting it at all. I can't really say more without spoiling some seriously important plot points, but it was definitely unexpected. The theology is kind of vague and while can point to Christianity, doesn't point there specifically. I did enjoy the journey around the world and the supernatural bent (unexpected though it was), but all in all it was a bit strange.

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### **Donna Thompson says**

This book was a wild adventure, just the type of book I love. The author does a fantastic job describing each exotic locale and the action never lets up. This is the kind of book I dream about coming across, and was the first one I've read by this author, but it won't be the last.

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### **Lynette says**

So different in style, this book is hard to label the genre. It turns out to be a totally different story than where it starts from. I was hooked from the beginning though and really enjoyed it. Fantasy, fiction, mystery and romance are all in there. It was introspective and curious. It also made me want to travel to a few places around the world.

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### **Tonya says**

#### **Interesting**

A different story than what I typically read. Well written, lots of turns to keep you on your feet. But puzzled by it all. Not sure I would read moire of her work.

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### **Lisa says**

3 1/2 stars - I thought this was a good book, engaging and adventurous. At times I felt a little confused, as there were 2 stories intertwined in this book and would have to go back to a chapter to read again Kallie's journal stories to remember where it left off.

Very imaginative plot and I really enjoyed the reading ending; action-packed and I was curious how the book would conclude.

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