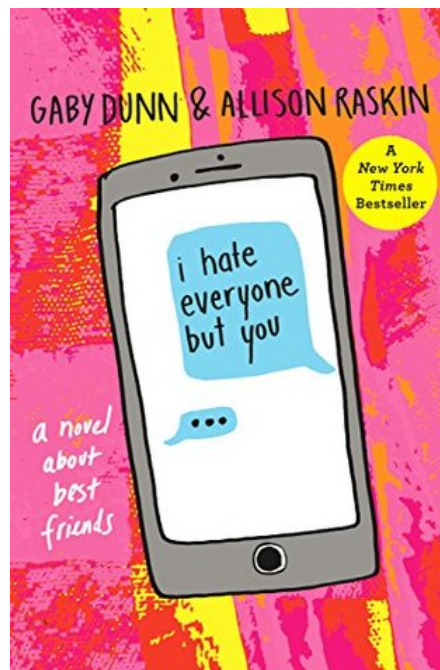




I Hate Everyone But You

Gaby Dunn

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I Hate Everyone But You

Gaby Dunn

I Hate Everyone But You Gaby Dunn

Gaby Dunn and Allison Raskin's *I Hate Everyone But You* is a hilarious and heartfelt debut novel about new beginnings, love and heartbreak, and ultimately the power of friendship.

*Dear Best Friend,
I can already tell that I will hate everyone but you.
Sincerely,
Ava Helmer
(that brunette who won't leave you alone)*

*We're still in the same room, you weirdo.
Stop crying.
G*

So begins a series of texts and emails sent between two best friends, Ava and Gen, as they head off to their first semesters of college on opposite sides of the country. From first loves to weird roommates, heartbreak, self-discovery, coming out and mental health, the two of them document every wild and awkward moment to each other. But as each changes and grows into her new life, will their friendship be able to survive the distance?

I Hate Everyone But You Details

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From Reader Review I Hate Everyone But You for online ebook

emma says

I. Love. Reading other people's text messages.

I just do. It's a nosy-but-trendy personality quirk of mine. I love when people send me iMessage screenshots; I love Instagram accounts full of failed booty calls (booty texts? Sounds weird); I love BuzzFeed articles dedicated to text-based butt dials.

I also love books including text messages.

Maybe it's for the aforementioned previously-maintained-interests-related reasons that reading this book didn't really feel like reading? I guess that could be a good thing if you dislike, uh, reading. But I don't?

My username for most everything is "emmareadstoomuch." Couldn't really make that clearer.

This is so loosely autobiographical that it stretches the word loosely. It stretches it past its elastic capacity, and it snaps in half, and then the word "loosely" is gone and it's just autobiographical.

We follow Gen, an adventurous blonde freshman at Emerson, and Ava, a nervous new student/brunette at USC. This book is written by the adventurous blonde Gaby and the nervously brunette Allison, Emerson and USC alum(s), respectively.

I mean. SAME FIRST LETTERS OF NAME AND EVERYTHING. My brain is about to explode.

Also, Gen-and-Ava name drop Gaby-and-Allison's real-life YouTube channel and it's just weird and forced and all-around unpleasant, in the same way that authors trying to insert their old characters casually into their new books is. WE SEE WHAT YOU'RE DOING, SARAH DESSEN/MORGAN MATSON/HUNTLEY FITZPATRICK/WHATEVER. Not suave at all.

FURTHERMORE. It feels strange to write this review without mentioning that I attend one of the colleges/universities detailed within these VERY PAGES. And that's a really weird experience to have? The stories are really concerned with the intricacies of each institution (as opposed to most college-based contemporaries, since the authors actually, you know, attended them).

I really, really, really didn't like it. It's weird to judge your own college experience by someone else's when that someone else is a fictional character. And also an author?

But that's not the book's fault, really.

This is also rather diverse. Gen spends most of the book exploring her sexuality, and comes out as queer (so as not to restrict with a label) and Ava is severely anxious and has OCD.

This diversity has come under fire by some reviewers for the blasé way it's discussed. (Specifically, a lot of the story details Ava learning about the LGBT community, and sometimes she asks questions in an offensive way.) Two things are important to note: one, this is OwnVoices for both characters (because this is a f*cking autobiography) and a lot of the insensitivities are solved through character development.

That does not, however, mean they're not hard to read. These two characters can be soooooo unlikable it's ridiculous, let me tell ya.

What a strange read this was.

Bottom line: DEFINITELY NOT FOR EVERYONE. Maybe not even for me?? Who knows. (I should.)

Carrie (brightbeautifulthings) says

I received a free copy of this book through a Goodreads giveaway.

Best friends Ava and Gen are about to be separated for the first time in years when Gen moves across the country for college and Ava stays at her local university. Gen quickly joins the newspaper staff and begins experimenting with drugs, alcohol, guys, and girls. Ava is majoring in film and tries to join a sorority to help her make friends while struggling with her mental illness in a new environment. Told through text messages and e-mails, *I Hate Everyone But You* is a story of long-distance friendship and its hurdles.

There's an art to writing an epistolary novel that this book completely misses out on. Readers never want to feel like they're outside of the action or missing the most important parts, and that's exactly what happens here. There's no tension, and anything that might be considered dramatic is conveyed by unanswered messages—which is to say, by nothing. A good epistolary novel will give us all of this without the benefit of narrative, which is incredibly difficult, and this novel doesn't manage it. It also makes it difficult to track character development, because we only know what Gen and Ava tell each other. (That's also assuming that there is any character development, and I may be giving this book too much credit in that respect.)

The book's second failure is in character, and it's the one I can't forgive. Gen and Ava are both judgmental brats, and it's not funny so much as mortifying and offensive. They're like those people who think their lives are funny enough to be a sitcom, but really, you probably had to be there. Their stereotypical "college experiences" are exactly the kinds of things I tried to avoid when I was in college—why would I want to read about them now? As usual, there's an excess of drinking and sleeping around, and at one point Ava even has the nerve to call one of her sorority sisters a basic bitch. (Is this supposed to be ironic?) Both characters make increasingly bad romantic choices. I'm a little ashamed that people think this is a typical American college experience.

Ava is also mildly homophobic, and her mental illness is not at all well-represented, since she mainly uses it to support her narrow and critical attitudes. Gen's bisexuality seems like an excuse to sleep with any/everyone, and while she claims (loudly) to be a feminist, I have difficulty spotting it in the book. The authors could have used these issues as points for good development, but the novel isn't anywhere near sophisticated enough for that. If college is supposed to be a learning experience, both in and outside the classroom, I think Ava and Gen both missed the point. Nobody learns anything. If this hadn't been a review book, I would have DNF'ed after the first fifty pages.

I review regularly at brightbeautifulthings.tumblr.com.

Nat says

I Hate Everyone But You chronicles a series of texts and emails sent between two best friends, Ava and Gen, as they head off to their first semesters of college on opposite sides of the country. From first loves to weird roommates, heartbreak, self-discovery, coming out and mental health, the two best friends will document every moment to each other. But as each changes and grows into her new life, will their friendship

be able to survive the distance?

I'll start off by saying that reading this book was probably the most FUN I've had in ages with fiction. I practically couldn't wipe the smile off my face for the entirety of my reading experience. **I Hate Everyone But You** is perfect for fans of We Are Okay, Gena/ Finn, and Queens of Geek. That is to say: This book is an entirely character driven story, and like We Are Okay the premise is about two best friends in college, but we also have the shenanigans shared in Queens of Geek. I read through it in a whirlwind.

I will admit, however, that it took some time to get fully into the swing of things with the characters. But I was pretty sold once we had that one random scene at the beginning of the book where Gen tried cocaine in the bathroom with her new "friend." It truly left me both baffled and in fits. Particularly when I recalled this fittingly iconic Christine Sydelko vine.

"Overall, I would give cocaine 2 stars."

But once I was into it, I really was in... From clickbait-worthy titles for emails, relatable budding crushes (*"I like him so much. I hope he can't tell."*), mental health, weird therapists in training, exploring your sexuality and labels, growing into yourself, the complexity behind friendships, finding your friend's crush online at the speed of light (I'm still laughing @chinatownjake98), and so much more that left me both reeling and feeling alive.

The dialogue (entertaining as hell, by the way) shared between Ava and Gen just began to flow so easily overtime, and I genuinely felt included on the fun and on the conversation, without actually having to experience any of the things they went through, which is low-key my heaven.

"Grow! Flourish! Experiment with things so I don't have to."

Also, the one-liners in here are something else. You would think that only one character would properly succeed at them, but that's thankfully not the case with **I Hate Everyone But You**. On one side of the coin, we have screenwriter Ava Helmer who's not afraid to tell it like it is:

"I just spent three hours gluing sparkle Greek letters to a poster board while twenty other girls gossiped about The Bachelorette like the contestants are real people and not robots hired by a massive corporation to fulfill their given duties and then disappear into minor Instagram fame."

And then we also have journalist Genevieve Goldman, whom I admire for a plethora of reasons, but mainly because she's impossible to define without using her own words one too many times:

"Where do I fall, you might ask? I don't subscribe to labels. Unless I'm labeling other people."

Their friendship, however, is the epitome of unconditional love. They can always count on one another to put everything in perspective. Plus, they never fail to be there on the other's side when needed. It was inspiring to experience from the sidelines.

"Not everyone hits it off immediately. I fear that I've ruined you for other women. I am the best. We all know that. Sometimes you have to settle"

Whether it's bringing Ava out of her spiralling mind by reminding her of how utterly incredible she is and how she don't need no man, or by partying it up like a true college kid... Genevieve Goldman is a piece of

art.

“Just remember: Jake is a typical college guy who barely knows how to take care of himself. Your self-worth should not hang in the balance of his New Balances.”

I feel like the only way I can visually show what their conversation left me like is through the one and only Jean-Ralphio:

“Quick question: Remember winter formal sophomore year when you told Chris R. to kiss me and then he did on our way home and I didn’t realize that you could breathe through your mouth while kissing and I suffocated? Does that have to count as my first kiss?”

Have I mentioned that I like Ava?

Also, on a more serious note, I cannot stop thinking about this next passage talking about Ava's behavior with her caring parents:

“I hate that I am my worst self around the two people who are nicest to me. I’m unable to keep my barriers up when I’m around my parents, so all the ugly comes out. Even when I’m mad, I can feel the guilt spreading through my body, but the mad overrides it.

I always apologize once it’s passed, but that’s not good enough. I’m 18. I can’t freak out on my lovely, supportive parents anytime they say something I don’t like. I’ve put them through enough. She literally drove an hour to drive me 20 minutes and then sit in the waiting room while I went into another room and complained about her. I am a terrible person.”

These lines really just made me travel back in time to that exact emotion.

But on a more lighthearted note, the surprising fourth wall break dropped in the novel regarding Just Between Us made me shriek. Which pretty much sums up the entirety of my reading experience, thinking "Why can't I stop smiling? What is this sorcery?"

And though the ending did feel a tiny bit rushed with so much left in flux at the last minute, I still seriously applaud the authors for making 352 pages fly by without me even looking up from the book.

Last but not least, I also listened to this next charming song during my reading time.

*Note: I'm an Amazon Affiliate. If you're interested in buying **I Hate Everyone But You**, just click on the image below to go through my link. I'll make a small commission!*

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Nenia ? Queen of Literary Trash, Protector of Out-of-Print Gems, Khaleesi of Bodice Rippers, Mother of Smut, the Unrepentant, Breaker of Convention ? Campbell says

Instagram || Twitter || Facebook || Amazon || Pinterest

Allison and Gaby were two of my favorite contributors on BuzzFeed and when they left, I followed them both on Twitter. They have forceful personalities, so when I realized that the characters in this book shared the first letter of their authors' names (Ava to Allison and Gen to Gaby), I figured that this was probably a sly hint at semi-autobiographical elements.

It's difficult to sum up I HATE EVERYONE BUT YOU because it's told in the 21st century version of epistolary format: emails and instant messaging. Ava and Gen are both freshmen in college, and are determined to keep in contact and continue their friendship despite going to different schools.

Ava is a high-strung perfectionist who is good at school and wants to please everyone around her. She also suffers from depression and anxiety and has the tendency to self-harm. Being away from home makes her very stressed out, and she's so determined to have the correct college experience that she joins a sorority filled with girls she doesn't really like and starts a relationship with a boy who doesn't respect her as much as he should.

Gen, on the other hand, is the poster child for the socially aware millennial. She is a proud feminist, is open about her sexuality and sleeps with many partners because she wants to, and determined to be an ethical journalist by immediately writing an article about one of the faculty's sexual harassment suits for the school paper. She also experiments with cocaine and sleeps with one of her TAs.

The girls are so different from one another, but their conversations feel authentic and real because they bring up a lot of topics that are relevant in this day and age, such as how bisexual people often feel isolated from the gay community *and* the straight community, how people with depression often don't get the support they need from their peers because their peers consider them a "downer," how toxic relationships aren't always obvious, and how being an adult sometimes necessitates making childish mistakes. You know, for the learning experience.

I really enjoyed I HATE EVERYONE BUT YOU. I was mentally reading the emails in Allison's and Gaby's voices, which made these characters feel even more fleshed out. It wasn't always easy reading, even though it's a short book and goes by quickly. I could relate to Ava's shyness and social anxiety, and her fears that someone not writing back = the relationship apocalypse felt totally real. Gen, on the other hand, could

sometimes annoy me because I didn't like the way she was constantly policing her friend. I think it's extremely important to reduce ignorance and transphobic/homophobic constructs that are embedded into our society, but I also don't think that the way to do that is by making your friends feel bad about themselves, either. Later on the book, this is addressed, and the two girls talk about the tendency to project your own feelings of inadequacies onto "safe" targets and how sometimes advice given with good intentions can be hurtful (a lesson for Ava and Gen).

I HATE EVERYONE BUT YOU is not for everyone, and I am sure there will be plenty of reviews calling this "SJW bullshit," but controversial and daring subject matter is never received with open arms by all. More importantly, I HATE EVERYONE BUT YOU gives a voice to our newest generation in the same way that CATCHER IN THE RYE and THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER did, and this time, it's not about young men - it's about young women. (Yay!)

Thanks to Netgalley/the publisher for the review copy!

3.5 stars

Carol (Bookaria) says

I LOVE, LOVE, LOVE this book.

The story was cute but at the same time deals with serious issues such as sexual identity, mental illness, family conflicts, romantic relationships, and substance abuse.

The book has two main characters: *Ava* and *Genevieve*. They are best friends and are both starting college in different schools but located in completely different states. Ava stayed in California and Gen moved to the east coast. They have very different personalities and you get to know them as you read the novel.

The book is narrated in the form of emails and texts exchanged between the main characters and the dialog was **witty, relevant and lovely**. There are a lot of movie references and that was great for somebody who loves films as much as I do.

I generally go to the movies one or twice a week so to be able to "get" the puns added a layer of awesomeness to my reading experience.

Overall, **I LOVED this book** and recommend it to all.

Thanks to NetGalley, the author, and the publisher for providing me with a copy of this publication in exchange for an honest review.

FINAL NOTE: the entire time I was reading this book I pictured Ava being played by Hailee Steinfeld from the movie *The Age of Seventeen*. This movie is amazing and available for streaming on Amazon and iTunes.

Review posted on blog.

destiny ? howling libraries says

update

After some of the reviews I've read on this book lately, I'm actually pretty satisfied with the knowledge that I now feel no need to ever have this atrocity glaring out at me from my otherwise beautiful shelves.

--

I hear that this book is surprisingly cute and funny, but real talk, who the HELL authorized this hideous eyesore of a cover?

Nina-Tala (JustAddAWord) Shannak says

Well, this is awkward.

Why? Because, sadly, this is a case of "it's totally *you*, not me." I did my part. I went into this with an open mind, and a good mood. And in return, I received .. disappointment (to say the least) and a sufficiently soured mood (to say the .. most? Is that a thing? Please ignore me. I'm attempting to keep this light, to no avail). Yeah. I'm not happy.

The idea itself is fine, if a bit recycled. It's one of those things that could go (with no doubt) one of two ways: really really well, or horrendously bad.

Guess which way this went? Yeah, exactly.

But I shall present my opinion (see what I said? *Opinion*. Meaning, you could have a different one, which would be totally fine) in an organized, list-ly manner. Because I'm nothing if not organized. And list-ly.

- **The idea of two best friends on a long-distance relationship, corresponding via email and text messages, was fun .. for the first 10 pages.** Afterward? It got repetitive. And tiresome. Because - and I don't get whose idea it was to butcher a plotline this badly - if you don't know how to properly write a book in a funky format (solely through emails and texts, in this case), DON'T DO IT. Not everyone is Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff, okay? Not everyone. And that's okay. But I believe **this format, instead of enhancing the storyline, crippled the plot** so horrendously that it limited the reader's view of the unfolding events, not to mention bored me to tears.

- **Neither Ava nor Gen was strong enough to carry the storyline forward.** In fact, they were so *not* strong that they fumbled the plot, and it fell and burst into shards (ignore that weird metaphor(?), please). These girls aren't interesting, okay? They're really not. All Ava did for over half of the book was whine and overthink every interaction she had with a random boy (he was so random, possessing next to no chemistry with Ava, that I didn't know whether to laugh or cry when he showed up and stuck), that it was obvious he was pushed into this shindig against his will for the sole purpose of serving as Convenient Love Interest #1™. And Gen? Gen did nothing but get drunk or high (or simultaneously drunk AND high; what a talented

young woman we have here, folks) and having a rather gross relationship with a (middle-aged, mind you) teacher. I don't know about you, but does not interest me at all. It might mean the world to you, but not me. Sorry not sorry.

- **The plot moved at a snail's pace, but without the final destination in mind.** I cannot stress the amount of NOTHING that took place for 150+ pages here. Well, let me try to convey that: take the stars in space. See all the black nothingness between them?

remembers dark matter and dark energy exist, so it's not technically "nothing"

Well, this book is more NOTHING than the cold hard blackness of space. It was so very NOTHING, in fact, that I DNFed this torturous thingy at 44%, then skimmed to the end because I was feeling quite generous at the time. And even the ending was so very underwhelming, I thanked the heavens I made the right choice and just skimmed. Because I would've snoozed if I had continued.

That said, if any you read that synopsis and think the aspect is quite cool, or the issues I have so professionally addressed (ha) above do not sound like they might be of bother to you, then by all means, pick this book up. Seriously. You may like this more than I.

But for my part, I think I'll just drop this and go find a better read.

Thank you, Wednesday Books, for providing me with a review copy in exchange for my honest review!

Kelly (and the Book Boar) says

This might be the story of how Shelby and I became friends. Must read to confirm . . .

tessa says

I received this book for free from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. This in no way affected my opinion of the book, or the content of my review.

HULLA!

So I'm starting a new thing where I do a stock image review before any review. So here are all my feeling about this book:

So. Now that the ice is broken, let's do dis.

'I Hate Everyone But You' by Allison Raskin and Gaby Dunn is the story of Ava and Gen, two childhood best friends who maintain their relationship via texts and E-Mails during their first year of college- on

opposite sides of the country. They're not the most obvious pair of best friends: while Gen is exploring her sexuality and experimenting with alcohol and drugs for the first time, Ava struggles with her OCD and anxiety disorder.

I LOOOOVED this book! It was everything I expected it to be and more!

I'm a sucker for an odd couple and loved the dynamic between Ava and Gen - much like the dynamic between their alter egos Allison and Gaby. There were so many funny moments that resolved through their vastly different life approach that at times made me laugh out loud (I was reading in public – DO NOT RECOMMEND, YOU **WILL** GET LOOKS) but also tear up a little (I cry a lot and read this on my period, but still!).

This is a book by two comedians so I was a little worried it would be all-laughs and no substance. Very far off- it had perfect timing when to do the serious stuff and when giggles and laughs were enough.

I loved Ava and Gen's friendship: there wasn't any jealousy or bitchiness the way female friendships are often depicted- but also no sucking up. Just a real, supportive, loving friendship. This was the main focus of the book- no need for some guy to sweep Ava off her feet and magically cure her OCD just by valuing her as a person or some dude to come in and show Gen the world. Their friendship is a strong enough relationship to carry the story without the need to pep it up with a forced love story about the most unrealistic 19 year old boy ever. It was all about women finding themselves and about female friendship – Bechdel test: check, check, check, CHECK, **CHECK!**

Another thing I liked was the way that the way them growing up was depicted: this is very much a coming-off-age story, or rather two coming-off-age stories. The mental illness was complex and three-dimensional the way real mental illness is. The LGBTQ+ aspect has handled very well too: all queer characters introduced, not only Gen, were fully fleshed people, not cheap stereotypes and YET ANOTHER sassy gay best friend (obviously white, because DUH!) who doesn't deserve his own storyline besides his passion for playing fairy-god mother for the ugly duckling turned princess main character.

A surprise for me was that I didn't at all mind the format of the book. Usually I detest Epistolary novels and novels with switching perspectives and while I'm still not crazy about them, I quite enjoyed it while reading this book. It made for a fast-paced and easy read. My E-Reader didn't show the emojis though, which drove me crazy.

Gen and Ava were very much like *Gaby and Allison*TM, the fictionalized versions of Gaby Dunn and Allison Raskin. This might make getting into the book a little harder for someone who does not already watch their YouTube channel and at times the book felt like one long JBU sketch, especially in the beginning. But Ava and Gen were much more real than *Gaby and Allison*TM: luckily. A completely one-dimensional character maybe does great in a 3 minute sketch, but probably less good in a 350 pages long novel. But these were real characters, not caricatures and exaggerations.

The only negative thing I really have to say about the book is that at points I questioned whether I would've enjoyed it as much if it weren't in the context of Gaby and Allison. It's very on brand for them, but it's also going off the odd-couple dynamic that has been their entire channel for years. I would love to read more by them- and maybe see them branch out a little bit next time.

All in all, it was a great read and I'm definitely going to buy the physical copy once it comes out. Unfortunately they didn't ship ARCs to Germany, so I had to rely on an E-Reader one. If you decide to read it, I highly recommend you watch a few of 'Just Between Us' videos first. Maybe I'm wrong and the book is equally enjoyable regardless, but one way or another: you're watching some great ass comedy right there.

I also might do a video review of this for YouTube before the book comes out. The content will be very similar but you'll see my pretty face ;)

A previous version of this review:

I COULD NOT BE MORE EXITED!

Please don't have any prejudice because this book is written by YouTubers, it's written by two of the most talented and hardworking comedic writers and performers I could think of, and the premise has them written all over it. Allison Raskin and Gaby Dunn embody everything that's right about Millennials(pardon the shit word) doing comedy and I think Hank Green was right when he said they're doing exactly what Amy Poehler and Tina Fey would be doing if they were in their twenties. As someone wanting to go into comedy I look up to them in so many ways. Their careers are bound to be more than a YouTube show and it was honestly only a question of time when they were going to get a book deal or have a pilot made. I'm beyond excited for this, please pre-order if you can, I'm positive we'll love it.

Chelsea says

I don't want to rate this yet because I honestly don't know how I feel. The first half of the book was fun and kept me interested and then it went downhill l. The friendship between these two girls seemed so toxic and I just don't understand it. Maybe a rating a review to come?

Stacee says

DNF on page 211

I was quite excited about this book. I loved the cover and the synopsis and sort of figured it was going to be one of those books that I go back to when I needed a pick me up...and it was not even close.

First off, I loved the format. I loved the emails and texts. It was a fun way to meet the girls and by not getting inside their heads, we're getting exactly what the other was reading.

Unfortunately, I didn't care for Ava or Gen. They didn't sound too different to me. Most of the story felt like complaining and conquests {or the lack there of.} I just couldn't connect to any thing or anyone. And once I realized that I was insanely bored and didn't care how it ended, I figured it was time to quit.

I can see how other readers will love this, but it wasn't for me.

****Huge thanks to Wednesday Books for providing the arc free of charge****

Erin *Help I'm Reading and I Can't Get Up* says

4.5 stars. There was a lag about 4/5 of the way through, which cost it a .5 star for me, but otherwise, spectacular.

Here's what's so great about this book:

- Funny. Like, really, really funny.
 - Between the jokes, it deals with REAL DAMN ISSUES. Addiction, mental illness, self-harm, spiraling friends. But it doesn't jump the shark in terms of squishing in every possible college freshman disaster. It's balanced and deals with these issues sensitively, borderline educationally, and v v realistically.
 - Even though it's fundamentally a book about relationships, that's not all there is to it. Both women pursue career-focused activities throughout the course of the book. They succeed and fail in these first attempts at breaking into their respective fields. It kind of sucks that I have to point this out for the anomaly that it is, but here we are, in 2017, with Donald Trump as president of the US, so: This is a book that *easily* passes the Bechdel test. *Deep sigh of gratitude*
-

Emma Giordano says

4.5 Stars! This was a super-fast paced, light-hearted read. I really had fun with this one! Thanks to St. Martins Press for sending me a review copy!

As someone who has been a fan of Gaby & Allison's YouTube videos in the past, I think anyone who is a fan would enjoy this book. It felt as if the characters truly embodied the authors – You could tell me these were actual text conversations between Gaby & Allison during their freshman year of college, and I would believe it in a heartbeat. Having some background on the authors was definitely an asset to the story.

As this is told in texts and emails only, I was slightly worried about the format, but I found it to be a nice change of pace! I do not feel like I missed much by not having it in a normal format, and it suited the story well. There were times when I had wished conversations had been more finished as opposed to just jumping from one to another, but all around, it was a fun format. Kind of reminiscent of the *Internet girls* (TTYL/TTFN/L8R G8R series I loved in elementary school!

I also was so pleased to find out this story is own voices x2! Allison & Ava have both dealt with OCD and anxiety for most of their lives. As someone with anxiety, I was really able to relate to Ava the most. You could just tell her thoughts are ones people really experience! And while Gen does not claim one label in regards to her sexuality, she toys with the term "bisexuality" & is also polyamorous, which is how Gaby

identifies as well! It was very evident that the authors were writing from personal experience, and I always appreciate the added authenticity of own voices novels, as shown in *I Hate Everyone But You*.

I was really pleased with how many relevant teen issues are talked about in this book. Not only do we talk about mental health, sexuality, polyamory, but there's talk of stepping out of your comfort zone, drinking, drugs, sex, personal responsibility, making decisions for your future goals, standing up for what you believe in, and so much more! It was a really well rounded novel when it came to the content being discussed for teen issues.

My favorite part of the book has to be THE FRIENDSHIP. THE GIRL FRIENDSHIP. I need more books in my life that aren't so focused on romance. It was so lovely to watch these two friends who have spent so much of their adolescence together adapt & grow through their separate college experiences! I love that they really know each other, are fairly supportive, and genuinely have concern for each other. What I love even MORE is that they actually argue! They disagree. They get into fights and ignore each other. THAT'S A THING THAT HAPPENS. TEEN FRIENDSHIPS AREN'T ALWAYS PERFECT AND FLUFFY (though I would definitely consider this a fluff-read). They butt heads, they don't always understand each other, and that's okay because they still love each other!

Another thing I loved about their relationship was the imbalance of awareness of social issues. Gen is hecka invested in social issues related to people of color, people of the LGBTQ+ community, etc., but Ava is pretty uneducated. There are a lot of times where Ava says things that aren't politically correct and Gen's responses vary from "Let me explain this to you so you can be more aware" and "I am not your personal educator, you can google it and learn yourself", which are both valid responses from a friend in my opinion. It was an interesting dynamic to follow a friendship where one half is "woke" whereas the other is fairly oblivious to social issues and has a lot to still learn.

Also, THE HUMOR. This book is laugh-out-loud funny. Like I said, it's fluffy, it's lighthearted, but ESPECIALLY funny.

There were only two concrete let downs for me. Personally, I wish the story had taken place over a longer period of time. The book runs from September-December of their freshman year of college, but the bulk of the story takes place in September/October. It made the story feel a little unbalanced and the ending a bit rushed. I think part of it is that I was expecting it to take place over the first year of college when it was the first semester, so it's not that big of a crucial point to me. The other let down was how the characters reacted at the climax of the story. I entered the story loving these characters and I was not crazy about some of the actions at the end of story, which left me liking them a little less. I wish there had been just a little bit more at the end of the novel for me to warm up to them again, but I definitely view them a little differently because of their final actions.

All in all, it was a super fun read. I do think it's a bit juvenile (not as an insult) and is clearly catered to a specific audience. By that I mean, I do not think this is the best book for a 30 year old woman who reads mainly literary fiction. But if you are a teen/young adult looking for a light-hearted read, I think you'd enjoy it much more. Super fun book and again, thank you to St. Martins Press for supplying me with a copy!

This book was sent to me for free by Wednesday Books in exchange for an honest review. All opinions are my own.

April (Aprilius Maximus) says

DNF at page 177, but what I read I would give one star.

Here's a quick list of reasons:

1. The best friends constant lack of respect/joking/dismissal of bisexuality. Just, no.
 2. The only Transgender character was made into a villain.
 3. The casual use of cocaine without any discussion around it was just not my thing. Just, why????
-

Fafa's Book Corner says

Mini review:

DNF

I received an E-ARC via the publisher and Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. I was highly anticipating this book! And I was so happy to get it from Netgalley. Unfortunately it wasn't for me.

At first I was really enjoying it! I was laughing here and there and it was all fun. But then it just became boring. It started to drag. And I lost interest in it. I didn't care for all the stupid drama these girls had.

This was just a me thing. Still recommend.
