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The Return (The After Trilogy Book 2)



Synopsis

The dystopian science fiction story continues in this action-packed novel for young adults by internationally best-selling author Kelly St. Clare. Three months ago, Romy emerged from the cultivation tanks after a year floating inside. Body intact. Mind broken. Memory gone. Now she undergoes regular testing as doctors work to find out . . . well, she's not exactly sure what. The tests must have something to do with the reason she can't remember her knot—the single lucid memory the other insane soldiers on Orbito Four still possess. Whatever the researchers are searching for, if it aids the soldiers in the deathly war against the lethal alien invaders—the Critamals—the excruciating pain is worth it. But a grey-eyed man has other plans. Boxed in and caught, Romy is taken hostage by people who shouldn't exist! They dress in black and carry weapons she's never seen in her genetically enhanced life. Reunited with Knot 27. Memories returned. Fifteen months have passed since her world shattered into bright red, ringing chaos. Things have changed—people have changed. How long until what was once as familiar as breathing is familiar once more? Friendships. Love. Freedom. Can the new Romy reconcile with the old, or will the two halves of herself remain locked in an internal battle? And if a victor should arise from this silent war . . . will it be the part of her that kills without hesitation, without mercy? All it takes is for the cracks to join and blood will pour. Buy now to experience the ultimate inner struggle, the fight against an all-powerful enemy, and the twist of corruption. Set in a realistic future Earth.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In this book we see our h Romy being rescued by Atlas and her knot. We get to experience the confusion in Romy's mind as she tries to understand what is happening since she doesn't remember anything. She's considered a main piece in a study that might help defeat the mandate. As studies continue, Romy gets her memory back but her sanity is in danger. She becomes more and more fragile, but some events will bring out her hidden strength. Atlas is eager to pick up things were they left them but is forced to be patient with Romy as she slowly becomes herself again. Things have also change between her knot mates while she was gone, a lot of stress on poor Romy. The building rebellion is put to the test with intrigue and betrayal, not only do they have a Mandate to worry about, but also the fate of the other soldiers in space and the Critamal attacks. The first book was very intriguing, I was looking forward to reading The Return to know what happened to Romy, the Atlas/Romy reunion. I feel that several scenes were repeated from book 1, like another dance, Deimos or Phobos pulling Romy's dress down again. More Thrim angst. Romy goes a little crazy, which is normal after all she's been through. The concept is very interesting and I know a lot of readers loved her crazy persona but I didn't, a lot of things she did made me cringe and I would've preferred a darker Romy. About the romance, it felt a little weird since Atlas doesn't show much in book 1. They don't have enough moments together and then he is totally crazy for her, and at moments it felt like she was just ok with him, and like things were mostly physical. Things pick up in the final chapters though, lots of surprises! I think must of the things I didn't love may be because I'm older than the intended audience of this book, so I felt some scenes kind of childish. I really like the author's style, I loved her first series The Tainted Accords. However, I must admit I'm not crazy about The After Trilogy, I enjoy it though.

I couldn't wait for the sequel to The Retreat to come out. And boy, was I handed a treat. The story did not go in the direction I thought it would go in. While some of the questions from

the first story were answered, many more arose. New relationships formed, old ones deteriorated with betrayal being a pretty big theme. I was left feeling both pleased but also dying to read the last installment of this series. 2018 can't come quick enough. It is very hard to review any of the story line without giving away too much so I am not even going to attempt to describe any of it. If you enjoyed The Retreat, you will love The Return.

What a great book! Kelly did an amazing job with this book - it is serious, hilarious, heartbreaking, and uplifting at different parts of the story. It was an emotional roller coaster - but one I would ride over and over again. While I absolutely loved the first book in this series (The Retreat), I think I actually loved this book more. The first book really allowed you to figure out what was going on, but this book really allowed you to get to know the characters a little better. There are twists and turns and the ending will leave you wanting more (right now!). Five stars - definitely read this series!!

Another great read by Kelly St. Clare. I was looking forward to "The Return" especially after the cliff hanger from book 1 and I was not disappointed. Kelly wraps up all the questions from "The Retreat" nicely and cohesively while preparing us for "The Reprisal". I loved the growth of the characters and experiencing this journey with them. Everything from the secrets and betrayal, love and drama, loyalty and loss was very well written and drew you into the story. I can't wait for the final book, I would definitely recommend this series to anyone.

I swear each book that I read that Kelly writes gets better and better. I had such a hard time finishing this one because I just did not want it to end. I was just dragging it out so I can read it longer. So many secrets! So many mysteries and questions! I loved every second of it. This book had everything, romance, friendship, loyalty, mystery, betrayal, unexpected sisterhood, secrets and more. I loved it. I'm definitely a big fan of all things Kelly St Clare, the only thing I was not happy about is I have to wait for an eternity for book 3...sigh

Oh the betrayal! I am not usually one to read sci fi books, however, I ended up picking up The Retreat (book 1 in this series) after finishing The Tainted Accords series by Kelly because the series was just so gosh darn awesome I had to read something else by her and what do you know? I got sucked into this series too! I thought the Retreat was amazing and didn't think the plot could twist on me any more than it did during book one and BOY was I WRONG! I loved all the different sides of Romy! Kelly's writing is so good that some of the emotions I experienced while reading the Return

cut me right down to the bone. I cannot believe I have to wait until 2018 to find out what happens!

To be honest I had no idea which way this series would go. I knew with this being the second book, it was going to give even more insight and knowledge bombs. It did not disappoint! I was elated with the direction this series took. Thanks to Kelly for being so awesome and aiding in my addiction!

Kelly did it again! If you're a fan of dystopian, post-apocalyptic vibes then you have to check out this series! You will not be disappointed!

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