



Sky

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Ondine Sherman

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After her mother's death, Sky is forced to leave her city life behind and move in with her aunt and uncle in a small Australian town. But the city isn't all that she leaves behind. Trying to fit in with her new friends means doing things she never dreamt she'd do. And falling for the School Queen's crush is the least of her worries when she's confronted by tightly guarded family secrets.

Just as she thinks everything is starting to feel normal, Sky stumbles on a case of animal cruelty that forces her to make some tough decisions. Will Sky risk everything to stand up for what she believes in?

Sometimes you have to lose everything to find yourself.

Sky Details

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Author : Ondine Sherman

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From Reader Review Sky for online ebook

Julie Gray says

Loved. And I particularly liked that this relatable, sweet tale takes on the issue of animal rights in a way that is not frightening or graphic. It's a great intro for teens and pre-teens to one of the most important issues of our times.

haani says

This book is about Sky, who have to move to another city because her mother is dead.

Living with her aunt she didn't know well before might be hard, but day by day, they complete as a family.

This book is so fun to read, coming of age YA i needed and so many animals!!!

I recommend you to read this book. You will not regret this.

Elaine Morris says

Wonderful book, comfortable and easy to read with important messages about family, coming of age, standing up for what we believe in and love. Highly recommend to all young adults.

Milli (MiracleMilliReads) says

'Sometimes you have to lose everything to find yourself'

Not everyone knows how to feel after losing a parent. Not only you lose your family member, but you lose almost everything. Sky had to move towns and live with people she doesn't relate to, but knows that they are her family in grief. It is tough being the new girl especially when a small town there are always stereotypes and the need to be approved by the most "popular" person in school. This story is a coming of age and how even though you don't need anyone, it does not mean no one needs you. Sky sees animal cruelty and she does everything in her power, even if it means losing it all, to help this animal in any way possible. I love how this storyline shows that family can come together as one to help each other out and become one. I recommend this to all YA lovers and to understand that standing up for what you believe in love could be done with no need for others approval.

I gave it a 4 stars because there were some typos, but overall a good learning lesson storyline.

Julie Garner says

Sky moves from the city to country to live with her Aunt and Uncle that she hardly knows. This is a huge change for Sky, especially as in the city she was living her life as a Vegan with her own blog and was determined to do right by the animals. When she moved to the country she wanted to fit in, to belong and find a place. This meant sacrificing some of her beliefs. What was she willing to sacrifice and who can she find some peace with?

I enjoyed this book but found one particular scene confronting (which I am sure is what the author is hoping) in talking about Chickens and how they are bred and raised. I have found myself not able to eat chicken this week and it is all down to this scene and one other. In this respect, I take my hat off to the author as she has done what no one else has been able to do - make me question my eating habits.

It is a well written book with some really great messages. Due to some of the content, I would recommend this book for 14+ readers.

Immie says

Nachdem Skys Mutter gestorben ist, zieht Sky zu ihrer Tante, die sie kaum kennt, aufs Land. Dort ist alles neu: ihr Leben wird komplett auf den Kopf gestellt. Neben der allgegenwärtigen Trauer muss sie sich neu zurecht finden. Das fällt ihr besonders in der neuen Schule schwer, denn sie würde dort gerne gemocht und akzeptiert werden. Zu lange war sie schon eine Einzelgängerin.

Doch der Preis dazu zu gehören ist hoch. Bald schon muss sie sich entscheiden, ob sie sich anpassen oder sich treu bleiben will.

Der Roman hat mir unheimlich gut gefallen, war leicht zu leicht und bietet dem Leser jede Menge Anregungen zu vielen Themen. Insgesamt wirkte die Geschichte auf mich jedoch nicht zu überladen, sondern stimmig. Trauer, Neuanfang, Tierschutz, Mobbing... alles war irgendwie dabei und zu einer spannenden Geschichte verwoben, die mich sehr gefangen hat.

Ein tolles Jugendbuch, das ich nur weiterempfehlen kann.

Sally says

[at least the dastardly ending means there might be a book two? Unless the author is just leaving it up to our imagination what she chooses to do - visit her long-lost dad]

Peacegal says

YA readers, particularly high school-aged girls, will find a relatable protagonist in Sky. The Australian teenager navigates problems big and small while trying not to lose sight of her values and personal identity.

Much has been said about the book's humane-issues content (both for and against), but this content is not the entire story, rather, it is a thread woven throughout the plot. I've read other "social issue" novels in which the author invented a few character names seemingly for the whole purpose of having them spout blog-like dialogue at one another. SKY is not one of these books. The author takes the time to develop the characters

and situations, and I think this book will appeal to a wide cross-section of YA readers--not just those who consider themselves animal advocates.

Our main character starts out identifying herself as a vegan, which she briefly drops midway through the book while desperate to fit in with a popular clique after a major family tragedy forces her into a new town and school. Sky's slip-up in which she begins eating meat again is likely to disappoint the veg*ns reading this book, but the unfortunate thing is, it is realistic. Recidivism is depressingly high among veg*ns. However, once Sky begins finding her moral compass and righting herself again, she goes back to a compassionate diet and feels much better about it. I actually think the author was quite insightful to include this content--one, it shows backsliding veg*n readers that they can, indeed, choose a plant-based diet again; and two, it models the fact that suppressing who you are to fit in with the popular crowd isn't the path to happiness in any case.

Some readers have left aggressively negative reviews of SKY; this anger seems unwarranted but it is perhaps not surprising. I get it, the issue of factory farming and our own participation in propping up this system isn't something that most of us want to think about, even in passing. However, it's this self-censorship that allows this industry to continue to do things that no one except the most sociopathic among us would consider OK. The vast majority of us hold some sort of moral values regarding the way animals should be treated, and it isn't being outrageous to say that the factory farming system pretty much violates every one of them.

SKY models the concern we need for the most helpless and abused among us. It also shows some more compassionate paths omnivores can take if they aren't willing to cut out meat entirely, which is also encouraging. For example, one character vows to stop eating just chickens, which is--in terms of the number of lives spared each year--the single most helpful lifestyle change you can make for farmed animals aside from becoming vegan.

Tissy says

Unfortunately another book I didn't enjoy.

For starters from the get go the book was heavy on the vegan preach to the point that it alienates and berates those (readers) that eat meat. It was super judgey on that front but also on girls in general - popular girls were bitchy and 'normal' girls were nerdy. It seemed that the author and MC wanted us to think that she was the coolest and best girl in the world and that no one compared. But she was dull and the insta-attraction was lame. Why does every YA hero have to have hair 'artfully' covering one eye? Is that some prerequisite description for sexiness? Gag. I was bored so, DNF.

Dimity Powell says

I oscillated between stars for this one as I applaud the premise and genuine attempt at portraying teen angst and it certainly made my eyes sting with emotion at times, however occasionally Sky's tearing heart pain felt a bit too much, a bit too forced and wildly erratic even in spite of the fact she is going through an incredibly tumultuous time after the death of her mother (and yes I can appreciate that this might be the norm in situations like this but it just didn't feel solid enough for me). I also found Sky's repeated attempts to 'fit in' with the popular girls in spite of their blatant awfulness a little disturbing.

Still, an enjoyable read that adequately harnesses the intense need for teenagers to anchor their emotional needs and dilemmas somewhere safe to survive. It would be interesting to hear if 13 - 15-year-olds feel this

is a true snap shot of life ante adulthood.

Sara (Alicorn Feathers) says

Okay. Here's the last line of the book's summary, "Sometimes you have to lose everything to find yourself."

What do you think this book is going to be about? Self discovery? That's probably the least touched on subject in the book, and the romance was unexpectedly minimal. The book turned into the author convincing me not to eat meat, and that's not the message I was expecting to take from this story—nor was it a message well delivered.

I disliked Sky's character. I really tried to connect to her, but I just didn't. Even understanding what she was going through, she couldn't communicate, she was whiny, she resorted to lying practically every time someone asked her a question, and she knew how awful those girls were and she still wanted to be popular. She went against the one thing she was sure of about herself, to please these girls.

I did like the realistic involvement of the parents/guardians in their kid's lives. And I enjoyed the Australian setting. But I don't know. I could write thousands of words explaining all my feelings on every aspect of this book and why they bothered me, but I just don't want to think about it anymore.

*I received a review copy from the publisher via NetGalley, all opinions my own

Asha says

Sky is a beautifully moving book about a young Australian girl who although faced with difficult circumstances, finds her voice and learns to speak up for herself and those who cannot speak for themselves. Although written for younger readers Sky is a charming novel which no matter what your age will inspire the young activist within you.

Sarah says

Sky was such an enjoyable read. I found myself easily carried along, and eager to keep reading. It also touches on hugely important topics in a gentle way, and left me thinking about the ideas long after finishing the book.

Ethan says

'Sky' is an engaging novel with a lot of heart and depth that touches the reader whether they eat meat or not. It is sad, funny and emotional, but the mix of emotions never feels out of place or forced. The plot and the events unfold fluently and there is rarely a dull moment.

The only problems I have with the novel is that some of the characters fall under generic stereotypes, but the premise of the story and its themes allowed for the characters to break out a little bit from the stereotypes. My other problem was that the characters who ate animals were presented as evil. Even as a vegetarian, it

seemed a tad overkill.

However, these problems only affected my final opinion of the book slightly, as the rest of the novel made up for its few flaws.

Im looking forward to what Ondine Sherman writes next, and I give 'Sky' a 4/5.

Juvariyya Yousuf says

Yes a solid 4 stars for this book!

I stalled it for the longest time because of projects and what not! But I am so glad to have this book received from the marketing agent of a book publishing firm.

The story is about Sky who loses her mum at the age 16 and how she has to overcome her fears, loneliness and start fresh in a new town with an uncle and aunt whom she barely knows.

I am a vegan from the very early years of my life, The issue of animal cruelty brought up in the book was beautifully dealt with.

Sky is a character i feel very close to because shes goes through a roller coaster of emotions ,plus her passion with animals made her my immediate favorite. she tried getting hold of her life and in the end what matters most is that we tried!

"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

The story is heart wrenching and it'll pull at your heartstrings
