



Punishment Summer

Peggy Rothschild

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Sixteen-year-old Nicki is sent to stay at her grandfather's cabin near the town of Punishment in the Mendocino Forest. As always, she hides her burn scars and keeps quiet about the mother who ran out on her. But soon after arriving, she begins to suspect Grandpa is also keeping secrets. Her exile brings an unexpected bright spot: Grandpa's German shepherd, Queenie. The hunky neighbor boy's another plus, though she quickly starts to doubt his honesty.

From secret pot farms to human trafficking, Nicki discovers nothing in the 'Mendo' is what it seems. When Grandpa takes off and the lives of new friends are endangered, Nicki must decide how far she's willing to go to protect those she cares about. Before summer ends, Nicki will learn there are some choices she can't undo.

It's a good thing Grandpa taught her how to shoot.

Punishment Summer Details

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Author : Peggy Rothschild

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From Reader Review Punishment Summer for online ebook

Carissa Lynch says

Wow! What a heartwarming and enjoyable young adult story. What starts out as a punishment, turns out to be a life-changing summer for Nicki Steele. Although Nick is dealing with average teenage problems, she's also dealing with some heavy issues, mainly the tragic death of her sister and absence of her mother. Getting caught up in the wrong crowd and bad life choices, her father sends her to stay with her granddad. There she will learn the value of hard work, and most importantly, she will learn about herself. A beautiful, entertaining, coming-of-age story that is perfect for teenagers and adults alike. It's thought-provoking, but an easy read that kept me interested throughout. Nicki was relatable and her character didn't seem contrived. The author's writing is top notch, and I'd love to read more of her titles!

Peggy says

****SPOILER FREE****

A great book for all young readers and adults as well. The story was very realistic and the characters made you love'em and hate'em. Page turner at it's finest! This book will have you sucked up into the story and you'll have it finished before you realize it.

Received for an honest review

Cherime MacFarlane says

Things aren't looking good for this teen when her father catches her and forces her to go live with her back to the land grandfather. But besides her grandfather's secrets, lots of other things are out in the woods lying in wait. A real page turner. Excellent read.

Tiffany says

In a nutshell, this book was awesome! There is such a great storyline with sub-story lines to keep the reader guessing just where this story is going to go. I had no idea the story was going to go where it did by the end of the book, but i loved every second of it.

I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. Above is my honest review.

Patrice says

All teenagers go through a phase in life where they are testing the boundaries. Many of them have a parents

to drag them through this time. But sometimes parents reach their breaking point. The night came for Nicole after partying and drinking. Nicki was sent by her father to spend the summer with her grandfather. Talking about living with the basics. The basics of everything in life (no electricity, no television, and no cellphone service). On top of caveman living she also has to hunt and fish with all her food. In the woods, she meets the Wilder brothers (Ben and Todd). Summer with her grandfather brings the brothers that are not honest with her and a mystery lady that visits her grandfather. Her grandfather has a soft heart but never wants to show that to Nicole. There is a mystery that lies in the woods that will make Nicole's summer one to remember. Could this summer that was meant to be punishment for Nicki be punishment or will it create a bond between her and her grandfather?

This book was a very quick read. It is great for teens that are at least the age of 16 and up because of the content dialogue. This book is a great for those looking for a book that is fast pace but leaves a little mystery to its self. The interaction between the grandfather and Nicole that can be seen to be growing and the story continues and mature you can see the bond becoming stronger and stronger. The vivid descriptions of the scenery and the interactions with nature, gives the reader a sense that the author is one that loves nature or has had considerable time spent in a nature setting.

Reviewed for www.mzjeston.com

? Shannon ? says

I won this book in a giveaway and was so excited to start reading it when it finally arrived, so I did! It was definitely a compelling storyline. It kept my attention throughout the entire book without leaving me feeling bored or waiting for a "pick me up" spot. In my opinion, it is a well written thought out storyline that you should give a chance if you're in a dreaded reading slump.

Sarah Stuart says

Nicki is a teenager no single dad would find easy but he isn't as white as snow either, leaving her to blame herself, unfairly, for the death of her older sister in a fire, sure she is the cause of her mother leaving home and breaking off contact, and disrupting her school life with constant moves. Nicki has her own name for all this: Single-Surviving-Child Syndrome. Nicki is almost seventeen when she parties once too often in a desperate attempt to fit-in at yet another school and rolls home late, drunk, and high on pot. Dad gives her fifteen minutes to pack and drives her hundreds of miles into the California backwoods to spend the summer with her grandfather who lives eight miles beyond the tiny settlement of Punishment,

No electricity for a TV, or to charge her Ipod, and the only place to pick up a cell phone signal, while the battery lasts, is the roof of the general store. Grandpa bans swearing, and has a list of chores pinned to the wall. If Nikki wants to eat she works, and that includes catching fish and shooting rabbits. The one bright spot is Queenie, Grandpa's German Shepherd, who adopts Nicki and wins her heart.

The backwoods, vividly described, and the summer, prove to be anything but boring. This YA novel will hold its intended readers with the truth about Grandpa and his mission, Nicki's forbidden meetings with the attractive young sons of his nearest neighbours, the secret of what is being cultivated in forest clearings, and what happens to women and girls who make one wrong decision and suffer horrendous consequences.

Nicki grows up fast, and the action is fast-paced too. It held me spellbound. I read the book late into the night; once I started, I couldn't stop until I reached the end.

Monsterella Reviews says

What was meant to be a punishment turned out to be an experience that changed the life of Nicki Steele forever!

Being a teenager isn't always easy. Being a teenager who's mother left and having an older sister who perished in a fire is even harder. Living your life thinking you were the cause was too hard to overcome. But with her dad still there for her Nicki was making it. Just barely.

Nicki's dad had moved them multiple times since they lost the other half of their family. The most recent move allowing her to fall in with the wrong crowd. With people who rather party and break the rules than grow into the young adults they were. Mr. Steele couldn't watch his daughter throw her life away at such a young age so the summer of her seventeenth birthday he sent her to stay with her grandfather so she could learn responsibility and grow into the beautiful woman she was inside.

Nicki fought the move from the beginning, thinking it the worst punishment possible. It didn't take long before Nicki started to love her new residence, the refreshing feeling of living in the middle of the Mendocino forest. She learned to hunt and fish and put in the hard work necessary to be proud of surviving on her own volition. She grew from the spoiled city girl into a responsible hard working young woman in just a few short weeks.

In the short amount of time that Nicki lived with her grandfather she encountered many obstacles that required her newly gained knowledge to overcome. She learned that life wasn't always easy but with the right support and determination she could get through anything. This is such a great story about life, true love, and survival. I definitely recommend this story be put on your list of "To Read"s.

Dianne says

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It was only a little alcohol, a little weed, and so what if Nikki was trying to avoid her dad by sneaking back through her bedroom window, after all, it was only the second time she had done it, it was summer vacation, time for teens to cut loose, right? Instead of getting off scott free, Nikki found herself face to face with her very angry father one minute and on her way to spend the summer with the grandfather she didn't know. The grandfather who lived in the middle of nowhere, had no electricity, no television and *gasp* no cellphone service. And carry out? Well, that meant shooting your own food and carrying it out of the woods. The summer that began as a battle of the wills between a cranky old man and a sarcastic sixteen-year-old became the summer to remember, the one that brought revelations, pain, joy and a new appreciation for the simpler things, good friends and doing the right thing. Could it also be the summer that Nikki learns to forgive both

herself and others? First, she had to survive in a world of drugs, cartels and kidnapping as she is left alone to make decisions and take actions that will become part of her for the rest of her life.

Punishment Summer by Peggy Rothschild, although written for the young adult audience is a read that any age can appreciate and even see themselves as teens in. Nikki has some baggage that she can't share with her father, but it hasn't dulled her quick wit, and sarcastically sharp tongue. Her transformation throughout her time in Punishment is like watching a time lapse camera following the stages of a butterfly's life. Peggy Rothschild also captured Grandpa with his backwoods living, no nonsense attitude toward raising children and that soft center he tries to hide deep within. As we transition from city to country, Peggy Rothschild becomes our tour guide, creating the backgrounds, setting the tone and filling it all in with lush descriptions. The perfect hell on earth for a city girl trapped without friends, phones or cable! With a touch of young romance, some breaking of rules and a fight for survival, Ms. Rothschild has given voice to a summer to remember for lovers of great reading.

I received this copy from Peggy Rothschild in exchange for my honest review.

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Available from: Amazon

For Reviews & More: <http://tometender.blogspot.com>

Mistress Mary says

Nicki is sent to Punishment for the summer for her not following the rules her dad had made. I really didn't like that her dad didn't communicate with her. He just gave her 15 minutes to pack her stuff and took her to her grandpa's that she hadn't seen since she was a little girl. I felt he just decided he didn't want to deal with her and shipped her off.

Nicki had a lot of growing up to do in this story. I think she did a great job. The author tells the story and really draws you in. I couldn't put the book down. Especially when the mystery begins about the woman who comes to see her grandpa and the neighbor boys that aren't that honest with her.

I feel that her grandpa taught her some very good lessons. Not only to hunt, fish and grow her own food but also to take care of herself when no one was around. This just helped her when he had to leave unexpectedly. Nicki really found out her true self and didn't worry about not fitting in anymore. She actually asked her dad to stay in Punishment.

I hope that there is a second book to this one. I would really like to see what happens when her dad decides to go to visit her and her grandpa. Hopefully there will be another book soon.

Molly says

A great coming of age story with a wonderful mixture of mystery, adventure, a teenage crush, pet love and friendship. I didn't care much for our protagonist at first, nor did I warm to her grandfather at first. As the story unfolds some of these feelings changed and the book left me on a high note.

The summer that was meant as punishment turned into quite something and this is enjoyable not just for teenagers or young adults. Loved it.

Sophia says

I wanted to DNF this so badly...BUT I got a free copy from the author and I'm very grateful for that. I also hate quitting books. So while it did take me over a month to read this, I finally finished it. That being said, here's my honest review:

Punishment Summer is a book that tries to be a thriller, but fails miserably. I wasn't "thrilled" in the slightest. I didn't feel the suspense. The plot (was there one?) didn't capture my attention. In simple words: **I was bored.**

One of the main problems with this book is that it's WAY too descriptive. We get long sections of text that tell us little more than the protagonist doing chores, feeding the dog and tying her shoe laces for all I know.

I shoved a handful of kindling into the fire box, double-checked that the latch caught when I closed it, and made sure the ash pan wasn't overflowing. Once the skillet was heating, I rummaged inside a drawer until I found the tea infuser and filled it with dried mint. Then I set it inside an empty mug. When the kettle whistled, I poured hot water over the dried leaves. After the water turned greenish-brown, I filled a second mug with steaming water...

What was the point of that paragraph other than filling up the page? Please, enlighten me.

I don't mind descriptions to set up a scene or to familiarize the reader with certain aspects, but when the entire novel is a lengthy description of pointless activities you lose me.

And then there is the constant mention of the "grizzly" in her gut, which is supposed to be a metaphor for an uneasy feeling I'm guessing. But it was overused and often didn't fit the context.

Punishment Summer has potential, but lacks the depth to make it a convincing and gripping novel. I guess **I'm failing to see the point of this story**. I didn't connect with any of the characters and I wasn't satisfied by the conclusion. Again, was there one? A series of unrealistic events take place only to be brushed aside and then "The End".

By the end, it felt like I had a good knowledge of her daily household chores but was missing the actual plot. Where was the character development? Where was the build-up? The subjects addressed in this novel, such as human and drug trafficking are the basis for a great mystery! Unfortunately, they were not explored extensively enough to make it an interesting read.

I'm sorry, but I can't rate this any higher. It just wasn't my cup of tea (pun intended).

Sheri says

Punishment Summer by Peggy Rothschild

Nikki's father sends her to stay with her grandfather for the summer as a punishment. She has been hanging with "the wrong crowd" and he feels this can help her. But once there she finds her Grandfather is keeping secrets, so has her father, and she has some things she wants to stay hidden as well. The only good thing seems to be the cute neighbor boy, and her Grandfather's dog Queenie. Nikki is about to find out that this summer may change her life forever.

Nikki is a troubled teen, but still likable. She has secrets from her past she must face, and the new discoveries, and faces some tough decisions. Her grandfather is basically a stranger to her, since she never really knew him. He is strict, yet loving and Nikki learns a lot about herself, and life.

The story is well written, with developed characters, original plot with twist, turns, secrets and danger. I highly recommend PUNISHMENT SUMMER to Young/Adult & Adult readers.

Cyril Patrick Feerick says

Punishment Summer by Peggy Rothschild is a heart-warming coming of age story that makes you stop and reflect on both the beauty and the cruelty of life. When I read the blurb on this one, I had to dive right in. The story of a girl named Nicki, who is sent to her grandfather's in the town of Punishment. She has secrets, but so has Grandpa. From pot farms to trafficking, Nicki discovers nothing in 'Punishment' is as it seems. Good thing Grandpa taught her to shoot. This is an all encompassing novel of love, anger, learning and growing - and those are just a few of the emotions I felt reading this book. Thanks Peggy for a wonderfully written book.

Eveline says

Punishment Summer is a great coming-of-age YA thriller, suspenseful and action-packed.

After acting out one too many times, Nicki gets punished by being sent to spend the entire summer with her grandfather, far away from her friends and other bad influences. Here in the middle of nowhere, without cell-service, internet, tv, and electricity in general, there isn't much to do and her grandfather actually expects her to *work* for her stay. Whilst Nicki adapts to the situation, learns things like fishing and hunting, several strange things start happening. It would seem that the town of Punishment could be holding some pretty dark secrets.

I really enjoyed Punishment Summer. It started out slow, but little by little it grew more suspenseful. Some things were a little unrealistic, but they did make for an exciting story. I liked how everything ties together in the end, even the sub-plots you might have forgotten. I would say it's a solid YA suspense novel and would definitely recommend it.

I received an advance reader copy from the publisher through Netgalley.

