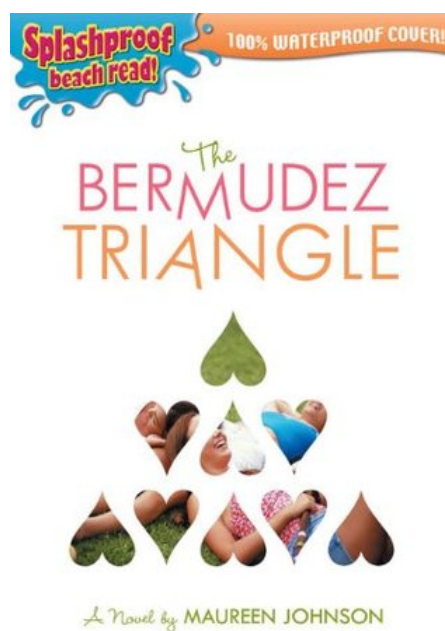




The Bermudez Triangle

Maureen Johnson

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What happens when your two best friends fall in love...with each other?

"Their friendship went so far back, it bordered on the Biblical -- in the beginning, there was Nina and Avery and Mel." So says high school senior Nina Bermudez about herself and her two best friends, nicknamed "The Bermudez Triangle" by a jealous wannabe back on Nina's eleventh birthday. But the threesome faces their first separation when Nina goes away the summer before their senior year. And in ten short weeks, everything changes.

Nina returns home bursting with stories about Steve, the quirky yet adorable eco-warrior she fell for hard while away. But when she asks her best friends about their summer romances, an awkward silence follows.

Nina soon learns the shocking truth when she sees Mel and Avery...kissing. Their friendship is rocked by what feels like the ultimate challenge. But it's only the beginning of a sometimes painful, sometimes funny, always gripping journey as three girls discover who they are and what they really want.

The Bermudez Triangle Details

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From Reader Review The Bermudez Triangle for online ebook

Allison says

At first I was going to give this book two stars for being... insipid. During the first half to two-thirds of the book, it seemed that all the characters were two-dimensional and overly stereotypical/characterized... think of the way Spice Girls or Babysitters Club created characters so that each reader/listener could happily identify with the girl of their choice. Nina is the responsible, brainy one (who just happens to be wildly beautiful), Avery is the artsy less-than-responsible one (but a totally loyal friend), and Mel is the cutesy shy one. Steve is a crunchy granola boy with a keen intellect and an amazingly good heart, and Parker is a clown (ditto to the good heart). In the beginning, I didn't particularly like any of them, and I found their struggles... minimally important. Teenybopperish. And yes, I know, it's a YA novel, but what I like about most YA novels is that they transcend OMG TTYL LOL No he di-int stuff. At least the ones I enjoy.

Anyway, though, at some point, this changed, and the characters became more fleshed out, and I started to actually sympathize with them and get where they were coming from. Perhaps the characters also started to act a bit more... out of character... and more human. And then the book became quite interesting.

I really enjoyed Avery's story. I wish it had been dealt with in greater detail. Averaging the first two-thirds and the last third, I give the book three stars.

Agatha Donkar says

This is the book I wanted to read from Maureen Johnson; it's the story of Nina and her two best friends, Mel and Avery -- when Nina spends the summer at a pre-college program, Mel and Avery fall in love. Johnson handles the difficulties of coming out in high school deftly, and Mel -- who struggles with knowing that she's gay and knowing that Avery, her girlfriend, probably isn't -- is a wonderfully sympathetic character, possibly my favorite in the book. The real world of course doesn't always have a happy ending like the book does, but Nina's struggle with feeling left out when her two closest friends are in love, Avery's struggle with loving Mel but not being certain she's a lesbian, and Mel's broken heart all keep the book moving wonderfully, and unlike some of Johnson's other books, this felt like it played the emotional undertones out to their fullest extent. Wonderful.

Brigid ☆ Cool Ninja Sharpshooter ☆ says

Wow! I really liked it! This is the third book I've read by Maureen Johnson, and it was definitely my fave of her books that I've read so far; although 13 Little Blue Envelopes is a very close second, i thought parts of it were a little far-fetched. But I thought that The Bermudez Triangle was a really good and believable story, and addressed an extremely important topic that a lot of people are uncomfortable to discuss w/family and friends. The characters were very well-developed, and the plot was gripping. I loved it, and highly recommend it. :)

Ashley says

This is more like 3.5 stars for me, mostly for the ending, which just fizzled out, after a strong beginning, strong middle, even strong leading up to the end . . . but the end was a nope. Rounding up though, because I'm just magnanimous like that.

The Bermudez Triangle (I refuse to acknowledge its new title) follows Nina, Avery, and Mel, who have been best friends since they were small children. In the summer before their senior year, Nina goes away to a college prep program in California, and Avery and Mel . . . fall in love. When she comes back home, all three have to navigate around the new dynamics in their relationships. Nina feels like an outsider. Avery and Mel struggle with coming out (or not coming out) as a couple in their high school. And while Mel has pretty much always known she was gay, Avery only becomes more and more confused as the book goes on.

I loved Mel. Loved her to bits. And although she frustrated me, I really liked reading about Avery's struggles with her sexuality, trying to define who and what she was. The more confused she became, the more true to life it felt. Nina was interesting at first, and her struggle to fit herself back into the triangle of her previous friendship was pretty solid, but her romantic drama got more tiresome as the book went on. By the time the story was over, I didn't care who she ended up with in the slightest. In fact, I don't even remember how her story ended.

The 'meh' of Nina for me was only a small problem, and until I got to the ending, I was ready to give this a solid four stars. And then somehow, the book managed an ending that was both cliché and incredibly anti-climactic. Without spoiling anything, the ending resolved the action of the plot, but not the emotion. I felt almost no resolution at all upon finishing the book. I'm not sure exactly why I felt this way, and it's not like the ending ruined what came before it, only undercut it and made it feel less important somehow. It's like if you watched a magician do a pretty great magic show for forty-five minutes—cutting edge illusions, low-key setting—and when it came time for the last trick, supposedly the best trick, the magician pulls his hat off his head, pulls a rabbit out of the hat, and then just sort of wanders off. The rabbit hops around for a while and then disappears. All of that? And then **that**? What was the point?

Anyway, most of the book was really very good, and I shall try and remember it fondly.

jv poore says

Maureen Johnson used to be "an author I really want to check out." Now, she is a kick-ass author whose books I must own.

Bermudez Triangle tackles serious issues with wit, grit and humor. Characters are true and they make real mistakes with actions and reactions honestly and unapologetically portrayed. The dialogue is spot-on, as is the spontaneity unique to the young.

This was a quick, compelling and captivating read and I'm sure the start of a whole new obsession.

Ruthie says

I had no idea what to expect when I picked up this book. All I really knew about it was that one of my favorite authors (John Green) is friends with the author, Maureen Johnson, and that there was some

controversy awhile ago over whether or not the book was appropriate for school libraries. John Green had at the time said that it was a ridiculous discussion because there was nothing in the book that was remotely ban-worthy. Curious, I ordered the book, and I agree with him, there's no reason to ban this book.

"The Bermudez Triangle" deals with the topics of teen homosexuality, coming out, friendships, acceptance, and different kinds of love. Nina, Avery, and Mel have been friends for years and years, then Nina comes home from a summer learning experience to discover that Avery and Mel have started dating, and the world just gets more confusing from there.

I thought this was beautifully handled. Regardless about how a person feels personally about homosexuality, the fact is that it's out there, and that some people feel that way and we need to love them, and our personal opinion of their choice shouldn't matter. These girls have to work through all of that, deal with haters and prejudice, and the general confusion of being teenagers in love. It's not easy for any of them, but in the end they work their way through it.

One of the best things about this book is that the characters and situations feel realistic. Now that may sound strange coming from the mouth of someone who primarily reads fantasy, but within that genre my favorite books tend to be the one's where I can see the characters as being realistic people (in their given situation). Nina, Avery, Mel, and their friends, all felt like people that you could meet walking down the street. They each have their quirks of course, and they make mistakes, but the situations and their responses are some that you could find in any high school in America. It provides a perfect setting for the message of understanding that is laced through out the book.

Sylwia (Wish Fulfillment) says

Note: The first few pages of the novel start off with every cliché writing trope. I recommend pushing through, as those are the only pages that are cliché.

Why I Recommend Bumping This UP On Your TBR:

- 1) Two of the three characters have interesting journeys when it comes to sexual orientation identity development. At the end of the book it seems like they're both straight, but before we get to the end of the book they sure participate in some not-straight things (one is in a relationship with her female best friend and the other has a lot of thoughts about her female best friends that I don't imagine straight people tend to have). This "heterofluid" identity made me think a lot.
- 2) The third protagonist identifies as a lesbian and her coming out story is worthwhile.
- 3) The characters are worth reading, so character-driven readers will enjoy.
- 4) Johnson's writing choices are interesting because she skips over the scenes that other authors would describe and drag out. I appreciate this quirk to her story-telling A LOT, because she focuses on the before and afters of big events, which makes the stories mirror life more believably.

Why You Might Bump This Down On Your TBR: If you mind normalized cheating, I would skip this. Also, Johnson includes some skimmable filler descriptions that are unnecessary. Her writing style doesn't work for every reader. Also, if you are expecting a book about three queer girls, or even an f/f romance, that is not what you'll be getting here.

Collin says

This was a good book. It was very real, and they didn't need explanations for how things worked, because that's just how life is. I liked it! It was a really fast read, though. But they left out everything with Devon! They had a big hidden story with Devon and how he took the picture of Nina's hand and how they thought he spread the rumor but he didn't and though in the beginning he was thought of as annoying, he was actually really nice and the last time he was mentioned was new years eve when Nina was drunk and wanted to kiss him and the author kinda foreshadowed that he liked her/might ask her out. It annoys me how they just kinda dropped his story and never mentioned him again. I also thought Parker got kinda cheated (he was my favorite character), but he did say a few things he shouldn't have said. I know Nina was in love with Steve, but he didn't deserve a second chance. It especially bothered me how he said his new girlfriend reminds him a lot of Nina and wears her hair kinda the same way she does, and thinks telling her that is going to make her feel better. To me, that shows that he can just replace her with any person and be just as satisfied. It also shows that if he used a replacement Nina, he obviously isn't seeing how unique she is because he thinks he sees everything in the new girl as he did in Nina. And then now that he's broken up with his new girlfriend, he wants to go back to Nina?! It's like now she's just the side girlfriend that he only hooks up with when he's not busy dating someone else! And she's supposed to forgive him and go back to loving him just because they're going to college together and she thinks he feels sorry and bad about what he did? If he felt those things, he wouldn't have done them in the first place! That just bothers me. She should've stayed with Parker. I mean, yes, besides the fact that Steve broke up with Nina for a girl just like her and that he was saving the world while they were apart, he was a bad boyfriend. He never called or e-mailed Nina and just took her for granted, thinking he could do whatever he wanted because his girlfriend was across the country and was too loyal to leave him no matter what he did. Parker was always there to listen to her problems, hang out with her, they had fun together, he was really loyal to her, and he stayed with her and did what she wanted as a not-boyfriend (even though he REALLY liked her) without crossing any lines. Nina never really realized this, and she should've. This may sound like I didn't like the book, but I actually thought it was pretty good. There were just a few things that bothered me a lot.

Hannah says

I feel guilty only giving this book two stars, since it really was worth at least 2.5, and as well, Maureen Johnson is one of my favourite authors. However, I couldn't bring myself to award it a full three stars.

I didn't find any of the main characters particularly likeable. Avery is aloof and flake-ish, and ultimately never takes responsibility for her actions. Mel is the typical weak personality, relies on everybody else to speak and think for her. She's also incredibly clingy, to basically everybody. Nina seems like a strong independent character, but she is obsessive about Steve and despite him treating her like utter garbage, constantly, she continually makes excuses for him and forgives him. Her obsession turns her into a very selfish character, and made me lose a lot of respect for her.

I found the conclusion to be a little forced, and at the same time, lacking real resolution.

This is Maureen Johnson's first novel, and whilst it's not weak, she has certainly developed and matured her writing style in subsequent books. Definitely not my favourite, but overall, not a complete letdown.

Meghna says

I did not expect that. At all!! I mean wow!! This book is so realistic!! I got what each of them were going through. Avery fell for someone she was really close and then realised that maybe this was not something

that she wanted and maybe she is really confused about what she wants and Mel was someone who knew what she wanted but would have never done anything about it but through Avery and everything that happened with her she got stronger and decided to fight for what she wanted and Nina is someone who is close to both of them and suddenly she realises that everything has changed between them and she has mixed feelings about this and at the same time she is going through her confusions and facing her own problems. These three are not perfect people, they are a bunch of normal teenagers and they don't necessarily react to their problems in the right way but a lot of dont and thats what i liked about this book it wasn't preachy it just told us a story and gave us enough space to create our own opinions. Its a book that has shown reality in the most realistic way possible! I absolutely loved it!

Keris says

Maureen Johnson's second novel, *The Bermudez Triangle*, was famously banned by a school library in Oklahoma. Why? Lesbian content. I know! In a young adult book! Whatever next? Is it shocking and likely to corrupt our teenagers? Is it heck!

When Nina Bermudez goes attends a college study program during the summer, her best friends and the other two sides of the triangle (I wanted to say "titular triangle" there, but I thought, given the whole banning thing, I'd better not), Avery and Melanie don't know how they're going to manage without her. But before too long, they find that

For the rest of this review, read
<http://www.trashionista.com/2007/12/b...>

Floor Flawless says

Weer een prachtig boek van Maureen Johnson! Hierin wordt goed verwerkt dat een sterke vriendschap onvoorwaardelijk is, ondanks ruzies en moeilijkheden. Daarnaast nog het aspect uit de kast komen en het ontdekken van je geaardheid. Goed beschreven in dit boek! Het eerste stuk was wel even inkomen, maar daarna las het als een trein.

Elizabeth says

I loved this book! It's a lot deeper than some other YA books. I liked how Maureen Johnson explained each side of the story realistically. Although the middle is kind of dry, it's a good book with lots of heart. I learned that a lot of people have similar reactions when their good friends "come out" to them. It's neat and I really enjoyed how it wasn't biased and it showed true struggle between friends. AMAZING!

Christine? says

In a search of recent "LGBT" young adult novels, Maureen Johnson's *The Bermudez Triangle* (recently republished as *On the Count of Three*) pops up pretty early on. I procrastinated reading this for a long time, partially because I have learned what to expect from so-called mainstream queer YA. I was mildly intrigued

enough by the re-issued copy to splurge on it at Barnes & Noble, all in the name of research of course.

The thing is, I really want to like this book. I would have given it four stars, aside from a few things. I loved the three best friend characters and I think Johnson did a really great job of developing the three of them individually. It helps that the book is entirely in third person, switching between the perspectives of Mel, Avery, and Nina. The reader learns how these three think without having to delve completely into a first person account of their inane ramblings (we all have inane ramblings, after all). I think the premise of this book is really great. It's not just a coming-out story; it's the story of three girls coming of age and figuring out who they are and who they want to be in the future. This is definitely one of the more realistic YAs I've ever read and although I found some of the details (particularly the random brand-name references that appeared throughout) to be overwhelming, I'd rather have an over-detailed world than one with no details at all. It was easy to get attached to these three girls in their world, especially their varying relationships.

I'll be honest: I was rooting for Mel and Avery the whole time. A romantic relationship with your best friend? Count me in. I've read reviews commenting on the "innocence" of the book, in that all we ever see the girls do is make out, but I don't necessarily see this as a bad thing. The early stages of their relationship made me smile in spite of myself. I certainly liked Mel and Avery better than Nina and Steve. Steve felt rather under-developed and definitely stereotyped, so I don't know how Johnson expected the reader to root for him and Nina. (view spoiler) It's not that I don't believe in long-distance relationships, but Nina was clearly putting in more effort and had more invested. (view spoiler) Parker is probably my second-favorite character in the entire book. He's quirky and weird and nice. Maybe he doesn't have his whole life figured out at 17, but who does? I wanted him to end up with Nina so badly, (view spoiler) From an outsider's perspective, Nina is pathetically holding on to someone who's only interested in a relationship if it's convenient.

But the relationship disappointments are the least of my concern when it comes to my rating for this book. Most of my issues come down to the way Johnson deals with the queer aspect of the story - arguably what the entire book is about. We have Mel, who--thank god!--isn't your stereotypical closeted lesbian. She has always known that she liked girls, but "the only thing she'd never done was write the word in the caption of the self-portrait that she'd kept in her head" (45). This is the beginning of the struggle with labels in this book. Other than a few instances, Mel refers to herself (and is referred to) as gay, not lesbian. I don't know enough about lesbian politics to know if this is intentional and realistic, or just a slip on Johnson's part as a heterosexual cis-woman. That being said, I think Johnson deals with homo/lesbo-phobia very realistically, particularly when you consider this book is almost a decade old. Mel and Avery's entire relationship seems to revolve around visibility, especially Avery's fear of it. Where Mel reacts to being outted pragmatically with a minimum of embarrassment, Avery seems to live in fear of being seen as gay, (view spoiler). The reader is led to sort of hate Avery for being so secretive and scared of her own sexuality, but can you really blame her when you see the environment she lives in? Both Avery and Mel have some serious internalized homophobia (and biphobia, which I'll get to later). Mel's mom's reaction to finding out Mel is gay is a great example of this; she points out all the ways this is going to "ruin" Mel's life. While Mel is portrayed as girly and cute, Avery realizes that she "would be seen as the rough dyke who lusted after the cheerleaders and couldn't be trusted in the locker room after gym" (161). The irony is that Mel actually is a lesbian, whereas Avery refuses to admit what she is at all.

This brings me to the major reason I can't say I like *The Bermudez Triangle*: the somewhat random and unacknowledged biphobia*, and the result of turning against Avery. While Mel is a "gold-star lesbian" who knew all along and never really dated boys, Avery admits that she's confused and insists several times that she's not gay. At one point, she considers sitting with the other queer kids in the cafeteria, but then rejects that idea since she doesn't relate to any of them--nor does she want to be associated with bisexuals like "Felicia Clark, the outspoken 'if you have a pulse, I'm interested' bisexual sex addict" (121). When Nina asks Avery about her sexuality, Avery becomes embarrassed when asked if she likes guys and girls. Bisexuality becomes associated with excessive sexuality. For Avery, "something about that question made her feel like..a

glutton. Like she wanted everyone. Guys, girls, dogs, cats, populations of whole cities" (186). A conversation between Avery and Mel reveals Avery's resistance to labels of any kind, a kind of confusion that delegitimizes almost everything Avery does.

"I'm not gay." Avery said it again, very clearly and sternly.

"Okay," Mel said, trying to be conciliatory. "You're bi."

"Stop trying to tell me what I am!" Avery snapped.

Mel stepped back in shock. She could understand that Avery might not feel comfortable being labeled gay--Mel still had trouble with this sometimes--but being bi wasn't exactly something she could deny.

"This isn't the same as other people," Avery went on. "The bi girls, they go back and forth.

We're just...together (152).

While at the time, what Avery says sounds sort of romantic, setting her and Mel apart from labels, her statement appears invalid when viewed in the context (view spoiler). I glanced through a lot of other reviews, a lot of whom were very adamant about hating Avery as a character. In so many ways, Avery is the stereotypical confused, slutty bisexual: she gets involved in a serious, monogamous 'lesbian' relationship, but then her inherent bisexuality gets in the way and she goes off and sleeps with a guy because she can't handle the pressure of being a lesbian. She has heterosexual privilege since her relationship with Mel represents her lesbian phase. And because she's so sexually confused, she ends up pushing away her two best friends. She's so confused she can't even decide if she wants to apply to music school or not.

I feel like the queer community is supposed to just love Maureen Johnson for writing this ground-breaking lesbian young adult novel as a straight woman. And then on top of that she's representing bisexuals too! The thing is, **it's not enough to write queer characters. It's not enough to represent multiple sexual identities, especially when they're portrayed stereotypically and not analyzed whatsoever.** I wouldn't have minded the slut-shaming and the biphobic stereotypes if Johnson had just paused to analyze them, rather than portraying them as a statement of fact. Ultimately, this book really upset me. Sure, it's almost ten years old, but the reality is that bisexual people are still erased, still stereotyped, and no one wants to talk about it. So yes, I'm angry at being represented by unquestioned stereotypes. I'm also angry that this is one of the 'best' lesbian young adult books out there. Ladies, we deserve more.

*For this analysis, I'm indebted to Sheri Eisner's *Bi: Notes for a Bi Revolution*, which I'm currently reading alongside other books.

Bren says

My dad does this thing, where he reads the summaries of books I'm reading and then decides whether or not he is impressed. Whenever I'm reading some advanced adult literature or a classic, he just reads it and mumbles something about it being long or difficult. Whenever I read a book by Maureen Johnson, he takes one look at the cover and declares, "That doesn't look like your style of book," or, "That looks kind of like a beach read." And as much as I try to convince him that it is not the subject matter that determines a good book, but how the author deals with the subject matter, he still cannot get past the scantily clad girls on the cover. However, whenever I get the chance, I defend Maureen Johnson, because I think she is an amazing writer and this book was no exception. It was believable and realistic and funny and true. And it dealt with the issue of teens questioning their sexuality perfectly. It was not in the least bit cliché, or stereotypical. I loved this book and I think everyone should read it.

Lizzie says

I love this book's premise so, so, so very much. I think it does a marvelous job with a marvelous idea, and becomes a rather useful story about gay teenagers and friendship. I'm really glad it's a book. Some of the stuff holding it up didn't work as well for me, so this is gonna go on the record with 3 stars, because that weakness holds it back from being a really wonderful *book*. But it is a wonderful subject.

A few things could have balanced a little better for me. My biggest problem was Nina and this long-distance email boyfriend story. Few things about that. First, Nina's emails to him are clingy and unflattering. It's realistic, almost as realistic as Mel's (more understandable, I think) clingy excitement with Avery, and when those were happening at the same time I thought we were going to get a lesson about the parallel. We didn't, but then when long-distance Steve went cold, I thought we were going to get a different lesson about it.

Not so: Steve came back. And Nina said ok. Said no to the charming good friend Parker, pawning him off to Scarf Girl in the last sentence like Ducky's random girl at the end of *Pretty In Pink*. Still realistic? But... unsatisfying for a novel. I can't help but think of how much I liked the boyfriend lesson in Johnson's story in *Let It Snow*, because it feels almost like a rewrite of this one: Sometimes the perfect achiever amazing guys are actually very bad for you, because truthfully, their achievement comes first in their hearts.

Now some additional business.

I was going to mention in this review that it couldn't be more obvious that the book banners who come after this one couldn't be more wrong -- the characters' actual sexual feelings are handled *very very* discreetly, and a few teenage jokes are made regarding the subject at large, and that is it for "adult" content in the book. So it is completely clear: this book gets banned because two girls date in it.

So I was going to just say that, and then link over to the fantastic, amazing video rebuttal Maureen Johnson made for YouTube this summer when this flared up again in Florida. But as you'll see -- the video's gone. So I'm completely thrown. Warner has inexplicably had it removed from the site for infringement. So that's... really nice and shady, there. What is going on? How could that be?

Here's what I remember about her statements: In addition to pointing out the above facts herself (that there is nothing at all to be considered "adult" in the novel), she highlighted that the main point is the positive response she has received about the book. She talked about teenagers who have contacted her to thank her for a book that they felt helped them. She said, what gives you the right to make the decision to keep this book unavailable to someone who might *need* it?

She did directly reference news footage from the time (which could possibly be owned by WB), mostly interviews with her accusers getting the mic. Though, to my memory she didn't *use* any footage, and just linked to some, which she suggested you watch so you know exactly what her attackers are saying. It was very well done.

Just thought it should be said, since it seems she can't even oppose her own censorship without getting censored. Which is about the most shameful thing I've ever heard.

Should you happen to remember more of the author's statements from this video, I think it could be good to collect comments about it.

Deborah says

Really enjoyed this. A very realistic and yet entertaining look at how three best friends' lives change after two of those friends start dating each other (two girls) and the third thinks she has discovered true love with a boy in a college prep program at Stanford. Like a much edgier Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants.

Best points:

-a very realistic portrayal of "questioning" youth, who I think are often forgotten in literature and real life.

-very rich characters, who are very different from each other (not easy to write!).

-entertaining right up until the end. But makes me never want to wait tables, especially not at this TGI Friday's type restaurant that the girls work at.

A couple of complaints (of course) with minor spoilers:

-poor Parker! Shat on (metaphorically) by all three of these girls.

-ending -- very abrupt, and too much left to the open. I get that you don't want to just have the characters ride off into the sunset, but this was barely an ending.

Of all of Maureen Johnson's books, this sounded like the most appealing to me, but I will likely read more.

:)

Sarah says

Short review: Biphobic trainwreck.

Longer review: See my comments at bisexual-books.tumblr.com

Steph Su says

It's the summer before their senior year and Nina, Avery, and Mel are not spending their time together. Nina is going to leadership camp all the way in California, and Avery and Mel are working at a local Irish diner. What happens to all of them over the summer is so unexpected that no one can predict how it will change their friendship forever.

At camp, Nina falls in love with Steve, her eco-warrior boyfriend. Steve is her first love, but he also happens to live in Oregon, 3000 miles away from where she lives in New York. Both are determined to remain together until they can see each other again the following year when they both get into Stanford for college, but until then they have to get through senior year.

Nina comes home with her head full of Steve, only to stumble into shocking news: over the summer, Avery and Mel have kissed, and now they're a couple! Nina is left feeling like a third wheel, but all is not paradise in her friends' land. While Mel is certain she's a lesbian, Avery's having mixed feelings. Is it possible she only likes girls when the girl is her best friend, Mel?

Senior year is a time of maturation and understanding for the three members of the "Bermudez triangle" (called that because Bermudez is Nina's last name). While I found the ending a little too perfect, THE BERMUDEZ TRIANGLE is an excellently written book that explores the complications of love and friendship.

oliviasbooks says

I've read 113 pages and I'll stop.

The story is about three best friends in their senior year at High School. While dominant Nina had been at leadership camp during summer break, witty Avery and shy, fragile Mel became lovers, which somehow shifted the angles of their former perfect triangle into a mismatched thing that leaves Nina feeling superfluous / not really wanted. The only person Nina would like to chew this out with is her absent and busy long-distance boyfriend Steve (a summer souvenir), who is too considerate, too much in harmony with the environment and too friendly. Readers like me get suspicious by this kind of overzealous behavior on the spot.

It's not that I did not enjoy "The Bermudez Triangle" because of the lesbian love focus. In my opinion a good love story is a good love story. But apart from Jubilee and Steven in Let It Snow Maureen Johnson's protagonists and I do not seem to click. 13 Little Blue Envelopes were kind of fun - although I observed the heroine in a kind of detached way, but Suite Scarlett fell completely flat for me, which I also hold Scarlett and the rest of her mottled crew responsible for.

In addition, the 'Triangle' plot runs on a rather depressing note. The elements strewn in for fun (Nina's underwear-stealing roommate etc.) were not strong enough to rise the gloomy mess out of the pit. But that may be just my point of view.
