



Araton's Destiny

Serena Yates

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What if you're a guardian angel and fail to do your job?

Araton has been a guardian angel for less than a century when a moment of distraction causes his human charge to be hit by a car. He expects to be punished - and is surprised to find out there is room for leniency - and even a new job. Will he be any better at being a Christmas angel?

Jake is a former pro-football player whose knee injury has prevented him from fulfilling a lifelong dream. He turns his attention to extreme sports instead. When he falls into an ice cave during a solitary trip just before Christmas he believes it is the end of the road for him. Nothing short of a miracle will save him...

Araton's Destiny Details

Date : Published April 23rd 2013 by Diversity Novels (first published December 15th 2010)

ISBN : 9781909630079

Author : Serena Yates

Format : ebook 79 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Paranormal, Angels, Fantasy, Contemporary

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From Reader Review Araton's Destiny for online ebook

Nancy L says

I want my own angel now!

Arzu says

What a sweet story with touching scenes about guilt, hope, shattered dreams, new beginnings and love of course! Araton was just too sweet with his naivety.

I am a sucker for happy endings. I can't wait to read Dexter's story.

Tristan says

3/5

An alright short read.

Elizabeth Besenfelder says

Wonderfully touching story about sacrifices for love. Serena has done it yet again. Would love to see a sequel/update on Aaraton and Jake.

Serena Yates says

Re-released today, at Diversity Novels!

The content is the same as before, but if you've never read Araton's story, this could be your chance to catch up. Araton may be a guardian angel, but he isn't very good at his job...

Miz Love says

****possible plot spoilers****

When Araton fails to keep his charge safe and his charge winds up in a wheelchair, he's devastated. It had only taken that one moment of inattentiveness to change the man's life forever. Summoned by The Powers That Be, Araton must face his fate—or must he? His friend, there for moral support, appeals against the

decision to banish Araton into the void, and a new phase of Araton's existence begins.

He must ensure his new charge understands and believes in the spirit of Christmas. However, that's a tough job because Jake has had his life ruined and no longer believes in anything much. Once a pro footballer, he's denied his dream of playing because of an injury. No team will touch him now, and with a great void in his life—and I loved the parallel there, with him and Araton both facing voids—he wonders what the hell to do next.

Once healed, Jake throws himself into other things, one of them being a hike over glaciers. He falls into a chasm and, as he looks around he knows there is no chance he will make it out alive. Until something brushes his face—or someone... That someone is Araton, who performs a miracle and flies them out of there and into a cabin. There, they spend time getting to know one another, and Araton reveals what he is. But things have changed for the angel—he has decisions to make, big ones that could change everything.

I loved seeing how Jake's despondency changed to wonder the more he spent time with Araton. I loved the new things Araton discovered—the simple taste of stew, something we take for granted, for instance. I tasted it right along with him, and it actually made me stop and think—next time I eat something, I'm going to savour it as though it was my first time. I suspect it will taste altogether different when I do.

Together, Jake and Araton make a wonderful pair, and I was happy that the correct decisions were made.

Araton's Destiny is a great read that held my attention and went along at a pace just right for my tastes. I thoroughly enjoyed it and started book 2 as soon as I finished 1. Here's hoping the series only continues to grow, because those celestial beings have got me interested to find out more!

A.J. Llewellyn says

I loved this book. The guardian angel them is a time-honored one and I loved that both Araton the angel, and his human, Jake, are both flawed individuals who can only be redeemed by love.

I enjoyed Serena's sense of humor--and her sense of the ridiculous. I am looking forward to book two in this series. These characters really wormed their way into my heart and I want more. MORE!

The sex scenes by the way are scorching...Araton is one bad-ass, sexy angel!!

Charly says

Mushy and all about the sex, which didn't quite work for me

Warning: This review might contain what some people consider SPOILERS.

Rating: 6/10

PROS:

- Some of the specifics about angels are fun: their physical forms, their emotions, the way their lives work, etc. I was also amused by the distinctions made between different types of celestial beings.

- Araton is incredibly naïve, never having experienced sexual contact of any sort before meeting Jake, and the author manages to portray Jake in a similar way despite the fact that he's had a bit more experience than Araton has. The sweet and tentative nature of the physical scenes almost made me feel as though the characters were two teenagers rather than grown men.
- The story's a quick read, and probably almost half of it consists of lovingly described sex scenes. They're detailed and drawn-out, and Yates seems to have a gift for writing about what her characters do in the bedroom. (see cons below also)

CONS:

- The whole story felt rushed to me. Descriptions of the setting, relation of key scenes (for example, Araton's first experiences with sleep and food and physical touch), and even conversations would have had more of an impact on me if they'd been slowed down just a bit and expanded upon.
- The men have sex when they're still strangers, which means there's very little buildup. As a result, the sex had zero impact on me.
- The story is rather spectacularly mushy at times. Araton gets Jake a nothing-special-about-it, football-shaped clock for Christmas, and Jake's response is, "It's absolutely stunning!"...and Jake is calling Araton "baby" within 24 hours of having met him. Now, I'm one of those people who actually believes that love at first sight (or at least, within a few hours) is possible, but I wasn't convinced that it happened here. Maybe with more detail I could have been.

Overall comments: The sex is well written and fairly expansive, so if you're looking for a short story with a healthy dose of erotica, you might try this one. I like to read sex scenes that are between people who have more of an emotional connection than these two guys, though, so overall I didn't love this one. The sex is the story's biggest selling point, and the sex didn't do it for me.

Lena Grey says

Standing in any courtroom waiting to face justice would be intimidating enough, but standing in front of the judicial panel for celestial-human affairs in Heaven, would be unimaginably frightening, especially when the actions placing you there weren't deliberate. At the beginning of 'Araton's Destiny', by Serena Yates, that's exactly where Junior Guardian Angel Araton finds himself.

One of the things that I loved most was the interaction between Araton and Jake. Araton was so naive, yet so responsive, trusting that Jake only had his best interests at heart. I wasn't expecting the sex between them to be so toe curling sex, but it was a very enjoyable surprise, definitely scorchingly red-hot! I was gratified to see that Jake took such care to make sure Araton was at ease. Watching their passionate, yet gentle relationship blossom was wonderful. I really liked Araton's gradual transformation both physically and emotionally. I admired the way they accepted the changes going on around them and took it in such stride. Araton may have been sent to Jake as a Christmas Angel in order to help him find a Christmas miracle; however, Araton was his Christmas miracle just as Jake was Araton's.

'Araton's Destiny' is an enjoyable, sweet Christmas story with passionate, wonderfully written love scenes and a great happy ending. It's a marvelous tale about justice, passion and setting things right. It made me feel all warm and fuzzy inside and out and if you are a romantic like me, it will have the same effect on you.

NOTE: This book was provided by Silver Publishing for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

J.P. Bowie says

Short and sweet story of two men destined to be a part of one another's lives, even though one isn't quite human.

Lexi Ander says

Araton is a little different from other angels. He craves to be touched and he dreams about writing books. In a moment of inattention, disaster happens and Araton is removed from being a Guardian Angel. Now he has been given a new charge as a Christmas Angel. His duty is to help people to believe in miracles again so that they can get their life back.

Jake is a former football player. He lost his career when he sustained a severe injury to his knee. For the last four years he has been trying to recover and figure out where to go from here when he lost his dream and didn't have anything else that he wanted to do with his life. Indulging in extreme sports, Jake falls down an ice crevice, injuring himself in the process. Unable to get out and losing all his supplies, he believed that this is the end.

Araton has to figure out how to get Jake to believe in miracles without disclosing his angel status, especially when several miracles have already been performed? Well his job just got a little harder because now his wings are gone.

What a great story of Hope and New Beginnings...and of course Love. I loved every minute. Maybe we will get to see Dexter and his Christmas Angel...

Serena Yates says

Published today, this is the first book in a series that takes a slightly irreverent look at the way Heaven is managed, celestial politics included. The series name, Celestial Justice, is a summary of the thought behind all the books: whatever happens to any of the angels, ex-angels or humans involved, in the end, justice will prevail.

This first story has a Christmas theme, but that only provides a seasonally inspired setting. Araton, an ex-guardian angel, may have a new assignment, but it soon proves to be no easier than his previous job. Jake, a former professional football player, has more problems than Araton knows what to do with....

I hope you enjoy reading this story as much as I loved writing it!

Andrew Grey says

This was a good story with interesting twists. I particularly liked the way the background and world were built. The characters were rich, caring, and I grew to like them.

Mary says

I love-love-love angel stories and this one has a nice twist about an angel getting a second chance and finding out that what he really needs more than anything is love. The pacing is never rushed and I'm a fan of that. The over-hasty wrap-up is not my cup of tea. I'm looking forward to reading the next one.

Marsha Spence says

Enjoyed this very much. My first angel story and now I'm looking for more. Well written and enjoyable tale!
