



Inhale

Kendall Grey

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Book 1 in Kendall Grey's Just Breathe paranormal romance series.

Marine biologist Dr. Zoe Morgan is working her dream job: director of a whale tagging research project. She's in her dream location: the beautiful beaches of Australia. But her sleep is plagued by nightmares—fiery hellscapes, hideous monsters, strange people ... and the gorgeous man who rescues her from them. He might be a figment of her imagination, but he sure feels real.

What Zoe doesn't know is that he's not a fantasy. He's a Sentinel charged with protecting humans from Fire Elementals, using his own blend of elemental magic. In the Dreaming, anyway. In the real world, he's Gavin Cassidy, a sexy rock star who indulges in all the excesses that money and fame can buy. Gavin hasn't been summoned to help anyone since his partner's death, and he likes it that way—until he meets Zoe in her dreams. With Zoe, it's impossible to stay detached, impossible to say no.

But Dr. Morgan is more than just his muse—she's the key to restoring order in the Dreaming. Gavin never believed he could fall for someone like Zoe, nor does he realize he may have to sacrifice the woman he loves to save his country.

“Inhale is saturated with love, loss and sex. It's saturated with colors and beauty, with good and evil. It's a richly told tale that rewards the patient reader and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to soak up something a little different.”

— Karina Halle, *New York Times* bestselling author

“[I] enjoyed this steamy paranormal fantasy romance! Multilayered with likable characters and great chemistry, Inhale is not my usual genre but it pulled me in for a lap around the Dreaming. Looking forward to the next in the series!”

— Toby Neal, *USA Today* bestselling author

“A unique paranormal lore with a touch of fantasy, the plot in Inhale is constantly on the move ... If you're serious about Urban Fantasy novels that kick butt — I highly recommend this one!”

— Giselle, Xpresso Reads

Inhale Details

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Author : Kendall Grey

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From Reader Review Inhale for online ebook

Cody says

My Thoughts:

Okay, let's just get this out of the way now... Inhale is fan-fuck-tastically A-MAH-ZING!!! (Were there enough exclamation marks there? I don't feel like there were enough exclamation marks there. Here's a few more: !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!) Seriously. Amazeballs. Zoe Morgan, the (or I guess ONE of the) protagonist, a passionate whale biologist who is plagued by past events, is a tough-as-nails, balls-to-the-wall kind of girl. The amount of depth to Zoe lends to her feeling like a very realistic character with enough depth that you become instantly attached to her. The hero of the story, Gavin Cassidy, a rock star haunted by the death of the woman he was sworn to protect, is trapped by his rock star lifestyle from feeling anything and therefore unable to tap into his true potential. That is, until he meets Zoe. Once they encounter each other, he is stirred to life and we watch him turn into a fierce and protective warrior as the story unfolds. Even through all his badassery, I found myself rooting for him and urging him along (probably doesn't hurt that he seems like a smexy BAMF).

Kendall's writing is evocative and intriguing to the point where you actually feel what the characters feel, and your breath catches when theirs does. The imagery in her story telling is so thorough and clean, I felt as if I was right there with Zoe and Gavin. The plot line was well developed, and while it leaves enough open at the end to flow smoothly into the sequel, there is enough resolution to feel like my thirst was sated. The landscapes, both in Realis (reality) and the Dreaming (dream world), were crafted so beautifully, I was literally aching to be able to visit both. This story was so rich, I almost needed a glass of milk to wash it down after. If I had a rating scale of one to five stars (or whatever), I would have to give Inhale... SIX!! Well done, Kendall Grey, my straight girlfriend-wait, that doesn't sound as unique as you calling me your gay boyfriend does... **shrugs** oh well. Keep up the awesomesauce work, and I will be making note to preorder the sequel, Exhale, as well.

Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

I don't know if I can read this book now after THIS!!!

<http://heidicullinan.wordpress.com/20...>

You burned some bridges Kendall Grey! Calling your readers stupid = no me likey.

Andrea says

Inhale is the first book in the Just Breathe series by debut author Kendall Grey. Zoe Morgan, whale researcher and advocate, haunted by the tragic events of a past research trip, heads to Australia with her team for the opportunity of a lifetime. Gavin Cassidy, Australian rock star and Sentinel, has spent the time since his last partner's tragic death in a haze of booze and sex. Doubtful of his ability to ever be an active Sentinel again, Gavin is happy to stay in the Realis, away from the responsibility the Dreaming requires of him. But

the Dreaming has other plans and when these two damaged souls together, their fate and the world's is changed forever.

Okay. This review is going to be so, so tough. I've been trying to figure out a way to write this review in a concise, cohesive manner without fan-girling all over the place, and it's a tough job. When Grey sent me the book, I was so curious, based on the synopsis, that I had to open it up right away. I didn't know what to expect, to be honest. I mean, what is the "Dreaming" and the "Realis"? And what the heck is a Sentinel? What they are, what the entire concept is, is the inventive, invigorating shot in the ass that the urban fantasy genre needs.

I know you probably want or expect me to explain what exactly Inhale is about. Truth is, I can't even begin to explain the world the author has created. And...I don't want to. But, WOW, what an amazing concept! I want each and every reader to go into Inhale like I did, with no preconceived ideas, no one over explaining and telling you what to expect. Just dive in and prepare to be blown away.

Lest you think I'm a tease, I will share what I can about Inhale. The characters. Let me start with Zoe Morgan. What an amazing heroine. I want to be Zoe when I grow up! She's pretty much a badass, a scientist who spends her life researching and protecting whales. How freaking cool, right? She is willing to take on anyone and anything to protect the creatures so beloved to her. But, Zoe has her fair share of problems, too. Raised by her emotionally distant, impossible to please scientist mother, Zoe feels as if she'll never be good enough. Combine that emotional damage with the loss of a baby whale and a disaster of a relationship with her boss, Zoe is ripe for redemption. Despite the fact she is down, Zoe never becomes pathetic or whiny. She keeps moving forward, bit by bit, inching towards her future.

Which leads me to Gavin. So help me, I want a Gavin Cassidy of my own. That man... Just thinking about him has reduced me to sentence fragments! I can't think of another fictional guy lately who has gotten under my skin quite like Gavin (and that's saying a lot because I'm constantly falling for the fake guys). Gavin is layered and complicated. On the outside, he's swagger and sex appeal. I mean, seriously, what's hotter than a tattooed rock star, an Australian one, no less? Can you even imagine? But when you get to know him, when the author takes you inside his head, that's when the real Gavin Cassidy truly shines. Because, for as much appeal as he has on the outside, the heart of Gavin will make you fall in love. Yeah, he's sexy and he knows exactly what to do to make almost any woman melt, but he always has a sweet, tender nature inside of him. The man has a gooey soft center. Honestly, what is sexier than a man who can literally have any woman he wants, but wants the woman who stands apart from the rest; the one who can stand toe-to-toe with him and take on the fury of the Elements?

Any good adult urban fantasy must contain smoking hot chemistry between the lead characters, in my opinion. Kendall Grey delivered. When Gavin and Zoe were together, simply talking or working together, it was lively and fun. But the chemistry between the two? Good gosh. Let's just say, I had to fan myself off after reading some of their more "invigorating" scenes. Check. Mate.

Here is the gist of what makes Inhale such a stand-out book: plain and simple, the writing. As much as I loved the concept, and the characters, what really blew my mind was Kendall Grey's ability to immerse me so fully into this world that I didn't know or understand, and she made me care. I fell in love with the concepts of the story, I was invested in the outcome. Readers (myself included) are constantly harping on the issue of showing vs. telling. Never once in this book did Grey rely on using the character words to do her work. She did a brilliant job of using each word to convey what the reader needed to know. The characters never said "I feel", they didn't have to. There was never a question of their thoughts or feelings, not with amazing lines like this:

“He ran the backs of his fingers down her cheek, and pity pin-balled inside his rib cage until it knocked a hole through the floor of his stomach.”

That right there is gorgeous, poetic writing, plain and simple. Gavin doesn't need to say a word describing his feelings. With a line like that, what more is there to say? Each paragraph of every page contains a beautiful gem like that. It made reading the book a wonderful, sensory-filled experience that I feel so lucky to have had.

Inhale is rich and intricate, but not overly complicated. The story is woven in such a magnificent manner, with little pieces coming back together in ways that I never expected. The story stole my attention, and my emotions. I loved the characters, their inner working, their relationships to one another. I only talked about Gavin and Zoe. But Inhale contains many characters, good and evil, who will make you smile, shake your head, and scream. I had no idea how the story would end. I knew, that as the beginning of a trilogy, the ending wouldn't be completely water tight. It had to be open-ended to some extent. And, to be sure, there is plenty more story to be told. But I was shocked by the complete and satisfying manner in which Grey ended Inhale. As a reader, I was elated and completely satisfied, and hungry for more. . I haven't been this excited over a new series in quite some time.

Favorite Quote:

(I had a terrible time narrowing my selection down. The writing is beautiful and funny, with tons of worthy quotes to choose from.)

“Water Elements or not, when the Dreaming called, he came running like the bitch he was. Or innocent people woke up dead.”

“He'd face an army of Fyres by himself, walk into the bloody sun if he had to, but don't ask him to hold her. He'd never be able to let go.”

I received a copy of Inhale from the author, in exchange for an honest review.

Lynn Rush says

I got to read an ARC of this book coming out next year. I love Zoe and Gavin's story. Kendall Grey does a fantastic job of weaving a complicated, engrossing, and creative story.

I love how raw Gavin is. He's genuine. Screws up with the best of them, yet that's what makes him so real and dare I say lovable. Zoe's brilliant. Her passion for her beliefs is enviable, yet she's vulnerable, too. Kendall Grey finds a nice balance there.

The world Kendall created is complex yet understandable. I love all the different aspects of the elements in her stories, and I can't wait to see more books on a specific elemental in particular...but I'll let you read the

story to guess who I might be thinking of.

Inhale is a pretty steamy story, so beware. But one thing I have to note is-->I didn't feel like sex was the plot like some romances. It fit with the characters and the story line.

Nicely done, Kendall. Can't wait until this is released for everyone to read!!

GraceMyBookSnack says

Vividly Brilliant!

As the first book of the Just Breathe trilogy, Inhale proves to be an urban fantasy book not to be missed! I had no idea what I was getting myself into when I started reading Inhale. All I knew was that the story had whales, a rock star and takes place in Australia. Cool! I love each of those things separately, let's see how it all comes together.

Introducing us to a parallel world called The Dreaming, Kendall Grey creatively weaves the lives of Zoe Morgan, a passionate whale biologist, and Gavin Cassidy, a rock star-tatted hottie. In reality the two don't know each other as they live their separate lives. Zoe is in charge of a whale tagging project in Hervey Bay, Australia. Gavin is uninspired and trying to survive his rock star life. They meet in their dreams and the story just takes off from there!

Not only did the story come together, each chapter leaves you wanting more! The ending left my heart racing! Kendall Grey has written a brilliant story that I think will appeal to many people. Do you like strong heroines? Zoe is a woman on a mission and not afraid to fight for what she wants. Do you like rock star heroes? Well, Gavin is swoon-worthy as he shows off his guitar skills, as well as his protective nature! The author beautifully and vividly brings to life the classical elements of air, fire, earth and water in her imaginative world building, includes the spirit of Aboriginal lore and gives a voice to the gentle, giant creatures of the sea. So if you're a fan of whales, you'll enjoy this one too! **Plus, the author is donating all profits from the sale of the Just Breathe trilogy to whale education.**

Like I said, urban fantasy and paranormal romance fans, don't miss out on this one! Be prepared to be whisked away into this story and then go tell a mate about it! Inhale by Kendall Grey is available May 1, 2012. Book 2-Exhale is expected to come out in June 2012.

Giselle says

Creative, original premise? Check.

Engaging characters? Check.

Hot sex? Triple check.

Do I have your attention yet?

I was wary at first when I saw there was talk of whale biology in this book as I have no knowledge or grand interest in the matter, ~~but then I heard about the hot sex~~ but I kept seeing such wonderful reviews that eventually convinced me to give it a try. I can say I'm really glad I did because this one is packed full or

originality with a fast pace that never lets go, and the whole aspect actually managed to intrigue me. The world building itself had me a bit confused during the first quarter or so, trying to decipher this new paranormal world of dreams and elements. But I eventually caught on and found myself quite fascinated by the whole thing. We're dealing with the four elements; an elemental imbalance in the Dreamlands is causing people to have nightmares, essentially affecting their moods or, worst case, getting them killed. It's all fairly complex with a lot of information to take in, however, Kendall makes it work. In no time, it all ties together and we're left with an immensely creative world that is brilliantly built.

There's no skimping on the characters either. We've got Zoe; whale biologist, dreamer, independent butt kicker. She's someone who knows what she wants, and tries her hardest to get it. She doesn't need anyone to sling her along, or to point out the obvious, especially when it comes to Gavin. And who's this Gavin? He's the sex-on-a-stick rock star that appears in her dreams to, well, rock her world. Though, unbeknownst to her, he's real. Very real. The romance is undoubtedly hot and steamy, but it's also realistic. I could feel their emotional attachment, especially when Zoe finds out he exists outside her dreams - a powerfully written scene vibrating from the emotional dilemma. These two protagonists are wonderful; perfectly flawed and easily loveable.

Not only are these two full of life, the side characters are equally captivating, from the trustworthy mentor to the sexy villain. They all play their own distinct part in this elaborate universe, and they play them filled with charisma. It only adds to the already enthralling storyline.

A unique paranormal lore with a touch of fantasy, the plot in *Inhale* is constantly on the move. Since we go back and forth from the dream world to reality, as well as from Zoe and Gavin's POV, there's no stagnancy in here! If we're not learning about their world, we're taken into epic fight scenes, or quests to unmask the prophecy they were given; ultimately trying to restore the elemental balance before it's too late. As far as self published books go, this is one of the better edited I've read - I was even surprised when I saw it was self published about 20% through. The writing is beautiful and flows smoothly with virtually no typos. If you're serious about Urban Fantasy novels that kick butt - I highly recommend this one!

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For more of my reviews, visit my blog at [Xpresso Reads](#)

TSDavies says

Indie author Kendall Grey's debut novel *Inhale*, still in ARC, is already climbing the must read Romance novel of 2012 and it won't be out until May!

Some of us were lucky enough to be on that special reader list and I already had an idea of what to expect from her short story in *City of Hell Chronicles: Volume 1 (London Calling)*. It was one of my favourite stories in the anthology and she set the bar high for herself.

Inhale is an urban fantasy (First of three in the *Just Breathe Trilogy*) love story set in Australia. To say it simply, hottie rockstar Gavin meets hottie whale biologist Dr. Zoe. Unfortunately, it's all a dream.

Or is it?

I'm not going to go into the plot too much, as not to spoil a story that deserves to be enjoyed properly from

beginning to end. I will say, though, that of the many types of magic systems in fantasy books, this one was unique in it's connection between the elements and emotions. When fire is involved, you know things are getting hotted up. And in Australia, you expect things are going to get a bit wet! (I mean with the whales of course!) There's a bit of earth-moving and no shortage of hot air (yeah, I mean you, Randy) . All of nature's forces are at work for these two, and some of them are trying desperately to keep them apart.

This book is absolutely fantastic and in true Kendall Grey style (as any Twitter follower knows), it's full of colourful language to punctuate the tense but pleasing plot line. The writing is excellent, the story moves forward at a pace that keeps you glued to the book. Good luck putting this one down.

Warning: Much adult content, coarse language, violence and steamy sex. That's right, ladies. Grab your bonbons and snuggie blanket. It's going to be a long night.

5 Stars on Goodreads - go add it to your MUST read list.

Kat Kennedy says

I met Kendall Grey in Kara's chat and resolved to try and read every author who attended since they were all fabulous people. Inhale was my maiden voyage into this endeavour and came with a strong recommendation from my dear friend.

I purchased a copy and eagerly sat down to read. I applaud Grey on her imagination and unique world-building. Also her research and attention to detail gets a credit. I wasn't able to finish this novel despite rather liking both of the main protagonists and generally appreciating the magic system and society she created.

I had to stop reading though because I found the writing very difficult to submerge myself in.

It felt like every third sentence was doused in jarring, uncomfortable metaphors and the similes were not a great improvement.

Of course, the first odd bit of writing to really catch my eye was on page 19 - not a great start:

"Or innocent people woke up dead."

Someone in the comments mentioned a Cordelia quote from Buffy.

(Image is from [Coalitionurl.tumblr](https://www.coalitionurl.tumblr.com/))

If anyone remembers this episode, Giles' reaction to that comment was my exact reaction to the line above.

And if that had been the worst of it I would have gotten the hell over it and gotten back to reading and trying to submerge myself in the world and narrative. But it wasn't.

"The implications rushed like a runaway bowling ball on a pre-ordained path to a game-winning strike. For the opposing team."

"The Sentinel's body convulsed, her fear producing more Fire. Like pulling spaghetti from a steaming pot, the jackals dredged out the last few red sparks and fought over them with bared teeth."

These are the examples that most stick out. It's not that they're horrible but, to me, they felt craftless and cumbersome in the text. There was an awkward, rough quality to the prose that made it difficult for me to connect to the writing.

When I realized how hard I was working to try and enjoy the story, I mostly gave up. For this caliber of novel, I expect to be swept away, not to endure a hard slog against the current.

Goodness, now I'm doing it too! Signing off before it spreads and gets worse!

Isa Lavinia says

Some of the most overly descriptive, flowery prose I've ever read, and I inflicted Twilight and Fifty Shades upon myself, so that's saying something! Every other sentence has a simile or metaphor in it, I swear I've never read so many "like"s in my life:

*"Her chewing gum popped **like** miniature gunshots."*

*"red roses scattering **like** broken bones on the pavement"*

*"Scattered fragments of noise pulled together, **like** metal shavings to a magnet."*

*"a half-eaten packet of Tim Tams littered its insides **like** guts from a dissection gone terribly wrong"*

*"it chucked his consciousness **like** a hunk of beef into someone else's nightmare"*

*"The heavy emotions—the Water—driving the song scattered him **like** disconnected puzzle pieces."*

*"The neon white eyes of inky Shadows watched him from nooks within the rocks, beckoning him **like** Red Light District prostitutes."*

*"The implications rushed **like** a runaway bowling ball on a preordained path to a game-winning strike. For the opposing team."*

*"guilt washing over him **like** an acid bath"*

*"**Like** pulling spaghetti from a steaming pot, the jackals dredged out the last few red sparks and fought over them with bared teeth."*

*"That delicious concoction of anger and lust pounding inside his veins was the purest she'd ever tasted. **Like** top grade nuclear fuel topped off with a triple shot of espresso."*

*"his smug, patronizing expression dug under her skin and poked at her last remaining nerve **like** a ten-gauge needle"*

*"Smearing the residual gore into her flesh **like** body lotion"*

*"The sudden influx of feeling wound her up **like** a pair of paddles on a flatlined heart."*

*"Zoe's heart dropped **like** an elephant at the mercy of a tranq dart."*

I could go on, but I'd be here forever.

A lot of it could have been cut, I meant it when I said it was overly descriptive. Adjectives and useless bits of info weigh down 99% of it until the reading flow has slowed down to a bog.

Seriously, some of these tidbits were not only useless but had me stop reading to try and figure out how they were even possible:

"tipping her shoulder into a flirtier angle" ...what would that be?

"With his free hand, he yanked the tie away from his neck. A button popped off this shirt." ...how?

"Or innocent people woke up dead." ...say what?

"A long, hot, breathy moan clinked his loop earrings together" ...w-what.

Then the flowery stuff:

"Blurry streaks of red sliced open the dusk, eviscerating the air."

"Water bled from his soul until it was dry."

"his harsh, jagged edges would never sit flush with her smooth and straight lines."

"The tears called out to him in silence."

The bare bones of the plot aren't bad at all, if you look past the Gary-Stue ("tall, dark, and disgustingly gorgeous" rock-and-roll superstar with magic elemental powers) and Mary-Sue ("fucking beautiful" scientist who talks to whales) protagonists, who meet in their dreams and are meant to be.

I would have given it 0 stars if I could but it deserves the 1 star because it *was* well-researched (and, as a scientist, I appreciate that) and the story was original and had potential. If about 200 odd pages of descriptions and similes had been cut (the dream world didn't help any) it could have been an enjoyable read. As it is, I ended up skimming most of it.

I read as a hobby, I like to read. I read to distract myself. But this? This felt like work.

Karina Halle says

Inhale was one of those books I knew I'd eventually end up reading. 1) It had great reviews from bloggers and reviewers whose opinions I trusted 2) the author herself is just an f-bomb of awesomeness in one cute package 3) I had an obsession with whales when I was younger and 4) Sex is good. I mean, I heard there was a lot of sex in this book.

And there was just enough (frankly, there could have been more) but let's discuss that later.

First of all, major props to Grey. She took four years to write this book and it shows. Inhale is one of the most detailed, well planned and flat-out imaginative books I've read in years. The way she combines Aboriginal myth with a modern setting is a huge undertaking but it is one that's taken well. I lived in Australia for a very brief while, even spending some time up at Hervey Bay where the story is set, and Grey did not skimp on the research.

For those who want the summary, I suggest reading the blurb because it's kind of hard for me to summarize. Essentially it's a tale of balance in two parallel worlds - the world in which we dream, the one in which we live. Good and evil are on a seesaw and creatures of the elemental worlds must find the key to restore an even keel to the two connected realities. Got it? Well, read it, it'll eventually make sense.

I really liked our two main leads, Zoe and Gavin (as they are known in Realis, or "the real world") and Muse and Perfect (as they call each other in the dreaming). I could relate a lot to Zoe and though at times I didn't really connect to her (I guess all her water didn't really reach me), I liked her as a person. Gavin? Aaaah Gavin. Not only is he my dream man in real life (Realis? Whut?), but he's...yeah that's all I really had to say. Rock star, tall, dark, handsome, tattooed, pierced, smoker (I know, I know) with emotional issues and balls of steel.

I also appreciated all the supporting characters, from the vile evil that is the sizzling Scarlet to the bad boy Sinnder to Zoe's spunky bff. Oh, and Yileen. Yileeeeeeeeeen! I love that man.

And then there's the sex. So much hype about the sex! I don't know what I was expecting, erotica? It's not erotica. It's just very hot, very sexy and very real. The sex scenes were extremely well done and I would imagine only the most prudish or sensitive types would find them offensive. They were sexy, not raunchy...and you know, I kind hope for the envelope to be pushed a bit in Exhale *rubs hands together*

Why wasn't Inhale as 5 stars "Perfect" as Mr. Perfect himself? Well, it took me awhile to get into the book due to the fantasy world, which was naturally quite complicated, even with what little knowledge I had of Aboriginal culture. Probably because of this, I had a hard time connecting to the characters while they were in The Dreaming. And that does take up a hefty part of the novel. The stuff that happened in Realis made more of a connection for me...maybe because it was "real"? Also, I didn't particularly like Zoe while she was in the Dreaming. I can't really put my finger on why, maybe I detected a hint of arrogance there that didn't exist in the real world? Then again, f*** it's a dream and we can be whoever we want to be (for the record, I can be a major bitch in my dreams. Just saying).

But those, along with some more extra-metaphorical prose, were somewhat minor quibbles. At first I had issues with the length of the book as it felt long at parts, but by the time it was over I was left with a huge smile on my face and excited to get to Exhale. Who cares how long it took to get there if the end result is awesomeness?

If I had to pick one word to describe Inhale, it would "saturated." Inhale is saturated with love, loss and sex. It's saturated with colors and beauty, with good and evil. It's a richly told tale that rewards the patient reader

and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to soak up something a little different.

Delphina says

This is not my review, I will write it up tomorrow, but I just have to shout: THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS I HAVE EVER READ!!!!!!

OK, so here is my actual review. I was just so stinkin' excited not to post a comment when I finished it, but way too tired to form coherent sentences with anything close to decent editing skills.

I was not exaggerating my love for this book. When I decided to review this arc, I was expecting to like it. The premise was different and the buzz was good. I never expected to absolutely love it. This story of love and fate and balance and becoming the person you were meant to be was beautifully woven.

Normally, here is where I say, "I'll tell you what I liked about it", but with this review I need to say, "loved" about it:

*I have always loved whales and felt they held a kind of "magic" for lack of a better word. I really enjoyed how Kendall blended the science and fantasy in this story. I do not know how to tell you exactly what I mean here without giving spoilers, but I believed.

*The characters were not perfect or always likable, but you cared about them and understood their actions. It was fascinating to see such well developed characters as not only they saw themselves, but as others saw them. The way Zoe and Gavin saw each other was so completely different than they saw themselves and so completely different than I saw them.

*The authors' use of language was amazing. Different characters have different dialects and slang and they stayed true to their voice throughout the book. The story takes place, for the most part, in Australia, but has characters from elsewhere, making this exceptionally impressive. *Ok, that statement may not be true. A lot of the book took place in Dreaming, but the base was Australia. Either way, the characters held their voices.*

*The blend of aboriginal lore with the science made for a very unique story. The amount of research that went into this novel must have been immense.

*This book beyond had the "I can not put this down" factor. I felt myself anxious to find out what was on the next page. This was in the action scenes as well as the interpersonal scenes. I can not tell you why without being spoilery, but the scene at Shaggy's had me on the edge of my seat.

*If you are worried that with all my talk of science and lore that there would not be some heat, have no fear ;).

*The ending. It was a complete story, but left enough open to make you want more.

*The profits from this book and all of the books in the trilogy are going to whale education programs!!!!!!

I can not even tell you how much I am anticipating the next book in this series. I almost wish I had not gotten to read this one early because now I need to wait extra long to read the next book. Speaking of this being an arc, because of that I can not comment on what the final editing and formatting will be like, but they seemed really strong in the copy I have.

Kendall, If you read this, please release your next book tomorrow. Thank you ;)

This is not a YA read and I do not recommend it for those under 18. One of the main characters is a rock star so you see some of that world as it, unfortunately, is and the main characters do express their feelings and attraction for each other.

delphinareadstoomuch.blogspot.com

Isalys says

You guys, I am so happy to be dedicating a whole week to Kendall and the EPICNESS that is her book, INHALE. I'm talking stoopid-happy over here!! As part of our "Month of Indie Epicness", I've been fortunate enough to read some really incredible books...but INHALE has surprised me the most. Its ingenuity and complexity is beyond anything that I expected. This will be my attempt to write a cohesive review about a book that makes me want to fangirl like a 13-year-old girl at a Justin Bieber concert, lol.

Our heroine Zoe Morgan is a whale researcher and advocate. She has dedicated her life and career to educating and protecting the majestic Humpback Whale. Haunted by the loss of a baby whale during a previous trip, she now has the chance to redeem herself by directing an expedition to Australia.

Gavin Cassidy, our hero, is an Australian rock star and a Sentinel. A Sentinel is a warrior and protector of The Dreaming, an alternate world controlled by Elementals. After the loss of his partner, he became imbalanced and dedicated himself to the life of a debauched rock star. No longer trusting himself or his abilities as a Sentinel, he is contented to stay in Realis (the real world)...that is until he gets a really big assignment. Zoe and Gavin's lives become entangled in a way that neither expected or understood and I'm so glad I got to be a part of that ride.

Zoe is so admirable! Raised by a cold and emotionally-distant mother, a failed relationship with her boss and the loss of that baby whale have really taken a toll on her self-esteem. However, her commitment to her

whales is her priority and her strength. She is a fighter!

Gavin *hubba hubba grr baby* is just delectable! As the lead singer of a popular band, he is the picture of strength, confidence and sex appeal. Little does the world know that it's all a facade. He still struggles with the death of his partner, does not trust himself to protect Wyldings and has to practically beat Scarlet off with a stick (a Fyre Elemental with an agenda). Sidenote: Bitch is lookin' for a beat down! *gives her evil eye* He is the ultimate tortured hero!

I loved all of Zoe and Gavin's interactions. From talking, to working or fighting together, to doing other stuff *wink wink*, they simply oozed chemistry! They were lively, fun, and smexy as hell!

I'm not sure it's possible to describe this book without giving away too much. There is just so much to it! I have no doubt of the power of each character. Humility, strength, humor, manipulation, mystery; these are all part of the cast. But beyond the larger than life characters, the fascinating world-building, the do or die plot, what really shines is Kendall's writing. She has a talent for completely immersing you in a strange and vibrant world. These places she created are unlike any other I've read but I never felt lost or confused. It's her talent as a writer to guide us through her story and she did so beautifully!

As for the ending, well done! With this book being part of a series, it had to be open-ended enough that it leads into the next but satisfying enough that we're not left frustrated. I finished the last line, grinned like a goof and then scolded Kendall for toying with me like that!

This book was Urban Fantasy at it's finest!

ORIGINAL REVIEW ON BOOK SOULMATES.

Ren Warom says

Okay, shall I tell you all that this book is rather naughty? I could, because it is. I could also tell you that it is much like a bag of Cheetos, or a tube of pringles, you start munching away and, even if they're not your favourite flavour, suddenly you're at the end of the tube or the bottom of the bag and you want more. I could tell you that, because that would also be true. This book is an amalgam of tasty treats rolled into one, written with a light and talented hand and more-ish as all hell, it's filled to the brim with beautiful whales, fabulous ideas and wonderfully drawn characters.

The heroine, Zoe Morgan, is a feisty lady and a half, she cares deeply for her whales, for her friends, and she doesn't take shit from anyone, I liked her a great deal - not your usual sap masquerading as a firebrand this one, she's full on hardcore without ever losing her femininity. Our hero, Gavin Cassidy, well, he's not only a scorching hot rockstar, he's sensitive, heartbroken and, deep down, a really decent guy, not to mention rather bloody good in the sack. In effect, he is a delicious treat of a character, who adds serious calorific value to every page he inhabits. Thank you, Santa... I mean Kendall :P Joined by wise Yileen, sassy Adriene, and power-hungry Scarlet, Kendall's cast are a truly terrific bunch, well written, fully rounded and pretty much kick arse and there's no vanilla in this bunch, not one of them pulls their punches! I have to say, however, that my favourite character is, to all intents and purposes, a side character, who we didn't see nearly enough of; the exceedingly delicious and enigmatic Sinnder. He can go pyromaniac on me any time he likes... :P

To round up this warbling pile of inadequate babble (I need more coffee and less yelling spawn), Kendall Grey's Inhale, weaving folklore into urban fantasy and combining it seamlessly with marine biology is, quite

simply, marvellous. My only reason for four stars is that I found the beginning chapters a little confused, though not enough to inhibit my enthusiasm for reading - the vivid descriptions and great character interactions kept me 100% in the game. After about 22% or so, I felt the confusion lift and the story rocketed off, from that point I was utterly drawn in by the unfolding events, to the extent that I've informed Kendall that I *must* have an ARC of Exhale as soon as it's available as I want to know what happens next!

Tagline for reading this book, especially the steamy bits, should be: 'Don't forget to Inhale...'

Nichole ~Bookaholic~ says

Not only will I not buy any of her books....I don't want the free one's anymore either.....below is what this author posted to her blog then removed. The full text of the rant was copied by others before it was removed, I found the full text here. <http://www.goodreads.com/review/show/...>

Selling Out 101 with Kendall Grey

Posted on May 15, 2013 by authorsforlife

Selling Out 101

I self-published an urban fantasy trilogy last year. I spent four years writing it. I poured all kinds of money, time, and energy into that bugger. I did everything “They” tell you to do: blog tours, paid advertising, securing reviews, professional editing and cover design, book signings, pimping, pimping, pimping. I put way too much cash into making my books as perfect as they could be.

They tanked.

Okay, they didn’t really tank, but the output wasn’t remotely proportional to the input. I viewed the series as a bomb, despite good reviews and positive feedback from readers. The books just didn’t do what I needed them to do. They didn’t make money.

So, I went through all the stages of grief, and in the end I got angry. Anger is a great motivator for me. I looked at what was hitting the tops of the bestseller lists: Contemporary. New Adult. Erotica. None of my preferred genres. But I was so driven to prove to myself that I didn’t suck as a writer, I did something I swore I’d never do.

I sold out.

I wrote an erotica book.

It kicked my UF series’ ASS in sales and rankings.

Go effin’ figure.

Some hard truths came to light through this process. The biggest revelation was that as authors, we have to decide whether we're in this business to make art or to make money. We can't have both. Very few authors make art that sells. Commercial viability does not lend itself to artistic endeavors, and vice-versa. If New York doesn't want your book, then you're probably too creative. If they do want it, then you're marketable. New York publishers run a business. They don't give a shit about art.

Apparently, they have something there. Readers generally (don't throw stones—I'm referring to the masses here, not individuals) don't want art either. They want easily digestible, bite-sized nuggets of warm fuzzies. They want simplicity. Art is neither easily digestible (you sometimes have to chew on it for days to filter meaning from it) nor simple.

I made \$10,000 in two weeks off my new erotica book *STRINGS*. Nearly three weeks later, I'm selling over 100 copies of the book a day. And this piece of trash never even cracked Amazon's top 100. Imagine how much I'd have made if I'd busted open THAT list. My beautiful, artistic, deep *JUST BREATHE* urban fantasy series? Well, I'm still in the hole there if that tells you anything.

I spent exactly two months plotting, writing, editing, and publishing *STRINGS*. The *JUST BREATHE* Trilogy? Four YEARS.

My total production cost for *STRINGS* was under \$500. I'm embarrassed to reveal how much money I poured into producing the three *JUST BREATHE* books.

How did I transform from nobody to Somebody? I sold out.

And you can too!

Or not.

I know it's depressing to hear that in order to find success, you may have to compromise your principles. I've come to grips with the fact that in the current market, trashy smut sells, and urban fantasy does not. Tough shit for me. If you want to sell books, you have to feed the market what it craves.

You can be noble and stick to your guns and say, "Screw that! I'm gonna keep writing what's in my heart no matter what!" Fine and groovy, as long as you accept that this guerilla mentality of badassery won't pay your bills. More power to you for upholding your principles!

For us artists who want or need to make a living at writing, there is a silver lining. Once you've done your part to feed the reader machine, and you get paid ridiculous amounts of money for publicly shaming yourself and lowering your standards, you'll be armed with the power to write what you want. Once you've built your readership, there's a good chance many of your readers will follow you into your preferred, artsy-fartsy genre because they like you. Yes, you may have to compromise and write more sell-out books along the way to feed YOUR machine, but the beauty is that you can do BOTH and make it work.

Compromise: The name of the game for writers in the New World Order of Publishing.

So, who do you write for? Yourself or the market? How far are you willing to bend to achieve your dreams as an author?

Wendy Darling says

Whale biology? Hot sex? 5 stars from trusted friends? Proceeds to whale research? *flails*
