



# The Scarlet Tanager

*Emigh Cannaday*

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## **The Scarlet Tanager** Emigh Cannaday

"You're part samodiva. I knew that when I met you. It's in your blood to be distracted by beauty...and pleasure." He turned to face her, taking in every sensuous curve of her female form. "You seem to have forgotten that it's in my blood as well. Whatever shall I do to remind you?"

Scandal. Blackmail. Obsession. It's just another day if you're a Marinossian. When Annika disappears without a trace, Talvi launches the hunt for his most infuriating rival yet. His only clues are from a government he's increasingly at odds with. In exchange for access to their resources, he does the unthinkable and reveals Annika's true nature. Time is short, but the list of names Talvi can trust keeps getting shorter.

Back home at the family's country estate, his brother Finn is blindsided when the missing redhead turns up injured with no recollection of how she arrived. While his mother tends to her physical wounds, Finn's given the task of restoring her memory...and he just can't resist showing her his version of the truth. But playing mind games is like playing roulette—and someone's luck is about to run out.

You'll enjoy this edgy & dark blend of New Adult Romantic Fantasy and Paranormal Romance if you're a fan of Laurell K. Hamilton, Kresley Cole, Donna Grant, Charlaine Harris, Karen Marie Moning, Jeanine Frost, J.R. Ward and Lynsay Sands.

## **The Scarlet Tanager Details**

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# From Reader Review The Scarlet Tanager for online ebook

## Eryn says

### Crazy...

If you're reading this review, I'm going to assume you've read the preceding books as well. Therefore, this review will be one of the few I write with possible spoilers.

I so wanted to love this book. And parts of it I did. However, this book took one of my absolute most beloved characters and destroyed him. Despite everything with Finn I really wanted something good for him. But as this book continued I came to despise him. That brought the entire book down for me.

Additionally, part of what I love about these books is the interaction between Annika and Talvi, so to have a second book in a row keep them apart for the majority of it was a major disappointment for me. At one point I even had to force myself to keep reading.

Chivanni sadly ends up falling into the background, Danny is getting psycho, and Annika's family/friends all kinds of disappear also.

All that being said, the last few chapters really throw everything for a loop, and I didn't really see any of it coming. I'm still in shock even as I write this.

I hope the coming books are better than most of the middle of this one. I hope things don't go truly insane following the end of this one. I do look forward to reading the next, though it isn't without a little reservation.

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## Kimberly Austin says

I'm at 70% in the book and I can't help but comment on how frustrated I am to the point where I felt it necessary to comment on good reads when I haven't opened this site in a year. I love this series, it's really good, and I think it's well written. However, I was torn between giving this book 5 stars or no stars, and unfortunately I can't give it no stars, so 1 star it is.

Book one was excellent, book two, started to get dicey for me. I'm a huge hater for those who cheat in real life so I make it a point to not read about it when I immerse myself in wonderful fiction, and IMHO that's exactly what Finn and Annika are doing. I honestly have never hated a character as much as I hate Annika. Finn is climbing to the top of my hate list as well. Towards the end of book 2, and now into book 3, I'm constantly shaking my head in anger, asking "How exactly is this ok?" Why are we supposed to be ok with this? The fact that Annika has been through a trauma she can't even remember excuses nothing at this point. I'm really disappointed in the author. I feel like she is using this injury to excuse unexcusable behavior, like somehow, it's ok for Annika to lust and lead on Finn, Talvi's brother just because she can't remember, and pretty much forget any kind of morals that's supposed to come with being married to someone. Morals = Thrown out the window.

Annika at this point in the book knows that she is married and still dreams about boning Finn to the point that he can easily read what she's thinking, and he's acting on it. She has to be literally the most selfish,

whiney little b\*\*ch character I have ever read about and I have read A LOT of books. A character that uses any excuse in the book to justify any kind of rude additude towards her husband like throwing his past in his face constantly, and the wild lustful behavior towards her husband's brother. I'm not ok with this, I don't like it in real life and I don't like reading about it. At this point I'm only reading cause I cant wait to see what Talvi has in store for his wife and brother when he finds about them.

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ARRTGGHHDF/nhfgb bkdjnbkfdbnkfdnbhijkl

I just finished it. Changed my 1 star to 5 star. ARRRRGggghhhh.

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### ● ???? ● says

I'm.... not even sure what to say, really. For two people who are supposed to be true loves, Talvi and Annika spend most of their time apart, at each other's throats or banging other people. What's the point? After spending two books clinging determinedly to Team Talvi, he completely lost me when he took up with his boss despite being married. After he, you know, ripped his new wife from her home country with the lure of a honeymoon, then proceeded to dump her off with his brother and vanish without a word. What a terrific guy! I am inclined to excuse Annika's transgressions because she had no idea she would be experiencing a period of uncontrollable heat, which no one bothered to explain to her. My lasting impression of this book is that Annika should be with Finn, and Talvi should be flushed. Ugh.

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### Kerry says

I had to think about it before writing this review. For one I love dark novels and anxiously awaited this third book in the series. Given the fact that usually things always go wrong and unexpected in Talvi and Annika's newfound relationship; I have to say this was darker than I anticipated. I am so elated that I did not see this coming and was taken off balance. One thing is for sure, if you've already made assumptions about these characters you're in for a whole new revelation and some insight that will have you question many things. Breathtaking, Dark, Astonishing and compelling series. Remarkable books that is not easily forgotten. Your jaw will drop, a lot. This was given as an Advanced Reader for an honest review from author Emigh Cannaday. Five plus stars.

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### Randa says

#### Well Damn

This instalment of the Annika Brisby series is where things begin to get REALLY messy. Finn has to step in & care for Annika, while Talvi has no idea where she is. This makes things more than a little awkward. Most of the book is spent with Talvi & Annika separated.

The relationships between Annika & the Marrinossians are fleshing out, giving us more understanding of life

on Eritähti for the Elves. We get a few choice bait moments that hint at Yuri's role in the overarching plot, while learning more about the vampires. The details of the overarching plot are still fairly blurry right now; there's no telling what's actually going to happen. We learn more about the nature of Annika & Talvi's rings, & the changes that have been caused by them.

While I am looking forward to seeing where this goes, I'm currently reeling from the ending of this instalment. I can't see how the last scene was necessary. The actions of one character are entirely out of character, & the situation they find themselves in is not one that should ever have come about. The risk posed to a life there is far too far outside the rational responses of the characters, as well as being entirely galling - there's such an extreme switch of pace it sent me reeling. That really needs addressing.

There are a few more line errors in this piece compared to the previous books. These errors are mostly grammatical. I can't help but think this book has not been so carefully edited. With room for improvement, I enjoyed this book, & look forward to the next part.

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## **MiraJane says**

“Shall I wipe my boots on you since you’re masquerading as a doormat?”

I received a complimentary copy of this book for free to give a voluntary honest review. This review contains only my own thoughts and opinions of this book. Thank you Emigh Cannaday for this opportunity!

Reading this book from start to finish started as a fun pastime ... until chapter two and three. After that it became an obligation to my "can't leave anything unfinished" syndrome and further down the road it became absolute torture. There is no way this author planned this starting the first book. The second and now this book is just so so different and follows the Flame and the Arrow so poorly that right now I can't help but think that she let her first story and it's amazing characters, plot and world go to waste. She could have just left the first book as a stand alone and made a completely new series instead.

First of, this is supposed to be a dark fantasy paranormal romance. Is it dark? Yes, but not in any good way for the most part. Is it fantasy? I guess? But it honestly felt more like some sort of detective/criminal investigation drama with all the kidnapping and searching and working for the supernatural's very own FBI. Is it paranormal? Sure, It is more paranormal than it is fantasy anyway. Last of all, is it romance? No, not really at all. Unless you count the last 7 % of the book (kindle). This was more like a long distant relationship without the regularly scheduled phone calls and infidelity on the side. What's romantic about that?

This just shows how deceiving the book cover is because once again Talvi and Annika is apart for the major part of the book (in this case 93 %). You'd think that'd be the worst part, but it actually isn't. No, the absolute worst is that as I was struggling with my annoyance of them not being together yet again, I started getting the shipping of Finn and Annika thrown right in my face. Excuse me, but wasn't that already resolved in the Silver Thread? Why go back there then? Instead of evolving the plot and relationship it got devolved back. I didn't tolerate the relationship between Finn and Annika much in the previous book and even less now that the author insinuated that they are "soulmates" and "destined lovers", like the love between Talvi and Annika wasn't real or as strong. Add my already growing annoyance I was feeling of a "romance" between characters spending most of the story worlds apart, you can understand I was pissed. Emigh Cannaday is pulling a Sara J Maas on me. The difference is Maas expertly wrote the new relationship

so that I could eventually get behind it. This however, I can't get behind. At. All.

Then we have all the useless facts, stories and details that gives nothing to the plot or development. They were just here to fill out the pages and bore the readers, it felt like. For example all the different provinces/countries and all their politics and culture. Why do we need to know that in detail? We also had to read through Corbin's story which I can barely remember since I sort of spaced out finding no interest in it. As far as I could see none of it were of importance or any way to progress the story. Then we have that weird moment when they were discussing twilight as well. I don't know if it was useless. I guess it gave the book and Annika a quirk, but I found it really cringy. I mean, what the hell was that about? Is Cannaday promoting Twilight or something?

For me this book deserves two stars at most. After all, there were some things I quite liked, although few and far between. I liked how well written the trauma Annika experienced was and how it effected her. I really liked the chapter from Hilda's POV, which surprised me since I usually don't like different POVs. I especially liked that for once Talvi actually took some blame of what went wrong in their relationship, instead of blaming it all on Annika, like he did in the Silver Thread.

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## **Minx -The Genre Minx Book Reviews says**

This review is based on a digital copy I received from author Emigh Cannaday. It is an honest review and the complimentary receipt of it in no way affected my review or rating.

This book started off with deception, action, and a sinister villain. It then went for a ride into the realm of appalling. Honestly, poor Annika! Then with another twist to the story, past actions comes back to haunt Finn and confuse Annika. I guess some sleeping dogs just don't lie.

There has been some debate amongst fans as to what team they are on, Team Talvi or Team Finn. I want to be clear that I am definitely on Team Talvi! Until this installment I could have been on the fence between the two of them but now I am securely settled on this matter. This book was truly wonderful. This story is told primarily from the perspective of Finn. Annika is a huge part of this book but suffering from memory loss she is fighting her way to the truth, ha ha ha, but she is doing it Annika style.

Finn is Talvi's older brother and he has always been a big brother to him even if he did not condone his actions, until Annika. Throughout the series Finn has found himself torn between his feelings for Annika. In book one he was instrumental in the reunification between Talvi and Annika. In book two he is confused about his feelings for Annika but goes to great lengths to respect the sanctity of his brother's marriage, which leads him down a dark rabbit hole. Now we are seeing a whole new Finn and it is heartbreaking. He is almost obsessive and has become very unhealthy and dysfunctional. I have my theories on this development but alas will have to await the next in this series to see if anything plays out because the ending of this book makes it seem impossible! I am twisted up in knots over this ending!

In my previous reviews I have always felt that Annika needed to grow up a little and I am really wowed by her development in this story. Some may argue this point due to her behavior but she had very few memories that were clear and she was being influenced by Finn who had some very strong feelings on the subject of her marriage to Talvi. I however felt that Annika was trying to figure out everything and her marriage to Talvi had been something that was not filled with joy and wonder. They actually had very little time together and their relationship started off on the wrong foot and when they did finally have a break-through she was

ripped away in the worst way possible. I feel that by the end of this story that an entirely new Annika had emerged and no, she is not done developing, but she is well on her way.

Talvi to me was the star of the book. Funny because he was not the main player in the book but he was committed to finding his wife and really took a look at himself and the role he has played in the marriage. I will admit that there is a scene with Merriweather that had me furious...I mean almost pitching the kindle furious.....breathe, breathe, ha ha, but it turned out to be ok in the end and I can understand why he made the decision that he did. I love what occurred when Talvi and Annika were brought together again. It was really wonderful, touching, and made my heart soar. But then.....

The last chapter happened and I was left in a wretched state of disbelief. Disbelief at what happened between the brothers and I was absolutely with Talvi as he screamed:

“No! No! NO! This isn’t HAPPENING!”

Yep, right there with you brother. I am still reeling from what occurred and all I can say is “please say it isn’t so!” Wondrous addition to the series! I highly recommend.

Find this review and more at [The Genre Minx Book Reviews](#)

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## **Gaddle says**

This review is based on an audiobook that I received. It is an honest review and the complimentary receipt of it in no way affected my review or rating.

'The Scarlet Tanager' by Emigh Cannaday is the story of Annika and Talvi. This is the 3th audiobook in "The Annika Brisby" Series. This audiobook is about 14hours long that does have a cliffhanging end that is setting you up for the continues story of Annika and Talvi. Emigh Cannaday really likes her cliffhanging ends.

I was very happy to hear that Emigh Cannaday used the same narrator as she use for the first book (The flame and the arrow) in 'the Annika Brisbey' series.

The narrator, Nick Cracknell has a nice voice. He is easy to listen to. Sometimes a bit monotome, but certainly very clear. His pronunciation is very good. The sound quality is also good. it was nice and clear. Nick Cracknell's acting skills brought the characters to life.

This book started off with deception, action, and a sinister villain. It then went for a ride into the realm of appalling. Honestly, poor Annika! Then with another twist to the story, past actions comes back to haunt Finn and confuse Annika. This book was truly wonderful. This story is told primarily from the perspective of Finn. Annika is a huge part of this book but suffering from memory loss she is fighting her way to the truth.

Talvi’s older brother and he has always been a big brother to him even if he did not condone his actions, until Annika. Throughout the series Finn has found himself torn between his feelings for Annika. In this book we are seeing a whole new Finn. He is obsessive and has become very unhealthy and dysfunctional.

In my previous reviews I have always felt that Annika needed to grow up a little and I am really wowed by her development in this story. Some may argue this point due to her behavior, but she had very few memories that were clear and she was being influenced by Finn who had some very strong feelings on the

subject of her marriage to Talvi.

I however felt that Annika was trying to figure out everything. Especially her marriage to Talvi had been something that was not filled with joy and wonder. They actually had very little time together and their relationship started off on the wrong foot. When they did finally have a break-through she was ripped away in the worst way possible. I feel that by the end of this story that an entirely new Annika had emerged.

I kinda missed Talvi in this book. Especially because he did his damndest to find wife.

In the end it turned out to be ok. I love what occurred when Talvi and Annika were brought together again. It was really wonderful, touching, and made my heart soar. But then.....

The last chapter happened and I was left in a wretched state of disbelief. Disbelief at what happened between the brothers and I was absolutely with Talvi as he screamed: "No! No! NO! This isn't HAPPENING!"

Yep, right there with you brother. I am still reeling from what occurred and all I can say is "please say it isn't so!" Wondrous addition to the series! I highly recommend.

I hope I don't have to wait very long for the next book in the series. I think that something happened in the end, but I'm not sure if I'm right. I hope I am.

I received this audiobook in exchange for an honest review.

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### **C. Erani Kole says**

Compared to the first book, the series has gone from pages of adventure to zooming in on our main couple's intertwined lives. To go from fairy tales and burning hot love to reality and complications after the HEA, I had mixed feelings with this, for all the right reasons. In this latest installment, our girl's been kidnapped and no one knows where she is... until she's found. I won't spoil anything for you guys, but I will say that the path this book took was- well, kinda interesting. On one hand I completely agree with what's been decided, but at the same time, my heart will always and forever be with Talvi, mainly because I love how he's so flirtatious and infamous but can be so good when it comes to Annika. It just feels right and perfect and even when they do have their dramatic moments, as soon as it comes back to the root of it all, it's like falling in love all over again.

Knowing this and keeping an open mind, I was able to read all of it without too much heartache and annoyance for certain characters. And I also feel the tides changing, going from fantasy to something darker, and more serious. Very addictive. So if you love drama, romance, and fantasy, definitely check it out. This is one of the series and authors that I automatically clicked with as a reader, so I can't wait to see what happens next.

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### **Tree Harris says**

OMG! OMG! That's all I can say right now about the story I just read. How could you end it that way :( that was the biggest twist that I never saw coming, and I thought I could foresee where you were going, but I was WRONG! All the chapters leading you thru a wonderful storyline. OMG! Woman, that was an insane ending, and I have to wait till 2017 to read the rest? This book has so many twists and turns with the characters in it, and I can't wait until the last book is out. What an incredible story, I didn't put it down from the moment I started it. Can NOT wait to see the finale of the story. For any reader interested in the classical



love story turned wrong, this is an excellent book to read, leaving you wanting more at the end! I can recommend this book is a great read and you will be so happy to get it. I received a free advanced review copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. 5 Stars!!!!

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### **Kim O'Daniel says**

Aarrgg!!! Dam you woman. You did it to me again. Not only did I stay up 24 hours straight reading this book, but you go and end this one like that. Nnnooo I don't want that end to be true. And please get me the next book ASAP. Crap it say not till next year. So for a year I have to wonder if one of my favorite characters is dead. I am hoping it was someone Else, or a dream. Anything else, but how it went down....

Okay now that I am done with my rant. On with the review. I am trying so hard not to blow this book for you. Now if you have not read the first two books, go get them and start there. This is one phenomenal set of books. I just wish I could get book 4 now. But I do know she is still writing it. So alas I have to wait.

Now the last book ended with Anika was kidnapped by a very bad, well I am not sure as he is able to shape shift into anyone he has ever touched. Well this whatever it is sells her to a bunch of vampires. And that is when her true hell begins. Even now that she does not remember what has happened in the past year. She remembers some things. But Finn is not right in the head and is confusing her even more =. So much so she thinks he is her husband. Granted he tells her he is not. But it seems he is off his rocker. Meanwhile, Talvi is still searching for her. Finn has sent him a cryptic note telling him he has her but it takes Merri to figure it out. Then there is the wako Yuri who is now a vampire. She is so vile she tells Finn things that are really awful man I want to kill her at times.

Now before I ruin this for you I will leave off here. I hope you enjoy this book as much as I did. If you do like this book, please consider leaving a review. The Authors really like it when you do; they value your opinions too.

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### **Lora Shouse says**

This book lived up to its Dark Fantasy Romance billing. While the first book in this series, *The Flame and the Arrow* was really more fantasy than either dark or romance (although there was considerable romance

too), and the next one, *The Silver Thread*, was somewhat more romance (although of a little more disturbing sort) and also laugh-out-loud funny in places, the Dark really rises (to swipe an image from elsewhere) in *The Scarlet Tanager*.

It begins where *The Silver Thread* ends, with Annika being kidnapped by the doppelgänger Stephan, and things go downhill from there.

While Talvi and Merriweather and Finn and Asbjorn are looking in vain for Annika, it is Konstantin and Yuri (mostly Konstantin) who are summoned to bring her back. They turn her over to Finn and Asbjorn to take back to the Marinossian house to recover from the massive vampire attack she has experienced.

For a while, it looks as if things are going to get better, and there is a nice interlude where Finn takes the recovering Annika into town for a Perperuna festival – sort of an Elvin rain dance – which is quite beautiful.

But just when Talvi finally gets the message that Annika is at home and comes back, the final twist happens in a sudden burst of action, and it looks like everything is finally over. Fortunately, there's a next book in the series.

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## Susie says

A frustrating love triangle!!!

I was looking forward to this book being released to see how the story continued and after reading it I have to say I am left feeling annoyed, dissapointed and saddened by the turn of events with these characters!!! First of all I feel that Talvi's character starts of in the first book as a repenting womanizer who tries to prove himself to Annika in order to win her love and trust, in the second book he turns into an attention seeking, self centered jerk who flirts none stop with anything in a skirt!!! It completely revolted me how he treated Annika and how much he had changed and by the 3rd book I just HATED him 8% into the book and he had already been fucking around with another woman and by the end of this book he was telling his wife who after everything shed gone through to 'beg him to fuck her' I couldnt believe at that point how Annika sucumbed so low to take that from him after seeing how sweet and caring his brother was in contrast to him. Even our leading lady has changed, she appears to have lost her backbone and spunk to have taken all of Talvis shit and forgiving him just like that even though he abandoned her in Paris with his brother!!! And in the 3rd book she seems very attracted to Finn to the point of obcession, she appeared to be falling for him and truely caring about him while distancing herself from her husband but as soon as he shows up she jumps into bed with him not giving Finn a second thought making her look heartless, fickle, uncaring and the biggest cock tease/slut ever!!! And lets not forget Finn that POOR character who gets the short end of the stick EVERYTIME.... he is a wonderful character who in the first book does nothing but defend his brother. In the 2nd book does his brother a favour by watching over Annika while he was away and due to unforeseen circumstances does something extreme to help them both and ends up nearly being killed by his ungreatful little brother for the second time no less even though it was his fault they were in that situation in the first place. By the 3rd book my heart ached for him he is deeply in love with Annika and wants nothing more than a family and even though he wants her terribly he doesn't take advantage of her only showing her through dreams his desire for her hoping shed realise how much happier she could be with him but in the end he just ends up being used by her and treated poorly by his own family.

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## **Adena says**

This book begins right where the previous book ended - with Annika being kidnapped by a doppelganger and Talvi close on her heels. After a harrowing experience as a vampire blood slave, Annika just barely escapes with her life. While Talvi is searching for answers, his twin sister finds Annika and delivers her to his family. Under the loving care of his brother Finn, she begins to recover, but the vampires have wiped her memories, and she doesn't remember Talvi. As she grows closer to Finn, they fight the growing attraction that threatens to tear the family apart.

This entire story is told from the third person point of view. Most of the chapters focus on Annika's story, but there are occasional glimpses into the lives of other characters - not just Talvi, but other more minor characters such as Hilda and Nicola. It really made the world feel full, and kept us engaged not only in Annika's plotline, but in everything going on everywhere in this wonderful world Emigh Cannaday has created. I had originally thought this was a trilogy, but I am very excited to discover that I was wrong, and I can't wait until the next book is released.

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## **Linnea says**

This author really doesn't know how to properly structure a novel! There were so many possibilities for excitement in this one, and all of it wasted. Give me conflict! And no that stupid ass love triangle doesn't count (I didn't think you could screw up a love triangle, it's such an easy format to follow, but this book managed it). How about the how and why of Annika's kidnapping? Barely any time spent investigating that. And the few interesting side characters there are, get about one chapter. While Annika shopping for a dress and going to a party takes like half the book (or what feels like half the book anyway). Boring boring boring! Not to mention Annika and Talvi have an incredibly unhealthy relationship, which really shouldn't be endorsed. I don't understand why the author won't move on to another project, because this series is a dead horse.

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