



Fighting Silence

Aly Martinez

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Sound is an abstract concept for most people. We spend our lives blocking out the static in order to focus on what we believe is important. But what if, when the clarity fades into silence, it's the obscure background noise that you would give anything to hold on to?

I've always been a fighter. With parents who barely managed to stay out of jail and two little brothers who narrowly avoided foster care, I became skilled at dodging the punches life threw at me. Growing up, I didn't have anything I could call my own, but from the moment I met Eliza Reynolds, she was always mine. I became utterly addicted to her and the escape from reality we provided each other. Throughout the years, she had boyfriends and I had girlfriends, but there wasn't a single night that I didn't *hear* her voice.

You see, meeting the love of my life at age thirteen was never part of my plan. However, neither was gradually going deaf at the age of twenty-one.

They both happened anyway.

Now, I'm on the ropes during the toughest battles of my life.

Fighting for my career.

Fighting the impending silence.

Fighting for her.

Every night, just before falling asleep, she sighs as a final conscious breath leaves her.

I think that's the sound I'll miss the most.

Each book in this series can be read as a standalone.

Fighting Silence Details

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Author : Aly Martinez

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From Reader Review Fighting Silence for online ebook

Mysza says

*"You're okay.
I'm okay.
We're okay.
Nothing else matters."*

This book... this freaking book...

This will be short and giphy cause I need to start next book ASAP cause Aly? Really?

Eliza... such a kickass heroine at heart, always fighting for her Till...simply adored her...

And Till... hell... all Page brothers...

And their story... so wonderful... so touching... so heart-warming... and then...

No, really, how could you leave me hanging like this? Huh?

And in case I wasn't clear above...

I freaking loved it! On to the next...

Hulya Kara Yuksel says

OMG I'm sooooo freaking happy and also so angry right now. :)

I'm happy cause I just read such an amazing story. And also I'm angry with myself because why the hell I didn't read this wonderful book before. I fell in love every single word. Yeah, it was really really good. ;)

Till&Eliza were so sweet and funny together. But also their chemistry was so freaking hot too. :)

I highly recommend this book everyone. Pls do not waste any more minutes and go start this series asap. You won't regret this, trust me!!! xoxo

Oh I almost forgot. Till, my baby...

"So I lay awake for hours watching her. It truly felt normal and made it easy for me to forget the panic that continued to build in my chest.

I was okay.

She was okay.

We were okay.

Nothing else matters."

"I want it all ... Every single first you have to give, I want it."

... "Then they're all yours," I promised."

Lana ✨Dirty Girl Romance✨ says

IT'S LIVE: <http://amzn.to/1BDZoFl> !!

5+ Fantasy meets Reality Stars

I'd never had anything I could call my own, but Eliza Reynolds would always be mine.

If ever there was a book that everyone has to add to their TBR, this is that book. This incredible, emotional, beautiful, simply unforgettable book. This is Aly Martinez's best book to date and quite honestly one of the best books I've read in a while. It was also probably my favorite friends-to-lovers romance I've ever read. Period.

...I had already been drowning in the ocean of life. Every gasp of air was a struggle. Just as I would breach the surface, filling my lungs with hope and determination to make it through

another day, I was forced back under- harder every time.

Till Page met Eliza Reynolds when they were just 13 years old, and they each became an escape for the other. An escape from their glum reality. An escape from their problems. An escape from the real world. A fantasy built from the innocence of young hearts that built into an indescribably love as they got older.

Till's life has never been easy. Forced to raise his two younger brothers from the time he was just a child himself because their parents couldn't care less about anyone but themselves. Till struggles to make ends meet, all the while knowing that he's facing a future of silence. A future in which a genetic condition may cause him to lose his hearing. A future that's he's absolutely terrified to face. When he climbs through a window of an abandoned apartment, looking to escape his reality, he comes crashing into a pair of blue eyes that irrevocably changes his life forever.

Eliza Reynolds grew up always fending for herself and never knowing the warmth of the love of her parents. But when a scrawny boy with tears in his captivating hazel eyes comes into her life, nothing is ever the same. She knows exactly who Till is, they go to school together after all. But he's never acknowledged her, and that doesn't change after they meet. But under the shadow of the night, in that abandoned apartment, they became the world for each other.

It was more than a friendship, but there wasn't romance or sex. There was definitely love though. Immeasurable amounts of it. I knew Till had this grand fantasy about me. But what he didn't realize was all that he gave me in return. He was the only thing I'd ever had that I honestly thought I couldn't live without.

As they grow older, their friendship begins to turn into something much stronger. Something that Eliza knows is love unlike any she'll ever feel for any other man, and a love that Till is absolutely terrified to acknowledge as more than that for a friend in fear of losing Eliza.

*Turning his head, Till Page spoke words that solidified his claim on me for all eternity.
"I love you, Eliza."*

The book spans from the time Till and Eliza are 13 until they are 21, but it's such a perfect progression that you can't help but fall harder for them with every chapter. The author did such an incredible job infusing their romance with just that right amount of angst and emotion. It was absolute perfection.

There was nothing, **NOTHING** that I didn't like about this book, and that's a rare thing to happen to me. You feel everything right along the characters; their struggles, their pain, their love. I was an emotional wreck reading the second half of this book. And then that last 30%? Forget about it! I down right ugly cried.

I absolutely loved how Aly Martinez was able to tie in characters from her previous books (Leo, Slate and Caleb make an appearance). But she does this giving readers that have read her previous books a little bonus, but allowing new readers to get to know these characters without ever feeling lost.

This book was so much more than just a romance though. It was also more than a fighter romance. It was a

story or perseverance, of strength in the truest meaning of the word. Till's story will absolutely break your heart. His relationship with his two brothers will also melt it. And his love for Eliza? It will warm it.

Eliza was a fantastic heroine. She was the perfect match for Till. Her strength, her maturity that's well beyond her young years was so refreshing to read. This book truly had everything. It was emotional, it was a little angsty, and of course it was oh so sexy.

*I may've been the first, but this time when I make you come I want to know I'll be the last.
Now, fucking tell me it's forever.*

God, I just loved it so much. I don't want to give you more of the plot because I don't want to ruin the experience of reading it for yourself. Take my advice and go into this book without reading many reviews. You'll just enjoy it that much more.

One of the most touching and unforgettable romances I have ever had the pleasure of reading. I absolutely cannot wait for Flint's book next. Aly Martinez has given me a fighter romance that is a not only an auto-buy, it's a MUST buy. I simply can't recommend it enough. If you've loved her previous books, you will flat out adore this one. And if you haven't discovered this phenomenal author yet, I can pretty much guarantee you'll become a fan after reading Fighting Silence.

ARC courtesy of author in exchange for an honest review

For more reviews visit

Sandy ?Coffee Addict Books? says

*****4.25 Magic Window Stars*****

*“I was okay.
She was okay.
We were okay.
Nothing else matters.”*

Fighting silence is one of the best, friends to lover's premises I've read to this date. It didn't just spoke volumes of friendship but it truly brought all the aspect of love, life, sacrifice, and struggle to light.

Till Page and **Eliza Reynolds** have been friends since they were thirteen. It was one night when Till learnt the bitter truth about his life and he turned to an old building to hide from his misery that he first acknowledged Eliza. It was in that moment of their bickering, he forgot all about his troubles and since then he never missed a night with her. The abandoned apartment became their escape from reality, and Eliza his

ultimate **FANTASY**.

They were always aware of the budding love between them, but for years they never crossed that line. Till feared that being in a relationship might ruin their friendship and he might lose her forever. He couldn't risk the one chance with normalcy and peace he found with Eliza, but least did he know Eliza couldn't imagine her life without him, that her love for him had no boundary.

Though the romance was a major part of the story it also focused on lot of domestic issues. Till being the eldest of three, always felt responsible towards his brothers (Flint & Quarry,) as their parents always neglected them. The whole relationship between the page boys and Eliza was heart warming, also contributing to many LOL moments. This rarely is seen in NA romance where the secondary characters played a major role in the story development, also where do you get to see different dimensions to the MC's - they go from being friends, soul mates, neighbors, lovers to be a family.

This is my first book from Aly Martinez and this definitely won't be last. If it wasn't for RL I would've finished it in one sitting, this is kind of story which will suck you in from the beginning and brings characters to life. The way she weaved the story between the past, present and the beautiful description of the setting made is unbelievably real. The very emotion and dynamic between the characters, truly made me part of their lives, and that my dear friends is sign of an amazing writer.

All the characters were very much lovable and easily relatable; I loved that Till stepped into a role of a parent and practically raised his brother's, keeping them from being homeless, providing them all the love and care that he and Eliza didn't experience.

I had you and you had me.
That's the way it's always been.
Well, now, Flint and Quarry have you,
but guess what, they have *me* too.

So why not 5 stars then?

I hate to keep a track of age and events when there is time leaps and this particular book had plenty of them. I did ignore the annoying voice inside my head which kept rolling it's eyes every time there was a jump in the time, yes! It was a necessary evil to show the bonding between the MC's but towards the end I lost my patience.

Honestly though it won't ruin the story for you (that's just me being a picky bitch), it's still beautiful and this strong love and connection that Till and his "Doodle" Eliza share is so **MAGICAL**, something **YOU HAVE TO EXPERIENCE**.

Lastly, that Chapter with Flint's POV.... W.T.F??!!
Can't wait to see how his story turns out!

*P.S:Thanks Cristina for rec'ing me this wonderful book...*muahhh**

Amy | Foxy Blogs says

★ GIVEAWAY: 2 kindle copies.★

Find info here-><http://wp.me/p4uAPW-1eo>

Fighting Silence is a fighter book like none other. I was expecting a book that mainly focused on fighting but instead it was the love story of the man behind the gloves. The love of his family and the girl he nightly climbed through the window for.

Till and **Eliza** are teens who don't come from wealth or even a loving household. But the moment Till's 13 year old self crawls through the window of a vacant apartment his reality turns into fantasy. On the other side of that window is **Eliza**, a girl in a similar financial and family state. Both of these teens escape their reality by crossing the threshold of that vacant apartment's window to a world where no one but themselves exists. The harsh lifestyles that are bestowed upon them disappears for brief moments each day when they are able to just be in this alternate reality where no one demands anything from them. When these friends-to-soulmates are forced to face what lies beyond the window they go with this attitude:

"We do what we always do. We go to battle against the world." ~Eliza

Even in adulthood their world is not easy. It's like the world is against them. But one thing that helps Till deal with all the letdowns is CLIMBING through Eliza's window.

The window was like it's own character in the book. It held so much promise and hope that when Eliza demanded Till use the door and stop living in his fantasy world...my heart broke for him. **"I don't want to live in a world where the windows are locked and the Page boys don't eat me out house and home."**

~Eliza

The window represented everything that Till wanted for his life. It's where he could go and not face the impending reality that torments him. *No trying to make sure his younger brothers are taken care of, no worrying about where his next meal was coming from, no waiting for when his world would go silent...*

By the end of the book I was so invested in the story that I knew this book was going to be a winner for me. Even though this is my first book by Aly Martinez it won't be my last. I'm dying to read the next two books. Ms. Martinez did an excellent job completing Till & Eliza's story but intriguing the reader to want the rest of the books in the series. I'm not sure how I'm going to make it to the end of June waiting for the next book!

♥Loved it!♥

SERIES:

Fighting Shadows | Fighting Forever

Each book in this series can be read as a standalone. ~Aly Martinez

**Gifted this book from Christy->*Book Babes Unite*. Thank you, Christy, for the book. **

Christy says

5 'I can hear you' stars!!!

Before I review this book, I just want to say (or shout) to everyone... If you haven't read this book- read it. Read it now. *Fighting Silence* is an incredibly powerful, beautiful and moving story. It's the first book I've ever read by Aly Martinez. I had no idea what was going to be in store for me when I started, but wow. I was totally and utterly wowed. The best book I've read in a very long time- I can see this book being my favorite book of 2015. It is at the very top of the list so far.

Till Page and Eliza Reynolds both have home lives that are less than ideal. When they are just 13 years old, they develop this friendship. It's an old abandoned place near both of their homes, but it's somewhere they can go and get away from their lives. Their friendship is invaluable to each of them. Just knowing they have somewhere to go to get away from it all, someone who cares. It means everything.

Was Eliza magic? She is to me.
"Absolutely."

As these two get older, things change. Eliza gets a scholarship to the local college and moves out of her parents home. Till isn't so lucky. With two younger brothers he's supporting and basically raising, he's stuck. Till is scared. It feels like everything is changing. Eliza is going away. It's not far, but things will never be the same.

?After Eliza's high school graduation, things do change for them in a way. Their friendship goes to a different level. All the feelings, the love that's always been between them comes out in a different way.

"I want it all. Every single first you have to give, I want it."

"Then they're all yours."

Eliza and Till's relationship is more than friendship. It's more than a romance. It's just more. They are everything to each other. As the years pass, their bond only grows stronger. They had that one night, but now they are friends, neighbors, and family.

Till is a fighter. He fights for his brothers, he fights in the ring, but there is one other big thing he will be fighting. For sound. Till has a genetic condition that is making him progressively lose his hearing. It's scary. Thank goodness he has Eliza and her window. For a while, he can escape reality and just be there with his best friend. Even though he and Eliza have been just friends for a long time, just her being there makes it feel like maybe things will be okay. That they can fight this. Together.

Eliza is one of the strongest and best heroines I've ever read about. She is such a beautiful person. I love how she is with Till, the relationship she has with his brothers. I just love her period. And Till is the best. He's a man who knows what it's like to struggle, to be knocked down and to get back up and fight. I love how devoted he is to his brothers, how he is always willing to sacrifice anything for those he loves. His brothers and Eliza are his family and he would no doubt do anything of them. Their love and friendship is inspiring, I can say without a doubt that this is the best friends to lovers story I've ever read.

One thing I really loved is the fantasy/reality aspect of the story. Living a hard life like these two have, I can imagine it would be difficult not to try to live in a fantasy world at times. I just thought that part of the book was really well done. Every time Eliza would talk about wanting to be his reality I couldn't help but tear up.

Till had this grand fantasy about me. But what he didn't realize was all he gave me in return. He was the only thing I'd ever had that I honestly thought I couldn't live without.

I could go on and on about this book. It's one of those books that touched my heart and I know I'll remember it forever. I was pulled in from the beginning and loved every second of this book. I smiled, I laughed, I cried, I cheered these wonderful characters on every step of the way. It's one of those books I devoured from start to finish, I couldn't put it down.

Eliza and Till's story was engaging, brilliant, original, passionate, sexy and all around just an outstanding read. I love a book that makes me feel and this one put me through the ringer. I felt all of their struggles. I felt their want, their need, their love. This book had so much heart. It's one I just want everyone I know to read. Aly Martinez is new to me, but I can tell you now, she will be an auto buy author from now on. This is a book that I highly recommend to EVERYONE!

“You always say that you love me, but you have given me so much more. And because of that, I will spend a lifetime fighting to give you the world.”

My wildest fantasy
This is reality.

Arabella ~?AB?~ says

★★★★★ 5 Stars ★★★★★

Now LIVE!

Amazon: <http://amzn.to/1CF0YEq>

Amazon UK: <http://amzn.to/1Lhhn62>

Oh my god, this was a five star from me! There was nothing I didn't like, it was perfect!!

When **Eliza Reynolds** and **Till Page** are thirteen they stumble across each other in a abandoned apartment. They are both escaping shitty parents, Eliza's don't even notice that she's missing half the time and Till's mum would much prefer to be getting her nails done than worry about her 3 sons.

This day is the start of a **beautiful friendship**, but it's a secret one and although they go to the same school, Till does not speak to or acknowledge Eliza outside of their safe haven.

As they grow older they only get closer, while Eliza is working hard to get to college to make a life for herself and away from her parents, Till is playing football and working 2 jobs to help take care of his 2 younger brothers and keep a roof above all their heads.

When Till comes across an after school program at newly opened **On The Ropes Gym** he jumps at the chance to join up, especially when he sees that it is run by none other than Slate *"The Silent Storm"* Andrews.

When Eliza graduates school and Till fails to make the grade, he is once again reminded that he will never be good enough for her. To him she is his fantasy life that he will never be able to turn into reality. Working minimum wage with no future ahead of him, he knows that he has to let her go off to college with a chance at more but before he leaves he wants to claim her as his just one time.

Just when Eliza is starting to heal from a broken heart, she once again finds herself in Till's life but she knows she has to force his hand otherwise she will break completely.

Till is struggling with the realisation that he is slowly losing his hearing, and on top of this he is taking care of his brothers full time. He is working hard trying to make a living whilst training whenever he can in the hopes of becoming a pro-boxer - it is just too much for him to cope with on his own. **He needs Eliza in his life but is he prepared to take a risk that things might not work out and lose her forever?**

I loved everything about this book - the humour and the banter between Till and Eliza was hilarious and I found myself smiling so many times. Flint and Quarry are Till's brothers and they play a vital part too, they were such great characters and I am praying to God and the Universe that the next books in this series will be about them.

I loved that when they weren't a couple, we weren't subjected to reading about them with other people, it really wasn't that type of book - the focus was on Eliza & Till, their relationship as *'just friends'* was just as enjoyable to read about as when they did finally get together.

There were some heartbreak moments too, I felt so sad when Till was falling apart but I knew Eliza

would pull through for him and it warmed my heart to see them all come together as a family.

Till Page has a place on my favourites shelf, I freaking loved him and his big heart and Eliza goes on my list of best heroines. As for Flint & Quarry - bring it on!

This is the first in a new series of stand-alones, told in dual POV. It features characters from the Wrecked and Ruined series, but it's not necessary to have read those first

ARC gratefully received from the author in exchange for an honest review

Aestas Book Blog says

Meeting the love of my life at age thirteen was never part of my plan. However, neither was gradually going deaf at the age of twenty-one.

They both happened anyway.

Now, I'm on the ropes during the toughest battles of my life.

Fighting for my career.

Fighting the impending silence.

Fighting for her.

From the moment I read the blurb, I knew I had to read this book. I mean, c'mon! Doesn't that tug your heartstrings?! Plus, I've literally loved every book that Aly Martinez has written so... I had to dive right in!

Till and Eliza met by chance one night in an abandoned building at age thirteen -- each seeking an escape from their lives for one reason or another. Over the years, they kept meeting there every few days and became close... more than friends, but not a couple either. They simply became vital to each other's worlds.

“It had become more and more difficult to stop myself from kissing her, touching her, claiming her. But I knew that, if I did, I would eventually lose her. Relationships didn’t work in high school. Something would have happened, we would have broken up, and then I would have lost her completely. I needed Eliza too damn bad to ever chance that.”

With his dad in jail and his mother more concerned about her nails than caring for her children, it fell on Till to take care of his two little brothers from a very young age in order to keep them out of the foster system. He cared for Eliza more than anything but couldn't bear to start a relationship with her for fear of losing her friendship. In his eyes, what they had was almost magical and he wouldn't do anything to jeopardize that.

“Till and I both knew we had a strange relationship. It was more than a friendship, but there wasn’t romance or sex. There was definitely love though. Immeasurable amounts of it. I knew that Till had this grab fantasy about me. But what he didn’t realize was all that he gave me in return. He was the only thing I’d ever had that I honestly thought I couldn’t live without. Till Page was my soulmate on every level.”

Sadly though, their lives were split one fateful night. But then, several months later they were given a second chance and this time, things were different...

“You’ve always been forever for me.”

My heart really broke for Till. This amazing guy worked himself to the bone to give his brothers the best life he could. He worked at a boxing gym every waking hour, fuelling a dream of one day going pro which would finally give him the money he needed to truly provide for his family.

“I believe you’re going to set the boxing world on fire, because every time you put on those gloves, you’re doing it for them. Say yes.”

Adding to all the pressure was the fact that he was slowly going deaf and there wasn’t a single thing he could do to stop it. It was scary -- terrifying even -- that he’d one day never be able to hear Eliza’s voice.

“I miss your voice. I miss listening to you talk... I’d give anything to hear it right now.”

I read this book in one sitting start-to-finish. The ending was a thrill ride wrapped up with a great epilogue which both concluded Till & Eliza’s story and set up the next one -- which I can’t wait to read!

Aly Martinez is definitely one of my go-to authors. I’ve read all her books and loved each one. Her stories are always unique and have strong, sexy, heart-racing romances with a thrilling edge to them.

THIS book can be read as a complete standalone. Even if you’ve never read any other book by this author, you’re safe to dive right in and you’ll be satisfied with the ending. However... as with all of her books, this one does have tie-ins with her other books. Slade (the hero from Among The Echoes) is featured heavily in this book as a side character but you do not have to have read his book first in order to appreciate this one. That being said, if you were to want to read his book as well, then I’d actually recommend reading the complete Wrecked & Ruined series because technically Slade’s book should be read as #3 in that series.

Bottom line: this book can be read on its own. But, if you want to have the full experience of meeting all the characters in this world, then read them in the order I’ve listed below:

CHANGING COURSE
STOLEN COURSE
AMONG THE ECHOES
BROKEN COURSE
FIGHTING SILENCE

This authors' books are very cleverly set up so that you can read any of them alone BUT you'll of course get even more out of them if you've read them all. So it's really just up to you. You won't go wrong either way. I promise :)

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Sophie **2 Greek Girls Reading says**

4.5 silent stars

This is the story of Till Page and Eliza. Two kids who were meeting in an abandoned building, with Till climbing through the window for years. Till was one of the popular kids at school, while Eliza was the artistic, quiet type. "On The Ropes" is the new boxing gym that opens at town with free boxing lessons for students and Till immediately signs up, something that is going to change his life forever.

Years pass and they have never passed the line, because this is a fantasy and who wants to erase fantasy and pass into reality, especially when reality consists of poverty & absent parents who couldn't care less about their children? One night they break that line and that will bring a big change in their lives. A clusterfuck of actions from the very beginning will happen until the very end of this book.

This book was honestly wonderful. It was definitely **one of the most beautiful stories I've read lately** and I loved the characters, the small details, the emotions that they were brought to me and I was **deeply touched** by their stories. Especially Till's. Gosh, I was gutted. He was such an amazing character. So selfless, so motivated to do anything he could to for his beloved ones. His relationship with his siblings was simply admirable. As for Eliza, I liked that she was a strong character and when she demanded things from him, she was true to herself and she wasn't a usual doormat. I like strong feminine characters. I loved how these kids found a home and support from each other when their own blood wouldn't and not only that, but Slate was

also like a father to them and that was also beautiful.

She burst out laughing. God, I loved that sound so much. I knew I'd never be the same when I lost it to the silence. I'd happily give up every noise in the world if I could just keep her laugh.

My only issue maybe with this book was that I got a little confused with the *time jumping*. Usually I have no issue, but I have to admit that it was something that puzzled me while I was trying to catch up with the back and forth that was going on. Also, I read another review and it kind of influenced me, because until 70% I hadn't noticed something, but apparently *the heroine cried a lot*. I noticed that after the other review and it didn't bother me. **The story was too beautiful to let tiny details take the pleasure from me.** Definitely recommended!!

Beverly says

This story completely blew me way with the feels. These two characters are insanely special to me and I loved their story.

One day after receiving horrible news Till Page runs to hide in abandoned building, little did he know that climbing into that window would forever change his life. That is the day he met Eliza Reynolds, who was also using the condemned building as her sanctuary. Eliza and Till both grew up in the projects and were both neglected by their parents. What starts out as an odd friendship builds into a formidable bond that will hold them together through all their struggles.

Fighting Silence isn't a story with a lot of angst or unnecessary drama, it actually like watching two people grow up. Throughout their lives they have regular issues come and go, but their one constant is their ability to rely on each other. Naturally they both begin developing feelings for each other as they get older and their attraction grows. Till decides he cannot date Eliza while they are still young and in school. He knows high school relationship don't work and isn't willing to give up with they have. Until one night Till gives into his desires and finally makes Eliza his, but his actions have the power to change everything.

Till and Eliza have to learn to either separate their feelings or accept reality and make a future together. Throughout the story that is what we see, two people bonded together in their own *fantasy* trying to navigate reality. Eliza moves out and attends college, while Till works at the gym and two other jobs just to get by. Throughout the years Till has began boxing, the gym On the Ropes has become his second home and will hopefully one day will give him a career as professional boxer.

More important then the little struggles in life are the big ones, the life altering things that happen. When Till

was younger he was diagnosed with a genetic condition that would cause him to gradually lose his hearing until he was completely deaf. Losing one of your primary sense is a big thing, but for a boxer who needs to hear a bell to designate rounds, it is huge.

I feel like I am being redundant but I can't express enough how moving this story is and how much I enjoyed it. The writing is completely engaging and pulls you in. Throughout the character's struggles I was cheering them on and when good things happened I had a huge smile on my face. I felt their turmoil, grief and happiness when reading. If you are looking for a Cinderella story with tons of heart this is the book for you.

This is my first book by Aly Martinez, but she is definitely on my watch list and I cannot wait to read more about the Page Brothers.

"You always say that you love me, but you have given me so much more. And because of that, I will spend a lifetime fighting to give you the world."

ARC kindly provided in exchange for an honest review.

Val Shameless ?? Steamy Reads ?? says

Re-read: 1/23/16...After devouring book three I felt like revisiting Till and Eliza...

5 Almost Perfect Stars

So I have several "whys" here.

Why #1:

Why did this languish on my kindle for oh so long?

Sports romance? Check.

Childhood love? Check.

HOT as F cover? Check.

Many of my favorite elements, yes?

Check.

In my defense, I *did* start this waaaaay back in March...and was totally drawn in by the first Chapter.

But when the second chapter threw in the ole "*Five Years Earlier*" plot bane to my existence?

If you know me at all, you know I **loathe** flashbacks.

With a passion.

My least favorite flashback being the kind where the story starts in the presents and then - BAM! - you are taken "back in time" to then spend the whole book working your way forward to...?

Where.

You.

Fucking.

Started.

So when that happened, I did what ALL reasonable adults would do.

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I pouted like a child and put this thing on Time Out.

Now, ultimately we didn't have to wait until the very end to get where we started in the beginning with this one, but still.

#poutyface

Why #2:

Why did it finally take several good GR buddies raving about this thing to finally get me to pick this thing back up?

But then again...

And also...revisit point one.

Long story short though, I *finally* read this bad boy.

And LOVED it.

Till and Eliza - with their uber cute nicknames, magic windows and reality/fantasy debates - were seriously too cute.

Add in Flint and Quarry and Martinez took this awesomeness and raised it a whole awesome.

All kinds of fun, angsty stuff happened all the way until the end.

Which leads me to my third why.

Why #3:

Why the little tidbit details that led to the tone of this ending?

I get ending books with your foot in the door of the next book in the series as a segue and all that...but not at the detriment to my happy feels for book one.

I don't want to ruin anything for anyone by going into detail here - and don't get me wrong - the ending isn't *bad*...I just felt that the tone of it could have been effected a little bit differently is all.

Ultimately, I like my HEAs tied up with a big fluffy, completely unrealistic bow of unicorns and rainbows people, not tinged with sadness glitter.

But in the end I would take that every time if it meant scoring a read this good.

Can't wait for the next one, which just so conveniently comes out TODAY.

Why #4:

Why am I even bitching about not reading this sooner?

Now I don't even have to wait for Flint's story.

?Flo? the coffee addict says

4 **magical STARS**

“There is nothing in the world that was ever more mine than you.”

My very first *Aly Martinez* read and I can honestly say it was a success. A sweet friends to lovers story, with a beautiful couple, adorable side characters and a heartfelt story. Maybe a little too light for my taste, but enjoyable nevertheless.

Fighting Silence tells the story of Eliza and Till. Both had a very hard start in life. Neglective parents who couldn't care less about their well being, no money and very little love. At thirteen in an attempt to escape his home for a little while **Till Page** stumbled through the window of an abandoned apartment and found **Eliza 'Doodle' Reynolds** on the other side. The chance encounter is the start of a deep friendship, the creation of a home and safety for both. They become family.

"Till always made things hard for me, but in some strange way, he always made them infinitely better as well."

The love story is a slow burn and has its ups and downs. Especially Till is a huge obstacle they have to overcome. He has issues with taking things further even though Doodle is the love of his life. There are so many other things to consider. His two younger brothers, his health, school, money issues and parents they could do without. Basically, he is holding the weight of the world on his shoulders. Things only slightly turn towards the good the day Till steps foot into Slate's boxing gym.

Eliza is a saint. She really has a heart of gold. She is intelligent, a hard worker and truly a gifted artist. I don't even understand how she could turn out so sweet and caring, without turning cynical considering the life she lived. What got me the most was her strength and the way she turned into the ultimate momma bear when it comes to her boys.

All in all I would say it was a well balanced read, the writing was phenomenal and the story made me swoon. It's a feel good read with a lot of hope, mixed in with human struggle to fight for a better life and the sacrifices that come along the way.

Fighting Silence can be read as a standalone and although the story of Eliza and Till is told within this book, the series will continue with Till's brothers Flint and Quarry. Those two stole my heart and I can't wait to read some more about their future.

Brandi says

I really enjoyed this one. Eliza and Till were wonderful characters, complex, driven and charming. I adored them. But I'm being lazy today...

Overall, it was a sweet story about finding your soulmate at 14 and the struggle of dealing with the real world. I laughed, cried and swooned. And I'm really looking forward to continuing this series.

Catarina says

5 “This is reality” Stars.

Eliza (or Doodles) met Till when she was 13 years old and he climbed her window. Both poor and with both families that neither of them deserved, they found solace (and a family) in each other. But as they get older, those feelings start to grow into a different kind of love. But both of them striking to survive, and Till not fighting not only for himself, but also for his younger brothers and against a genetic disease that is slowing turning him deaf. He wants Eliza but he also doesn't want to lose her, and he has this fantasy where one day he will be able to give her everything and they'll be happy. But how do you know when it's time to spot living in a fantasy, and realizing that in reality you're risking losing the only person you ever loved?

What an amazing book! It was my first reading by Aly Martinez, but if all of her other books are so good and well written as this one, it will certainly not be my last.

This story happens in the length of (pretty much) ten years and it's an amazing journey to read. Emotional, beautiful, heartwarming and sometimes heartbreakng, this is a love story you can't skip.

Seriously, jump on it. Like, yesterday!

Rating: 5 Stars.

Characters Development: It's not usual for me to really love a heroine, and yet, I completely loved Eliza. I loved how selfless, sweet and loyal she was. How she never gave up on Till and his brothers. She was an amazing character. Despite not liking the time it took for him to make up is damn mind, I still loved Till. How could I not? He was all about the “little gestures”, he did anything he could for Eliza and he put everyone's happiness in front of his own. He was an amazing and selfless hero and I really loved him and Doodles together. I also loved Slade and everything he did to help them. The brothers were great. I can't wait to read their books, especially Flint's!

Steam: Some hot scenes.

Sensible Subjects: (view spoiler)

Love Triangle: (view spoiler)

Cheating: (view spoiler)

HEA: (view spoiler)

Sleepless Readmore says

FIVE CRAWL-THROUGH-MY-WINDOWSTARS

Till and Eliza .. ♥♥

Most **women** want a man that's already established. A **strong** woman will be apart of his *struggle, survive it, succeed* together, and **build** an empire. I'm in awe. This is one of my **favourite** friends transitioning to lovers .. *incredibly realistic*. Aly Martinez wrote this novel *through* a span of *Till* and *Eliza*'s years together. **#FLAWLESS**. *Till* and *Eliza*'s story was so *beautiful, captivating, and challenging* (AT TIMES). They both **fought** to make their *lives and futures* better for themselves along with their **loved** ones. This series **already** has a LOT of potential and I most *CERTAINLY* am reading the next **one**. I HIGHLY recommend this one .. if it's in your **TBR** bump that ish up BECAUSE you will not be **DISAPPOINTED!!!**

It was more than a **friendship**,
but there wasn't *romance* or *sex*.
There was definitely **love** though.
Immeasurable amounts of it .."

How can I love when I'm afraid to fall?
But watching you stand alone,
All of my doubt suddenly goes away .. ??

No matter how **bad** I fuck *things* up,
we **make** this work.
Forever .."

I *was* okay.
She *was* **okay**.

We **were** okay.
Nothing else *matters .."*

I have died every day waiting for you
Darling, don't be afraid I have loved you
For a thousand years
I'll love you for a thousand more .. ??

I claimed *Eliza Reynolds* final **first**.
And *every. Single. One. Of* her *lasts*.

Fighting Silence Aly Martinez
- *Sleepless, Readmore. Twitter*
