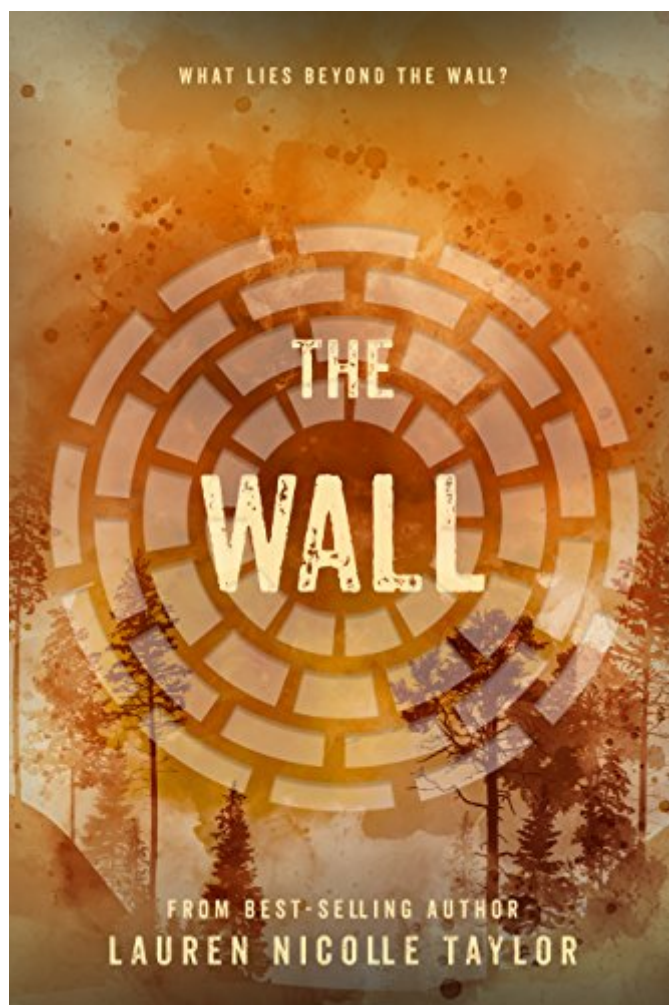


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The Wall (The Woodlands Series Book 2)



Synopsis

Joseph, wake up, wake up, wake up... She says it over and over. It's her mantra, her prayer, her plea. But life doesn't stop while he's sleeping. With a newborn baby in her arms, Rosa's thrown into a new world, with new rules and a philosophy that sounds too good to be true. She's sure they didn't rescue her out of the goodness of their hearts. The Survivors must want something in return. The Wall finds Rosa eagerly entering a new life, yet struggling to keep the demons and ghosts of the past from dragging her backwards. She's left so many people behind. There's freedom in the Survivors' world, more than she'd ever dreamed of, but there's also secrets. The darkest of which pulls Rosa headfirst into a trauma, forcing her to reevaluate her past and pushing her to make a choice that threatens to destroy the tenuous, sewn-together family she's built on the outside. Do you dare enter the Woodlands? The Woodlands Series is a dystopian page-turner with over 750 five-star ratings on Goodreads. The Woodlands Series is perfect for fans of The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins, The Divergent Series by Veronica Roth, and The Jewel Series by Amy Ewing.

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Customer Reviews

There's one thing I didn't like about this book. It ended. Right where I wanted, no, NEEDED to read at least one more chapter! I kept trying to "turn" my electronic page, but to no avail I tried, I tried really really hard to make it last. I even waited until I was in hospital after having my third baby before I started reading it... Just so I couldn't physically devour it in blocks of hours at a time! I still wanted to read it all the time, but instead when I couldn't, I tried dreaming up adventures for my friend Rosa and all the people in her life in between my "fixes". None were as good as the ones found waiting inside my iPad that the author had lovingly put there seemingly just for me to transport myself away to. Sigh, only an estimated 2 months to go until the next instalment "the wounded" well done Lauren Nicolle Taylor, a brilliant second novel, I'm in awe.

FIVE STARS!!! Lauren Nicolle Taylor deserves every single star and probably more for her sequel to *The Woodlands*, *The Wall*. *The Wall* picks up where *The Woodlands* left readers and takes you through Rosa's harrowing physical and even more powerful emotional journey. Rosa is a complex, puzzling protagonist whose internal dialogue takes the reader through every emotional up and down....I whole heartedly felt and experienced the story through Rosa's mysterious eyes. As she discovers the depth of her maternal instincts, when she deals with the obsessed perpetrator who severely abused her, as she wrestles with the need to return to rescue her mother...the tangled nest of emotions is wonderful to watch Rosa unravel. If you can love a fictional character then I love Rosa and I wish she were real...much like Katniss Everdeen or Sienna from *Fire Country*. Every reader of YA books needs to be introduced to this amazing unforgettable character. Now don't think this book is some tormented emotional roller coaster, it's not an Oprah book club book, it definitely offers so much more. The plot is full of action, so much so that when you get to the end of the book and look back, you'll be amazed at truly how much has happened to Rosa and her "family." It's sort of a mini odyssey set in a post-apocalyptic, dystopian world that is devastated resource wise and yet incredibly advanced scientifically...makes for an interesting dichotomy. I love the fact that the ancient Wall continues to stand among the ruins of the world...I think the book is appropriately named and it came as a sweet surprise. Above all else, this book is chalked full of unique supporting characters that enrich and often complicate Rosa's life. Rosa really discovers so much about herself as she deepens her feelings for Joseph and Orry. Most poignant was the development of Rosa and Apella's relationship which is mighty special...that's all I'm saying. I so appreciated the wisdom and

bond between Rosa and Addy, dang I love that old lady and of course who wouldn't love Deshi? So many questions I had about the characters after reading *The Woodlands* were answered (see my review of *The Woodlands*), yet now I'm left with many more that will leave me impatiently waiting for the next book. In the meantime, I'm going to bask in the afterglow of reading an exceptional book since a book this good only comes along every so often, but I will miss Lauren's beautiful, poetic writing until that time.

Very powerful second sequel to *The Woodlands*! Once again I was thrown in a world where basic human rights are forbidden and to live a free life means constantly fighting against the odds, the superiors and refreshingly even the natural overgrowth and wildlife which has claimed back the earth. I could feel the textures and temperatures of this world and time. I say this book is powerful because to me it is a protest against a very real and current problem in our world. I was surprised but happy because why not? Also it deals with important landmark times in a young adults life. I think we can all relate to the pulls and throws of true love and what it means to be family. Rosa is stripped bare time and time again. She is determined to choose the right direction even though it will be extremely uncomfortable on many levels. The physical and emotional pain she and even Joseph go through are heartbreakingly shocking. Through the warmth of their love and the drive to protect it and their family, Rosa is a pillar of strength despite her young age and somewhat immature thoughts and reactions, which I found amusing! Lauren wrote with such descriptive inner dialogue. It was beautifully written!! absolutely loved this book and the way it captivated me emotionally. Again I can't wait to read the next one!

I really enjoyed this second book. It was an exciting journey from the underground facility they were hiding in to the Survivor's village. As in the first book, the author has such a great way with words that it's so easy to imagine their world and how the characters are feeling in it. Her descriptions are amazingly detailed. The growing love between the main character, Rosa, and Joseph made my heart race a few times :) Some parts of the story dragged on and got a little lengthy but I loved the ending! Can't wait for the third book to come out!

This entire series is a delightful read reminiscent of the earlier Young Adult fiction series by Scott Westerfield beginning with *"Uglies"*. Perhaps there is just a bit too much angst throughout the four books but the main characters are indeed in their late teens so I may be expecting too much maturity of them. By book 4 I was wanting a bit more editing as some of the sequences seemed too

long but overall I was very pleased with the works. I would recommend them to my young library patrons. My husband enjoyed the books as well so the series is not just for the female reader.

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