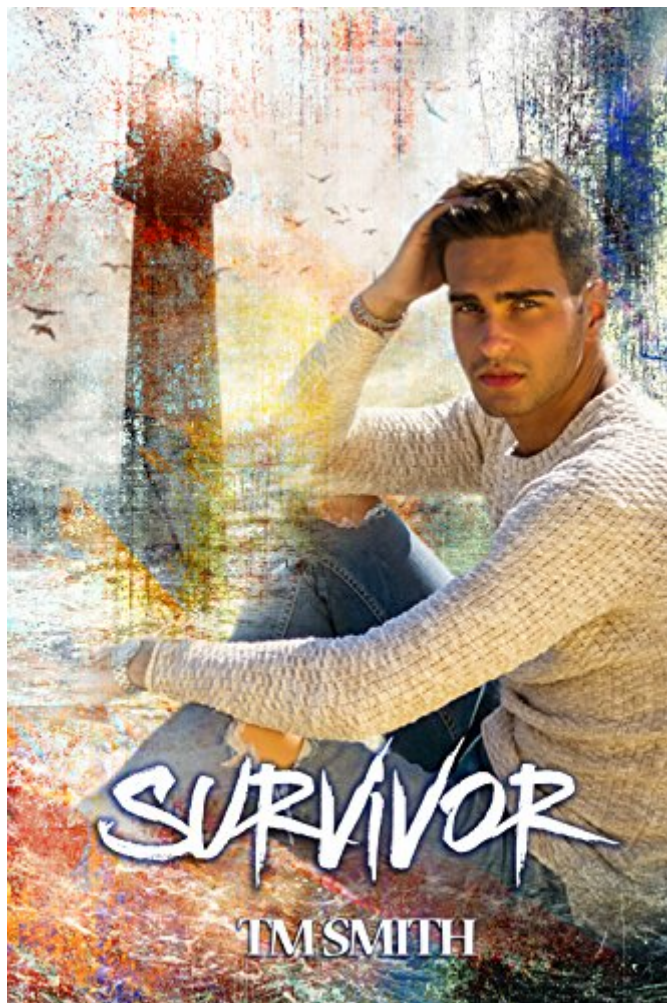


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Survivor



Synopsis

Taylor Langford's world is torn apart when he is only thirteen years old—his parents killed, leaving him alone and orphaned. With no living relatives, he'd certainly be another statistic if not for the intervention of the policeman who found Taylor in the crawl space where his mother hid him that fateful night. Despite the tragedy and resulting anguish in his life, Taylor knows how lucky he is. Frank Moore is a rookie with the Dallas Police Department when he and his partner answer a call in Devonshire, one of the city's more affluent neighborhoods. They think the young boy in various pictures throughout the home has been kidnapped until they find him, shaken but alive. Officer Moore recognizes the pain in the kid's eyes, having lost his own mother to cancer when he was just a boy. He steps in, making sure Taylor is placed with a loving foster family. Over the years, Frank becomes a permanent fixture in Taylor's life. A decade later, the case remains unsolved and the once gangly, uncertain teenager is now a college graduate who knows exactly what he wants. He's coming home to the man that helped mold and shape his life, the man he's loved for as long as he can remember, Frank Moore. But Taylor isn't the only person returning to Dallas, and while Frank is distracted by his own conflicting feelings and the new bond growing between the two, the past creeps up on them, determined to finish what was started ten years earlier. A note from the author: I hope you enjoy Frank and Taylor's story. It's been a long road to get them settled, but I'm happy with where this story has taken them. When I started this book, the intent was to write a stand-alone story, but that has changed. Characters continually evolve throughout the writing process, and there are several characters in the book that want to tell their story. I've grown especially fond of Rory and I can't wait to write his book, which will take us back to when he first joined the Bureau, and continue on to his happy ever after. Please be advised: This is a May/December romance, and as in life, there are sexual situations that take place prior to the main characters finding their way to one another. This is not gratuitous; it is meant to show character growth and self-realization. There is absolutely no cheating.

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Customer Reviews

4.5 Stars
Survivor is a standalone novel. I am a fan of T.M's All Cocks series but this is the first book I have read by her that was not part of that series. I loved that it had a different feel to the story and the writing. I was hooked from the very first page. I am mystery kinda girl too so add that into a love story and I am addicted. The synopsis explains the story very well so I will make this quick. Frank and Taylor had a special bond for the moment they locked eyes. At thirteen, Frank was Taylor's rock after his parents are murdered. He found him a good home and spent time with him. Frank somewhat understood what the teen was going through. And through the years, they become best friends. Spending time together with family and friends at Martha's Vineyard for summers. Then, during one of those trips things shift. And years later...Taylor isn't a kid anymore and he knows what he wants. The man that he has loved. Frank. But, how does Frank feel about this? Can their special bond turn into more? I wasn't sure how I would feel about this story going in but you know what...I loved it. It is not instant. The age difference isn't a huge gap. The way T.M has the story flow makes it a beautiful story. Don't get me wrong...it's hot too later in the story. It also has the mystery of the unsolved murders too. Who is the stranger that entered that house ten years ago? Overall...it's a beautiful story. The morphing from one bond to another over the years. I am hoping that this turns into a series. There are a few characters I would love to again. Quotes: Much like the lighthouse on the beach across from the cottage at Martha's Vineyard, Frank had been a beacon of hope for Taylor the past ten years. "Are we in Kansas, Dorothy? Cause I could have sworn the missus and I flew into Massachusetts for some fun in the sun." One corner of Taylor's

mouth lifted, the grin wicked, dangerous, and promising.

I really enjoyed the dynamic between Taylor and Frank and how natural the evolution of their relationship felt to me as they recognized their growing attraction. Frank's protective instincts are true to his very core and I was grateful that we never see that part of him waver, regardless of how he defines his connection to Taylor at any particular moment in time. With glimpses at their lives between the initial incident that brought Taylor into Frank's life and the events that make up the bulk of the story a decade later, we get a good sense of Taylor's growth so that I could see him as the man he was and not the scared child we initially get introduced to. I could also appreciate that they both made an effort to build their lives without becoming too dependent on the other, it left me feeling like the spot they held truly was meant to be filled by each other. These two characters balance each other really well, fitting together almost effortlessly and leaving me with no question that they are stronger together than apart. This was such a compelling book, I'd love to read more about some of the additional characters we get introduced to and hopefully get another peek at Taylor and Frank.

I really liked the story. It starts off with the mystery and tragedy that follows Taylor to his adult life. The mystery brings Frank in to Taylor's life and we see how Taylor grows from a kid to a man who knows what and who he wants, and he wants Frank. I liked how the relationship between Taylor and Frank morphed from victim/saviour (respectively) - when they finally acknowledge that they want each other, it was an almost seamless transition the role of lovers. Through out the story, we meet and hang out with Caleb (Frank's work partner), Justine (Caleb's wife), Taylor's adoptive parents and Frank's dad - they are all well drawn characters and add to the story. One thing I did find a little disconcerting was the tone of the book in the beginning. It was like a teen relating the events, until I realised that this is how Taylor would have sounded in the early years. As the book progresses, the tone becomes more confident, adult. There are a few twists and I hope that they morph in to a couple more books for at least 2 potential men (hint to author!). I'd also like to see more of Taylor and Frank. *I was lucky enough to receive an ARC, but my opinions are my own.

4.75 stars TM Smith has a brand new book and series. A departure from her earlier series (All Cocks, Opposites), I was so excited to read this, and I was NOT disappointed-I fell in love with the MCs and their story. I was in trope heaven! We are introduced to Taylor and Frank (May-December, check!) who meet and bond due to tragedy (murder/suspense, savior/saved, check, check!) and find

love (friends to lovers, hurt/comfort/healing, HEA, check, check, check!). More like a snapshot into their lives than a basic contemporary romance, this story takes you from past to present, tragedy to happiness, starting when they meet and wrapping up when they find their way to their HEA. Don't be fooled, though. There IS romance, there IS love, and there ARE sexy times. TM Smith is one of those authors that really and truly gets better with every book. I am always eager to see what she's going to do next, and this was no exception. No sooner did I put this down, I was ready for the next one. When is that, exactly?

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