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Hannah Moskowitz

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You just have to be a brave and certain kind of person, and I don't think that I am. I'm sarcastic and loyal and a little shy. I'm quietly and slightly Catholic. I'm a daughter trying to learn how to be a sister. I'm a virgin. I'm a butterflier.

I've never been in love.

Taylor Cipriano had everything figured out, back when she lived with her single mother in Miami. Now, she's moved upstate for her junior year to live with her mom's boyfriend and her soon-to-be-stepsister and is trying to figure out who she is out of the shadow of her best friend. When she meets Theo—quirky, cute, sensitive Theo—he seems like a great match...except he has a girlfriend. Josey, icy and oh-so-intimidating.

But Theo and Josey aren't like anyone Taylor's met before; Josey grew up in a polyamorous family, and the two of them have a history of letting a third person in to their relationship. It's nothing Taylor's ever considered before...but she really likes Theo.

Her feelings for Josey, though?

That's where it really gets complicated.

3 unwraps who we love and how we love, in numbers as odd as we are.

3 Details

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From Reader Review 3 for online ebook

Michelle (Fluttering Butterflies) says

3.5 stars maybe? I don't know.

Chasia Lloyd says

Polyamory in YA! Yes! Very good. Also the rare abortion topic! But the formatting in this book made it very difficult to read and took away from my enjoyment.

Mel González says

"Don't look at me," Josey says. "She's your girlfriend."

"Yeah, now she's my girlfriend," Theo says. "When she wins swim meets it's all our girlfriend is so amazing, isn't she, Theo, but as soon as she confuses you again she's all my problem again."

A fantastic book that made me challenge my own preconceptions on so many different topics, it made me look at my misogyny and sexism in the face and say fuck you. It's an unique book but it's also a book that has a lot of the contemporary things we are used to seeing, like a girl moving to a new town, falling in love, meeting new people. The uniqueness comes from the polyamorous relationship and the way the main character develops her personality and grows as you, as a reader, grow as well. It's the main character falling in love with two people in completely different ways, at different paces with different timing. It's the main character being called out over and over again for her own socially constructed thoughts and people challenging it like this book challenges you as a reader. It's a very weird but comfortable relationship between narrator and reader.

I absolutely adored the way this book was written because you as an outsider can see a lot of the flaws of the main character but at the same time you're reading from her perspective so at times it's frustrating when she doesn't realise what she's doing. Luckily, like I said before, so many different people call her out on her prejudices, on her religion, on her opinions, on the way she treats people and it's hard to see it because when you read from her perspective in first person you kind of become her and it's hard being called out, but it's harder looking at yourself and seeing that you're hurting someone or that you're not giving people enough time to understand something when you had months to understand it and arrive to a comfortable place with it.

One of my favourite characters was Josey, I really didn't understand why she was treated so poorly and why Taylor didn't like her but then seeing that relationship develop into something more was gorgeous. I also loved the family dynamics not only with Taylor but also with Josey's parents, who are also polyamorous and it's important to have those role models in their lives and seeing that it can work and that it's normal. The dialogue and the way the characters reacted and how they expected things from each other without pushing

was so realistic and beautifully done. The characterisation was incredible, these characters are all huge dorks and that made relate to them a lot. Mainly, I shipped Taylor/Theo/Josey a lot and I wanted them to be together all the time. The dynamics when they all were together especially at the end of the book were absolute gold.

Lexie says

I am absolutely in love with this book. The characters, the family dynamics, and the dialogue were all so amazing and realistic. The way Taylor thought felt so realistic to me, I felt like I was literally in the head of a confused and worried junior in high school.

This is only my second Hannah Moskowitz book (I read *Not Otherwise Specified* not too long ago and absolutely loved it) but Hannah is easily one of my favorite authors. As I mentioned before, her characterization is amazing. She just has this way of making every single character seem incredibly interesting without making them all seem over-the-top unique or special. She has some normal characters that are as average and normal as can be, but they are still interesting because *she writes them interestingly*. The characters speak, act, and look like normal, realistic, yet interesting people, which I find so incredibly pleasing.

This book has so much heart, and so much love. The family dynamics were amazing, and the relationship between Taylor and her mom was so loving. The polyamorous relationship was so so so and I was absolutely in love with their love. Josey/Taylor/Theo is probably one of my all time favorite ships, I just couldn't get enough of them. (view spoiler)

Don't you just love them?

(hide spoiler)]

All in all, I loved this book, and I highly recommend it.

Parker Goodreau says

This is a wonderful book and I think you should read it. Some notes from my reading experience (as enthusiastically emailed to hannah, play-by-play style, with spoilers removed):

On pg 50 and I love everybody. I'm very into Theo, he has this air of unpretentious/unstudied relaxation that I'm not used to seeing in YA boyfriends, it's super neat. Kind of entranced by Josey, I can't wait to learn more about her.

I was already ruined for non-feminists, but if I weren't, I'm certain Theo would be a big help. I can't wait for Taylor to meet Josey's family. And her relationship with her mom is so cute! I just checked to see what page I was on and now I'm panicking because I'm almost halfway done, nooooo. I'm just. In love. With everyone.

Theo is making me laugh SO much, god. I want in on this relationship, we are making it a foursome.

I've been done for an hour and now I'm just waiting for my soul to return to my body so I can maybe figure out how to go on with my life.

In summary: it was lovely and I love all of them and hannah moskowitz' character development leaves me breathless. If you're interested in polyamorous relationship dynamics, amazing dialogue, and books that wedge their way into your heart for eternity, this one's for you.

Hannah says

I wrote this book! It is very important to me.

The playlist is full of movie and musical stuff, because me:

Fidelity--Regina Spektor

Hang With Me--Robyn

I Can't Do it Alone--Catherine Zeta-Jones, Chicago Soundtrack

Here I Go--Idina Menzel and James Snyder, If/Then cast recording

Tell Me If You Wanna Go Home--Keira Knightly, Begin Again soundtrack

400 Lux--Lorde

Breakfast at Tiffany's--Deep Blue Something

As Cool as I Am--Dar Williams

Love it When You Call--The Feeling

The Way I Am--Ingrid Michaelson

A Lonely September--Plain White T's

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas--Frank Sinatra

A Higher Place--Adam Levine, Begin Again soundtrack

Young Dumb and in Love--Mat Kearney

Talking in Code--Margot and the Nuclear So and So's

Where I Belong--Motion City Soundtrack

Rain--Patty Griffin

The Freshman--The Verve Pipe

As Time Goes By--Frank Sinatra

Over My Head (Cable Car)--The Fray

Josey--Deep Blue Something

Love While You Can--Idina Menzel, LaChanze, and Jenn Colella, If/Then cast recording

Us--Regina Spektor

All That We Needed--Plain White T's

Floating Down the River--Motion City Soundtrack

One Night Town--Mat Kearney and Ingrid Michaelson

First Day of My Life--Bright Eyes

What I Did For Love--Priscilla Lopez, A Chorus Line cast recording

Adiba Jaigirdar says

Super glad I decided to give this a read. Never really read anything with a poly relationship before and it was really interesting to read about.

The best thing about this book is probably the characters. They're very endearing, but also really fleshed out. I like that all the misconstructions about polyamory wasn't a black and white thing, but very nuanced.

There were a fair few typos, which were a bit off-putting, but nothing that really majorly took away from the book. Overall, a fantastic read.

Xan West says

So I really enjoyed this book. It's a YA romance that's *about* polyamory, but it doesn't simplify things. The polyamorous relationship (sort of a V? sort of a triad?) in this book is complicated, and the obstacles the characters face in the romance feel real, and deeply drawn. I really liked that these characters were grappling with other things besides being polyamorous.

Taylor, the POV main character, is deeply compelling, and characterized in a complex nuanced way. I fell for her really hard. I especially enjoyed the relationship between Taylor and Josey, and the storyline about Taylor and her BFF. I also really liked that there were polyamorous parents in this book; it felt important that these kids had support from other polyamorous people.

As a polyamorous adult, I am very glad this book is out in the world. I could have really used a book like this when I was a teenager.

A caveat that I know can be important to some folks: this book had some copyediting issues that were distracting for me as a reader.

Trigger warnings: (view spoiler)

amanda says

this was really good! i lowkey wanted Taylor and Josey to also be together and kinda sorta cared more about them than about Taylor and Theo because they had a really cute dynamic and by lowkey i really mean highkey because of the things said by Taylor in regards to Josey (aka her saying that she's in love with her??). i was definitely expecting ~something~ to happen between them, but i loved how their relationship developed anyways. Josey was totally my favourite character.

Polyamory is definitely an interesting and unique topic to write a YA about and it's kind of hard for me to wrap my head around sometimes but this book is a great way to get a better understanding into an example of that kind of relationship.

there were some grammatical and editing errors in this book that slightly bugged me but besides that i really enjoyed it!

Leah says

This was an interesting read. I've never read a book about a poly relationship and I was intrigued how it worked between Theo, Josey and Taylor, but I also kinda wanted more between Josey and Taylor.

Also, the editing was pretty bad. Not going to lie. I picked up on so many spelling errors and incorrect words and missing words and it was glaringly obvious, which was a shame. I always find multiple errors bring me out of the book.

Kberlatsky says

This was a beautiful, exquisite book. My heart is filled with love after reading it and the closer I got to the end the more sad I got because I really, truly didn't want it to be over. I love these characters, and this story, and this writing, and I'm going to spend the next six months being so so happy that I had the privilege of reading this book.

idiomatic says

the pacing is APPALLING and the girls don't kiss.

charlotte says

Rep: Cuban American bi mc, polyamorous relationship

i love this and i love the characters and theyre so soft and happy and im gonna cry

Janani says

This was my first time reading any of Hannah's work, and it was such a delight. Her characters are wonderfully governed by all of the hormones and feelings of teenagers. Taylor was great, but Josey had my head and heart from the beginning. I loved that the poly relationship depicted felt real and went through the motions, without ending in a neatly tied up HEA.

TW: Abortion

Mel says

Have you seen what I did with the rating (down below)? (4 stars for the story and 1 for the editing/proofing.) I need to get this off my chest first, because I am seriously pissed off and frustrated. This book has a really good story, one that is rarely told (look at them tags), but the editing and proofing is so abysmal that I cannot recommend this book to anyone, which pains me because it's a fucking shame. Well, I'm not saying you shouldn't read it, especially if you want to read about teenagers being in a polyamorous relationship, but be prepared. There are wrong words, missing words, mixed up pronouns, so you have to figure out who's doing or saying what, and just to give you two examples, look at this:

[...] the reception room is isn't going to be ready for a half-hour after we planned [...]

[...] I don't kno2 any stories [...]

Well, is it or is it not? Probably isn't because that makes more sense, but I don't want to need to figure this out. Reading this is confusing at the least. And I don't even want to know what happened in the second example. If I had realised this in the sample (which is actually written way better), I wouldn't have bought the book, but, as often the case, this only gets worse later on.

I thought about quitting (heh, I do not finish books all the time and don't feel the need to continue books that annoy me) but I was too invested in the story and characters to go through with it. Because not only is this book really funny and has a wonderful narration through the protagonist Taylor, but the topic of polyamory is very well handled and interesting and just great.

This book is about growing up and finding your place (at least for the moment) and about all kinds of facets of love and how you can love several people at the same time and how love and relationships are different and not more or less than the other.

I really like that this book doesn't show us a triad in which everyone loves everyone equally and everything is shared and together (nothing bad with that, don't get me wrong), but that the focus is on Taylor's and Theo's relationship with each other, and Taylor's and Josey's, and Theo's and Josey's. They all have their separate thing going on but are, of course, also connected and together—how could it not?

Josey's parents are also polyamorous and it is great to see an older role model, so to say. There are several secondary characters who are well fleshed out and give depth to the story. I also like the pacing and the overall emphasis of growing up and learning how to love and live. It's less about the falling in love and romance (although there is lots of kissing :)). I have to say, though, that the getting together was too rushed.

The plot device for the final conflict that forces the three to come out wasn't to my liking, and I feel that the (view spoiler) was taken far too lightly. Like, I'm not judging them or anyone but I don't like how this, to me, difficult and complicated topic was handled.

Okay, let me summarise, I really like the main content of the story (the characters and the polyamorous relationship) and I think this is well worth reading, but because of the bad bad bad proofing I cannot recommend the book, which sucks.

Genre: Contemporary Romance, Young Adult

Tags: Polyamorous Relationship, F/M, F/F, Bisexual, POC, School

Content Warnings: (view spoiler)

Rating: 2.5 stars (4 for the story and 1 for the editing/proofing)

