



It Was Always You

Judy Corry

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What's the first rule when pretending to date your brother's best friend? Don't let feelings get involved.

Sixteen-year-old Lexi Stevens has never been kissed—never even been asked on a date. So when she humiliates herself in front of her crush and her brother's best friend offers to be her fake boyfriend for the week to make her crush jealous, she doesn't know if it's the stupidest idea ever, or a dream come true.

When Noah Taylor's abusive stepdad kicks him out of the house, the last thing he needs is for anyone at school to find out—not even his best friend. But when his new “girlfriend” discovers he's homeless and lets him sleep in her closet, he starts to wonder if he's found someone he can confide in after all.

Soon Noah and Lexi are putting on a big show in front of the whole school while sneaking around behind her overprotective father's back. It isn't long before feelings develop, and it becomes harder and harder to discern between what's fake and what's real.

IT WAS ALWAYS YOU is a standalone novel in The Ridgewater High series, a collection of simmering YA contemporary romances. If you like sweet romance with ballad-worthy chemistry, swoony kisses, and endearing characters, then you'll love Judy Corry's latest book.

Current Books in the series:

Meet Me There (Ashlyn and Luke's story)
Don't Forget Me (Eliana and Jess's story)
It Was Always You (Noah and Lexi's story)

It Was Always You Details

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From Reader Review It Was Always You for online ebook

Lissa says

I was looking for a fun, frothy YA contemporary romance and I picked this with my kindle unlimited subscription. I thought it was fine but I was surprised by the heavy handed abstinence message throughout. Still I thought that was also fine until I got to a scene near the end when the male characters essentially tell Lexi that boys can't control themselves and she needs to behave appropriately or something bad might happen to her virtue. Is this really the message we want to give to teen girls? When will it be the job of teen boys to manage their own hormones and still make the right choices? This part left me very cold. I can't really recommend this book.

Pascale says

Is Noah really a bad boy? Or is he just misunderstood? My heart broke and I got angry simultaneously as I read about the abuse Noah lived through. I loved the story. It pulled me right in from the start. I've enjoyed all the stories in this series and I'm excited to read the next one too.

Jennifer says

Lack of investment in the characters made for a poor romance

I wasn't as impressed by this one as I was by the first one. While I really like Noah's character I wasn't a big fan of Lexi. I especially didn't like the troubling relationship with her dad and the whole holding her college tuition over her head so she wouldn't lose her virginity. But I did like the set up for Easton and Juliette's story! So I am excited for that part.

Phyllis says

It Was Always You by Judy Corry

Noah had a bad rap. Even his dad thought he was headed in the wrong direction. . .

Poor Noah was so misunderstood. He had a heart of gold but having an abusive stepdad put him in situations that didn't look good. In the typical "I'm hurting but can't let anyone know" manner, he ended up with a reputation. I fell in love with him a little as my heart went out to him.

He was actually very noble. He had been injured more than once in defending his mom. His young half-sister adored him and ran to him for protection and comfort. And he rescued Lexi from teen-hell when she ended up at the movies without a date with a group of snotty girls who are quick to bad-mouth her. Aww! What isn't to love?

Lexi was adorable. This nerdy, band-geek, trumpet-playing, excellent student fit all the stereotypes. She was slightly-awkward with big dark glasses. And she was Noah's best friend's little sister. She is such a nurturer. I love the way she refused to let Noah sleep in his car. In the middle of winter. In New York. Her solution of letting him sleep in her closet was such a cute way of solving the problem. (Okay, if she was my niece, I'd be giving her a major lecture for not telling an adult of his dilemma so they could help him, not her – but it makes for a good story.)

I also loved the way that Lexi was so nervous about things like holding Noah's hand. There were paragraphs about her concern about whether she might do it wrong. Her innocence was precious. I included an excerpt from one of those scenes.

Another great part was when Noah and a fellow jock were watching Pride and Prejudice to help with a test they had coming up. Lexi was there because, well, it was her house. The way the guys reacted to the movie was so funny (Jake admired Darcy for proposing and insulting Elizabeth at the same time!), and the fact that they ended up liking it while Lexi fell asleep. . .

Here is a great example of how good the story is and how well it drew me in. I was reading the part about Noah and Lexi discussing why he can't sleep in his car (did I mention it was the middle of winter? In New York?), and I knew I needed to go outside and feed the cats. I looked down at what I was wearing and thought, "I need to get something much warmer on before I go outside!" And all of a sudden started to giggle at myself for the thought. Because it's July. In Florida!

It Was Always You was sweet, sensitive, romantic and fun all wrapped into one. I loved the book.

This review was originally posted on [Among the Reads](#)

I would like to thank Judy Corry for giving me a copy of this book. This gift did not influence my opinion or review.

Aqsa says

Well recommended by Karen ofcourse!

"Do you think it's possible to know someone for years but never really see them?"

Noah has been Lexi's crush for years and also his brother's best friend who never really saw her as anything other than Easton's nerdy little sister. Seeing that he might never notice her, she tries to get over him by developing a crush on Harrison. One day she stalks Harrison to the moves hoping to snag a date with him, but when he arrives with his girlfriend from another school, Lexi's kinda stuck there feeling stupid and embarrassed until Noah walks in to save her. And the story grows from there.

This was so refreshing. After just finishing *The Book Thief* and stuck in the middle of *The Bell Jar*, this definitely cheered me up. The writing was so smooth and natural and I loved the characters. I got vibes related to *To All the Boys I've Loved Before* from it but this was somehow completely different and so much fun.

I'm going to be reading more of her books-especially from this series.
Highly Recommended!

My Thought's as I Read:

Chapter 1:

I love it! I love it!! I love it!!!

Chapter 4:

(view spoiler)

Chapter 5:

(view spoiler)

Chapter 9:

(view spoiler)

Chapter 20:

(view spoiler)

Chapter 21:

(view spoiler)

Chapter 25:

(view spoiler)

Chapter 29:

(view spoiler)

Rmsooon says

Ive read " it was always you " , the begining was amazingg , but i would rather if it was shorter cz i felt so bored and alot of pointless problems , i gave it 3 out of 5 stars

BookLover89 says

Was a cute YA book. I wish there had been a better ending and an epilogue that was during college or something a few years in the future.

Yoda says

Sometimes clichés are a nice pallet cleanser before a good book.

Nari says

I really enjoyed this book! I started reading and had a hard time putting it down. I didn't like Noah so much in Ashlyn's story but came to understand and like him in this one. I thought Noah and Lexi were a great couple. Noah- the bad boy who isn't really bad just struggling at home and Lexi- the over protected innocent girl who just wants to be noticed. I am wondering if Easton and Juliette are going to a story.

Camila Roy ••RoyIsReading•• says

This is one of the cutest, most adorable books I've read in my life?

Karen says

Re read December 23rd 2018

What a fabulous re read for the end of the year seasons! Ah I just love Noah and how charming and flirty he is with Lexi. But what I love most is the writing and character development.

Noah, who is your typical bad boy with a rep, changes for the better for his family, and his fake girlfriend Lexi.

And Lexi, the geeky, band nerd who only wants to go on at least one date with her crush she's been dreaming of for the past year. And yet her plans doesn't go well and instead she needed to pretend she is dating her brother's best friend!

How did it become fake? Well Lexi wanted to go on a "date" with her crush and it went from a great idea to a humiliating one, since said crush had no idea about it. But in comes Noah to save her from the embarrassment and yet they find themselves in a dilemma where they need to fake-date one another so that The school does not find out about Lexi's embarrassing moments.

What turns out to be all fun and games, and flirty (from Noah's part, just to see Lexi blush a lot), ends up with both their minds confused about what is fake, and if there is a possibility that it's real.

Will they forget the fact that they both come from very opposite groups, and maybe give it a try for real? Even if Lexi's father, a veteran sergeant and very overprotective of Lexi, refuses to let her date anyone?

You will have to read it to find out!

This book is really worth it, guaranteed! Highly recommend it!

Read this book as part of our Reading Sprint, in the Buddy Reads Group :D

July 12th 2018

Ahh loved loved loved it! ❤️?❤️?

You can't go wrong with fake relationships slowing turning real !

Nessa Hall says

Not bad Mrs. Corry but I don't think anything will steal my heart as much as don't forget me and protect my heart;) good job ?

??iM says

Awesome book

<https://ladiikeiii.wordpress.com/2018...>

.... Spoilers

So let me get to reviewing this book.

So, I will say I definitely enjoyed this book; the description of the book actually caught my attention if the description or the cover is interesting enough that is what grabs my attention unless I been wanting to read a book for awhile not caring what the cover or description looks like!

However, let me say this Lexi dad was really strict sheesh! Like literally lol, he kind of like I would be but I'm more of the type of person would tell both my son or daughter to actually come to me about things instead of doing it behind my back. I understood why her father done that, but you cannot compare someone with the next person. I honestly know that feeling, and it's not good at all getting compare to another person who's no better than you. More so the person to whom they compare you too are the ones who have done bad things whereas you haven't. I was glad that her father got the stick out his butt and actually let Noah and Lexi actually date each other; I figure her brother was feeling some type of way about his best friend and his sister. However, he has a thing for her best friend. I hope the author actually write a book about Lexi brother Easton and her best friend, Juliette..... Also, there is such a domestic violence relationship in this world; I was glad that the author wrote about it. I think many women and even men need to see what this type of behavior does to families. I felt so bad for Noah and what he had to deal with at the age of eighteen even his little sister who was like eight who had to see her father abuse her mother. Noah family wasn't crap his father was a prick seriously like he or his mother didn't care where the boy laid his head at his had to sleep in the car in the freaking cold. If it wasn't for Lexi I doubt that boy would've made it through those two nights; his parents family came around once they both found out that the boy had to sleep in the blizzard (cold) because of a woman beater. I cannot stand men who beat on women and kids they are such cowards and aren't men. I know a few of women beaters and I've told them about themselves too. I was glad that Noah dad actually let them move in with them when Noah found out what happened to his mom and that loser Paul got locked up for the crime he committed. This book deserved a ?????????? rating! The author did a good job; definitely enjoyed this book and will read the other books in this series.

Aimee (Getting Your Read On) says

Cute!

This is a really cute young adult story. High school age kids. There are some harder issues of domestic abuse and its effects included which gives the characters and story some added depth. The hand holding scenes were actually my favorite.

Content: talk of sex, waiting to have sex, kissing, domestic abuse

Judy Corry says

I didn't think I'd like Noah when I wrote Meet Me There, but after getting to know his character better he totally stole my heart. Noah and Lexi's story is one of my favorites! ;)
