



Everyone She Loved

Sheila Curran

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A wise and triumphant novel about four women who've come of age together only to discover that -- when it comes to the essentials -- life's little instruction book will always need revising. Penelope Cameron, loving mother, devoted wife and generous philanthropist, has convinced her husband and four closest friends to sign an outlandish pact. If Penelope should die before her two daughters are eighteen, her husband will not remarry without the permission of Penelope's sister and three college roommates. For years, this contract gathers dust until the unthinkable happens. Suddenly, everyone she loved must find their way in a world without Penelope.

For Lucy Vargas, Penelope's best friend, and a second mother to her daughters, nothing seems more natural than to welcome them into a home that had once belonged to their family, a lovely, sprawling bed-and-breakfast on the beach. This bequest was only one of the many ways in which Penelope had supported Lucy's career as a painter, declaring her talent too important to squander. But now, in the wake of a disaster that only lovable, worrisome Penelope could have predicted, Lucy has put her work on hold as she and Penelope's husband, Joey, blindly grasp at anything that will keep the girls from sinking under the weight of their grief.

With the help of family and friends, the children slowly build new lives. But just when things start to come together, the fragile serenity they have gained is suddenly threatened from within, and the unbreakable bonds they share seem likely to dissolve after all.

In this entertaining and uplifting novel, Sheila Curran explores the faith one woman placed in her dearest friends, the care she took to protect her family and the many ways in which romantic entanglements will confound and confuse even the most determined of planners. A story about growing up and moving on, about the sacrifices people make for one another and the timeless legacy of love, "Everyone She Loved" is, above all, about the abiding strength of friendship.

Everyone She Loved Details

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Author : Sheila Curran

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From Reader Review Everyone She Loved for online ebook

Sierra Lawrence says

This book is painful to read. The storyline had amazing potential...but the writing was awful

Karen says

LOved it! Everything you want in a novel: wise, touching, warm and funny.

Jenn says

I'll just say that the jacket cover made this book sound a whole lot more interesting/entertaining than it really was.

The story just annoyed me as I got further and further through it. I think I enjoyed reading about the children, Tessa and June, more. The whole situation with Joey and Lisa was ridiculous, yet sadly could be non-fiction since there are people out there in the world who don't ever bother to listen to each other.

Overall a disappointing read.

Samantha says

Really interesting characters!!

Peggy Clayton says

stopped reading after 1/2 way couldn't or didn't get into it not sure this hasnt happened in a really long time where i started a book and didnt like it wow

Ranger Curran says

Great read. Characters come alive and very intersting plot. Very entertaining.

Andrea says

There are some books that I read a chapter here and a chapter there and take me forever to read. This was one of those books. I never got into it. At all. But I make myself finish every book I start, so here I am.

There were too many sub-plots. Way too many. Death and cheating and lesbianism and obesity and anorexia and bulimia. Add it crazy characters, none of which I liked, and it didn't make for such a great read. Okay, I take that back. I kinda liked the two kids although its really more that I felt sorry for them than anything else.

And that's all I have to say about that.

Susan says

Way too much going on - I never could get those other two friends straight. Lots of ideas that went nowhere. Wanted to scream at the whole mis-understanding between Lucy and Joey. The ending was just too random. I didn't hate it but it didn't do much for me either.

Jean St.Amand says

Too. Many. Words. Who is she trying to impress? Honestly, I got to the end of several LONG sentences or paragraphs and had NO idea what she was trying to say, and I am not a stupid person. The description of the book, on the back cover, made it sound like it was going to be a really good story but wow, that description is WAY off. The characters, with the exception of Sateesh, are unlikable. The story is just plain stupid and not believable. The two cousins were on the board of the Cameron company...a board is generally made up of several people, so how did those two fools have so much power? As for Siobhan....I don't even think I should bother to get into THAT....just one thing....I don't believe for a second that June would not have told her Dad or sister or someone that Siobhan told her she looked 5 months pregnant. In conclusion, I don't believe that anybody suffering from anorexia would magically be cured the way Tessa was.....one of the last lines of the book was Tessa asking her Dad when he was picking up their pizza. No. Also, no grown man should go through life being called Joey...that is a name for a 5 year old. Ugh.

Liana Qissy Cat says

It started off fine. Then got a bit draggy towards the middle. At which,I was not in the mood to read it as it became ANNOYING. :(

Amy says

Another one where I got so bored with it that I flipped to the end to read the resolution and called it a day.

The plot relies far too much on people misunderstanding one another. Like in a sitcom. "Wait, what were YOU talking about?" "No, what were YOU talking about?"

Virginia Hess says

Gentle laughter, the voice of the author...about a woman who died and leaves 2 daughters, three friends, a

husband, millions of dollars and a codicil to her will requiring her friends to pass judgment on anyone he remarries.

Amy says

Ugh! I really tried! This book is horrible and I can't get into it! I am so glad I borrowed it from the library so I can return it. I can't relate to the characters and the plot is going nowhere.

I will still have lots of coffee for all of my book club friends, but can't bring myself to read it. Too many great books in the world :)

Colleen says

I had expected to enjoy this book- the premise was interesting and I thought the book would be a fun read. Unfortunately, any fun was sucked out by the overly-complicated and ridiculous plot, and the completely unsympathetic cast of characters. At one point I thought the book might drift far enough into absurdity to become a farce, but it never quite hit the satirical note required to pump it up to that level. The only people in the book that evoked any emotional response other than irritation were the two poor daughters and their dog. Heck, even the evil British cousins were more enjoyable than the main characters; all they were missing was a maniacal laugh to make them the perfect soap-opera villains.

All in all, a disappointing read. 2 stars because of the kids and the way they were portrayed- though the adults around them behaved like idiots, their pain as they dealt with the loss of their mother was the most honest, meaningful, and successful part of this novel.

Amy says

After reading the jacket cover, I couldn't wait to start this book. The first few chapters held my interest, but after a quarter of the way through, it was painful to finish. Too many story lines and I kept on getting the friends confused. Also very disappointed by the ending - was expecting something much more dramatic, but found it very lackluster.
