



My Best Friend's Girl

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When Kamryn "Ryn" Matika gets a call from college friend Adele "Del" Brannon, she reluctantly heads to the hospital where Adele is dying of cancer. The two had been odd couple friends (working-class Ryn is black, posh Adele is white) while attending Leeds University, but their friendship did not survive Del's admission of an affair with Ryn's fiancé Nate Turner, which also ended Ryn's relationship with Nate.

The affair did result, however, in the now-five-year-old Tegan, and Del has called Ryn to ask her to adopt the adorable girl. Ryn agrees, but must face down Del's stepmother, Muriel, to do it.

She finds surprising help from new boss Luke Wiseman, who, after meeting her unceremoniously, loves Tegan (and eventually Ryn, too), but the return of Nate, who doesn't know Tegan is his daughter, promises to reopen old wounds.

My Best Friend's Girl Details

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Sharon says

3.5★

Kamryn Matika and Adele Brannon were best friends that was until, Adele slept with Kamryn's fiance, Nate. If that wasn't bad enough, Kamryn then finds out that, Adele is pregnant with Nate's baby. After finding out all this shocking information, Kamryn decides she wants nothing to do with either of them and it's now time to move on with her own life.

Two years later, Kamryn is all excited about celebrating her birthday and greets the mailman as she knows there will be a few cards for her, but her excitement soon fades when she opens one of the cards and quickly discovers it's from, Adele. But this is not just a normal birthday card because the words that are written in this card could change, Kamryn's life for ever. Adele has leukemia and is dying and knows she hasn't got much more time left, but she needs to make sure the one person in her life is taken care of and that is her five year old daughter, Tegan. Adele believes the best person to care for her daughter is, Kamryn, but Kamryn doesn't agree. Kamryn has no idea how to take of a young child and nor does she have any plans of having a child in the near future. Can Adele convince, Kamryn that she is best person to take care of her daughter?

A heartbreaking story about friendship, grief, forgiveness and responsibility. I really enjoyed this book it was an easy read, but at times it was a little sad which could easily leave the reader feeling a bit emotional. I have no hesitation in recommending this book.

Rosie says

****3,5 estrelas****

Um tema pungente, que nos coloca de imediato sobre tensão. Poucas páginas e fiquei envolvida, embrulhada naquelas circunstâncias, algumas delas por demais embargantes.

Personagens com carisma, histórias que se repetem por esse mundo fora. A primeira parte do livro cativou-me completamente. Duas amigas, as suas cumplicidades e infelicidades.

Durante quase toda a segunda parte do livro somos confrontados com uma questão premente: “*PORQUÊ?*”. Junto com Ryn, estamos suspensos por essa angústia dolorosa. Quando finalmente surge a justificação... bem, não muda muito. Não muda nada, quanto a mim. Aconteceu porque sim! Porque ambos tinham os seus fantasmas e se abstrairam de quem eram para fingirem quaisquer outras vidas! Somos humanos, cometemos erros, tantos! A vida é assim mesmo, uma aprendizagem, um amadurecimento, onde existem quedas e ergueres, de sermos humildes, de perdoarmos. Ryn remói aquela sensação que lhe pesa permanentemente, de não mais ter a oportunidade de falar ou de deixar falar e de perdoar. Quanto a esquecer, não me parece possível.

Quanto ao tempo, há que valorizá-lo devidamente! Não temos qualquer poder sobre ele, então há que agarrá-lo e vivê-lo como sendo único... o amanhã pode não existir, para nós ou para os nossos e é preferível não deixar pontas soltas que nos martirizem o resto dos dias. Esta mensagem que nos é passada é clara.

Senti uma ou outra atitude pouco credíveis, ficamos com aquela sensação que na vida real dificilmente aconteceriam.

Gostei da relação que se criou entre Ryn e Tegan. Como foi evoluindo, ganhando forma, confiança e coesão.

Não gostei do “trio”. Achei que todos eles eram, de alguma forma, desonestos, consigo próprios e com os outros. Levou páginas a mais nestas incertezas e ainda para cúmulo chegam ao fim e erram nos escrutínios e nas decisões. Nas últimas páginas, finalmente, ganham juízo.

Gostei, mas as expectativas eram elevadas devido às tantas opiniões excelentes que tinha lido. Senti-me um pouco desiludida.

Maria2 says

Χωρ?ς να ?χω ιδ?α ποια ε?ναι η συγγραφ?ας, με το που βλ?πω το βιβλ?ο της στο ρ?φι του βιβλιοπωλε?ου, μου κ?νει “κλικ” αμ?σως ο τ?τλος. Δεν ξ?ρω γιατ? αλλ? απ? την πρ?τη στιγμ? με τρ?βηξε και αισθ?νθηκα ?τι μ?λλον ανακ?λυψα κ?τι καλ?. ?πεσα ?ξω; Κ?θε ?λλο. Γι’ αυτ? να εμπιστε?εστε το ?νστικτο σε κ?τι τ?τοιες περιπτ?σεις, σπ?νια κ?νει λ?θος. Δι?βασα ?να πολ? καλ? κοινωνικ? μυθιστ?ρημα με εξαιρετικ? ψυχογραφ?ματα των χαρακτ?ρων και καθ?λου κλισ? πλοκ?. ?τι καλ?τερο για πρ?τη επαφ? με το ?ργο εν?ς συγγραφ?α.

Η Κ?μριν και η Αντ?λ ?ταν οι καλ?τερες φ?λες και π?στευαν ?τι τ?ποτα δε θα μπορο?σε να τις χωρ?σει μ?χρι που η Αντ?λ ?κανε το αδιαν?ητο: κοιμ?θηκε με τον αρραβωνιαστικ? της Κ?μριν και γ?ννησε το παιδ? του. Μ?λις η Κ?μριν το ?μαθε, ορκ?στηκε να μη τους ξαναδε? ποτ?. Μια κ?ρτα γενεθλ?ων ?μωξ ανατρ?πει τα δεδομ?να και φ?ρνει τα π?νω κ?τω στη ζω? της.

Καθ?ς ?ταν το πρ?το βιβλ?ο της Κο?μσον που δι?βασα, δεν ?ξερα τι να περιμ?νω ο?τε απ? ?ποψη γραφ?ς ο?τε απ? την ?δια την πλοκ?. Θα μπορο?σε ?λλωστε κ?ποιος να πει ?τι μ?νο απ? την περ?ληψη ?χουμε να κ?νουμε με ?λλη μια κλασικ? ιστορ?α απιστ?ας, ?που 2 φ?λες διεκδικο?ν τον ?διο ?ντρα, οπ?τε προς τι το τ?σο ενδιαφ?ρον; Εδ? ε?ναι ?μωξ που η Κο?μσον κλε?νει το μ?τι στον αναγν?στη γιατ? κ?θε ?λλο παρ? ρομαντικ? ε?ναι η ιστορ?α της, κ?θε ?λλο παρ? αντιζηλ?ας μεταξ? των ηρωδ?ων και ατελε?ωτων αναλ?σεων π?νω στα συναισθ?ματ? τους και στο ποια ε?ναι καλ?τερη στο πλευρ? αυτο? του ?ντρα. Ε?ναι μια ?κρως κοινωνικ? ιστορ?α με προεκτ?σεις π?νω σε θ?ματα που λ?γο-πολ? ?λοι μας σχεδ?ν ?χουμε ζ?σει. Το π?ς β?βαια θα τα αντιμετωπ?σει ο καθ?νας και με ποιο τρ?πο θα μπορ?σει να βρει μια λ?ση, εξαρτ?ται απ? το π?ς ?χει ζ?σει ?λα του τα χρ?νια. Στη συγκεκριμ?νη περ?πτωση, η απ?ντηση δ?νεται μ?σα στις σελ?δες του βιβλ?ου.

Αυτ? που μου ?ρεσε περισσότερο σε αυτ? το βιβλ?ο αλλ? και στο επ?μενο της Κο?μσον που δι?βασα ε?ναι ?τι δικαιολογ? π?ρα πολ? πειστικ? τις πρ?ξεις και τις αντιδρ?σεις των ηρ?ων της. Ασχ?τως αν σε βρ?σκουν σ?μφωνο ? ?χι, κατανοε?ς πλ?ρως γιατ? ?καναν ?,τι ?καναν και τους δ?νεις σ?γουρα ?να δ?κιο π?νω στην αιτ?α των γεγον?των. Απ? εκε? κι ?πειτα σαφ?ς και ε?ναι υπε?θυνοι για τις πρ?ξεις τους και δεν τους τοποθετε?ς στο απυρ?βλητο, ?χουν ?μωξ ξεκαθαρ?σει τη θ?ση τους ?σον αφορ? το γιατ? ?χουν φτ?σει στο σημει?ο που ε?ναι σ?μερα.

Αν ψ?χνετε λοιπ?ν μια διαφορετικ? ιστορ?α που να πατ?ει σε γν?ριμο ?δαφος αλλ? η εξ?λιξη κ?θε ?λλο παρ? συνηθισμ?νη ε?ναι, επιλ?ξτε αυτ? το βιβλ?ο και δε θα σας απογοητε?σει.

Laura says

It takes a special kind of book to bring tears to your eyes - I can count on one hand the amount of books that have made me shed tears in their wake, this being one of the first.

Best friends Adele and Kamryn are inseparable in their formative years; until one makes the terrible decision to sleep with the others fiancé. Picking up a few years later, Adele shows up at Kamryn's door begging her to adopt her little girl.

It is easy to see why this novel became so successful, and an international bestseller. Despite being Koomson's third novel, this is perhaps her best work. The social issues raised in this book were gripping at times, heartbreaking during others. It is a complete rollercoaster of emotions and a real journey through deception, courage, strength and forgiveness.

At times I felt the book to be ever so slightly tedious and a few 'scenes' felt rather irrelevant. However, I would still highly recommend this book to those seeking a different sort of chick lit. This is not a love story in terms of romance - it's a different type of love, perhaps the most forgiving. Maybe we can all learn something from adopting the essence of this story.

Maria Elmvang says

"My Best Friend's Girl" was a LOT better than I'd expected it to be. I don't know why I wasn't expecting too much of it - I mean, after all I *bought* it, surely I must have felt it was worth reading? I think my problem is that I'd gotten to the point where I felt good chick-lit is hard to find, and that this one would be as shallow as the rest. Fortunately I was mistaken. I laughed and cried in turn practically from page one. It's an extremely moving story and one that has you guessing right to the very end. I ended up loving the characters and simply couldn't put the book down. I highly recommend it.

Elisabete says

From the moment I finished it I felt that my rating for this book would be very different from the majority of my fellow readers.

I picked up this book from the small library at work, checked the premise, checked the reviews. I thought I'd have a great read but no. It didn't click with me.

The beginning was interesting and the premise seemed to promise a challenging read, in what my feelings were concerned, going through Kamryn and Tegan's new life. Unfortunately, in my opinion, after the major plot premise was confirmed the rest of the book didn't deliver after all that build up, falling in some moments into a caricature of what it could have been.

A fast read, especially in the first half of the book, I found myself fighting to finish it.

For that I can only give it 2 Stars.

Tea Jovanovi? says

Odli?na knjiga (ne zato što sam je ja odabrala i bila joj urednik)... :) Ova autorka je bila veoma prijatno iznena?enje za mene... I jedna od retkih "ženskih" knjiga koju odli?no pamtim i posle toliko godina otkako sam je ?itala... (a dešavalo mi se da tri meseca posle završetka prevoda recimo Danije Stila zaboravim radnju knjige jer me se nije "dojmila", pa kad na televiziji treba da pri?am o toj knjizi ja najpre treba da je prelistam da se podsetim "o ?emu se beše radi")... :) A zbog posla ?itam hrpu tekstova godišnje, od kojih 90% nikada ne budu prevedeni i objavljeni kod nas, tako da je realno da se ne se?am baš svakog sadržaja ve? da pamtim "opšti dojam"... :) Ovo je komercijalna autorka A klase... Dirljiva pri?a, životna, guta se u dahu... Toplo je preporu?ujem...

Tita says

Li este livro a uma velocidade incrível, comecei na 6ª à noite e no dia seguinte, ao início da noite, já estava terminado.

É um livro muito tocante e comovente, tendo por várias vezes começado a chorar e outras a fazer um esforço para que tal não acontecesse.

Na primeira parte do livro, Kamryn, após receber um postal de aniversário por parte de Adele, vai ter com ela ao hospital, nunca acreditando que Adele está tão doente. No entanto, Adele sofre de leucemia e resta-lhe pouco tempo de vida, e pede a Kamryn que adopte a sua filha Tegan.

No início, Kamryn está reticente, mas depois de ir buscar Tegan a casa do pai de Adele, acaba por concordar ficar com Tegan. Após a morte de Adele, Kamryn vê-se com uma criança nos braços e tem que aprender a lidar com a situação.

O livro toca-nos no coração, devido à sua mensagem sobre o amor e perdão. O amor entre mãe e filha, entre duas melhores amigas, entre um casal e consequentemente, conseguir perdoar.

Adorei o livro!!! =D E agora, quero arranjar o outro livro da autora "Pedacos de Ternura".

Danderma says

One of my favorite books of all time is the timeless novel "My Best Friend's Girl" by one of my favorite authors Dorothy Koomson. I have read it over and over as the loveliness of this books is just too overwhelming.

I just adore this book. It is so beautifully written, so realistic, so filled with emotions you would find your self lost in the pages. It's the kind of book you wish you could lose sleep over so you could finish... it's the kind of book you could forsace your social life just to flip it's pages... If you ever took your life for granted and thought that you will stay the same for the rest of eternity... if you ever had a fight with someone and cut them off your life believing you will never cross their pass again... if you ever thought forgiveness was something beyond imaginable for a fatal mistake... if you cannot imagine your self becoming responsible for another human being overnight... This is the book for you... the message is loud and clear... Never Say Never!

Biljana Becirovic says

Dobra knjiga o prijateljstvu, onom pravom, o gubitku povjerenja, povrijeđenosti, bježanju, vraćanju, žalosti i žalovanju, o ljubavi.

Univerzalni komentar za ovu knjigu bio je- pripremite maramice. Možda baš zato što su te maramice toliko puta naglašene, možda ih zato ja nisam trebala. Nisam se mogla pretjerano povezati s karakterima glavnih junakinja, ni s Adele a još manje s Kamryn, iako sam i sama introvert i nepovjerljivog karaktera, Kamryn mi karakterom nikako nije "sjela". Nije mi uvjerljiva tolika količina nesigurnosti i samokritičnosti u odrasle osobe, to mi je više svojstveno tinejdžerima, do najkasnije 20 godina..

Al jedno joj priznajem- najveći strah, nožna mora, užas zadnjih godina je i meni da ne doživim postaviti djecu na noge. To je ono što mi nekad ne da spavati, ma koji horori, to je ništa prema ovom strahu.

Jedan citat mi je zadržao pažnju, dosta dobro uobližuje i odražava i moje mišljenje o tome:

"Plakanje je dobro- može biti neugodno za onoga tko sluša, može uiniti nemoćnim i nemirnim onoga tko svjedoči slomu - ali plakanje je dobro. Plakanje je prihvatljiv ispušni ventil, čak i ako se zbog njega osjećate sirovo i prazno iznutra, ipak je bolje od gomilanja jada u sebi."

Solidna četvorka i preporuke od mene :)

Charlie says

"I was laughing and crying from page one." - Adele Parks

This book exceeded my expectations. I fell in love with the blurb and it urged me to buy it but I never thought I could fall in love more than I already am. It was a perfect mix of a heart-warming and gut-wrenching story. I thought I knew how the story would roll and that I would just need to be filled with the little gaps in between but I was wrong. I never even guessed the ending.

Koomson did a perfect job in characterization because they felt so real and tangible like they were present in the same room where I was. Their feelings and emotions felt real too. I actually have to stop every paragraph once in a while to catch my breath and calm down. I was already struggling to stop myself from crying after I've read the prologue and to think that this book has 437 pages was scary. Scary in a way that I might end up looking extremely horrible after I've read it with puffy and red eyes.

I instantly fell in love with Tegan. She has that ability to make everyone fall in love with her without even trying. I suppose, this came from her mother and I wish we knew more of Adele but then I have to remind myself that this story is about Kamryn's journey towards acceptance, grief, forgiveness and happiness. I understand apprehension and doubts with regards to other people and herself and I understand her the whole time I was reading the book. I didn't blame her at some parts where I thought I would.

The boys... Luke was amazing. I never thought anyone could easily be that close and comfortable to a child but he was natural. I was wary of everything about Nate on the other hand, even though he seemed sincere when he came back. (Maybe that's just me and the sore issue about infidelity)

As what Adele Parks said in the cover of the book, this has made me laugh and cry repeatedly since I started

reading it. But no matter how much I've cried, I think it was worth the tears. This story is really amazing and touching and, did I already say amazing?

Daniela Maciel (Denise Luz) says

É sempre bom voltar à escrita de Dorothy Koomson, uma escrita fluida que rapidamente cativa o leitor e lhe transmite emoções muito variadas. A autora escreve sempre com muito humor, embora não deixe de nos provocar lágrimas e sorrisos.

Opinião completa: <http://quandoseabreumlivro.blogspot.p...>

Livro pertencente ao Clube BlogRing do My Imaginarium. Obrigada à Maria pelo empréstimo!

Rita says

****3,5 estrelas****

Kamryn é uma pessoa extremamente entusiasta pelo seu dia de aniversário. Quando finalmente chega o dia, e Kamryn se encontra rodeada de mil preparativos para o dia perfeito, recebe uma prenda inesperada da sua melhor amiga, com quem não mantém contacto há anos.

O dia de Kamryn altera-se de um segundo para o outro.

A vida de Kamryn sofre uma reviravolta imprevisível.

Ao observar a luta interna de Kamryn, senti-me próxima da personagem, senti a revolta, a angústia, o receio. Apercebi-me que poderia ser uma familiar, uma amiga próxima, alguém que tenta dar o melhor de si e luta por um dia-a-dia perfeito de outro alguém.

A escritora lembra-nos, ao longo do livro, que afinal de contas, não temos todo o tempo do mundo. Cada detalhe importa, cada momento deve ser capturado e guardado algures num recanto da nossa mente porque um dia poderemos querer voltar a lembrá-lo nitidamente.

O livro tem um início que nos prende de imediato. No entanto, o decorrer da história torna-se morno. Existiram algumas situações com as quais não concordei ou que até nem considerei plausíveis. No entanto, o desfecho não desilude, muito pelo contrário, foi melhor do que eu esperava.

Vanja Kalinac says

Da postoji veca ocijena, ova knjiga bi je dobila! Preprepreprelijepa knjiga i odusevljena sam! Od prve do posljednje stranice... Ogromna preporuka. <3

Angie says

Classificação: 3,5 em 5 Estrelas

Sou fã da Dorothy Koomson. Já li cerca de seis livros dela, e são poucos os que me desapontaram. Infelizmente de todos este foi aquele que mais desapontou-me. Tinha esperanças de que fosse gostar, até porque é dos livros mais conhecidos da escritora. Demorei imenso para conseguir avançar na leitura, senti que arrastava e nunca mais terminava. Aos poucos lia e consegui terminar. O enredo até chega a ser muito interessante, mas comparando aos outros livros da Dorothy este ficou muito aquém das expectativas.

A Dorothy Koomson é das melhores escritoras para temas polémicos, sempre gostei dela por isso mesmo. Além disso, ela possui uma escrita cativante e sem dúvida que só por isso qualquer livro dela conquista. Este livro em especial, a escrita foi das únicas coisas que incentivou-me a continuar com a leitura. Quanto às personagens não consigo dizer que não goste ou goste delas. Houveram momentos nos quais admirei imenso as personagens, outros que achei as personagens completamente infantis. Não tenho assim nenhuma preferida, não houve nenhuma que me marcasse.

Sem dúvida que trata-se de um livro que deixa qualquer um a reflectir. Seria um capaz de ficar com uma criança que não é minha? Principalmente se resultasse de uma traição? E se a pessoa traída ainda por cima tivesse sido eu? É um livro que nos deixa a pensar. Além do mais, o livro fala na recuperação após traição. Como uma pessoa consegue voltar apaixonar-se, deixar-se envolver com outra pessoa. É um tema complicado, nem todos vêem o tema com os mesmos olhos. A personagem principal sem dúvida que quando se falou na traição e tudo mais foi uma grande guerreira.

Recomendo o livro claro, não deixa de ser bom para explorar mais este género de temas e discutir. Se querem começar a ler Dorothy Koomson podem começar por este, mas caso não vos agrade existem muitos outros da autora que acredito que vos possam surpreender. Não desistam à primeira da escritora, pois acreditem que ela vale muito a pena. Cada livro dela traz-nos uma ou mais lições de vida.

Heather L says

I had some big expectations of this book. With all the high ratings and praise it was given, I was thoroughly looking forward to this book. I expected high emotions and a great story, which is what I got. But the execution of the story itself is what disappointed me. I'll tell you why:

At the beginning the interaction of Ryn and Del felt genuine and I enjoyed that. All the way up to Ryn interacting with Tegan was great. But then once Luke and Nate got involved, it was just so over the place. I just felt like the dynamics of Ryn and the men were just off somehow. I can't really explain it. About three quarters' into the book, I was dreading the end. And once it happened, it left me feeling incomplete about the whole story itself. I don't know if I like it enough to give it 3 whole stars, but it was still good enough that I don't regret reading it.

It's funny how I've not felt like this about a book in a while. I guess you'll just have to read it and find out for yourself. :)

Fiona Caldarevic says

Started out amazing. I cried buckets over the first couple of chapters. Then it turned into a bad soapie, with far-fetched scenarios (the boss decides to spend the weekend at the girl's house because he likes the kid, even though he despises her, because he's got "nothing better to do"? I don't think so!). The main character was annoying and made stupid decisions. Her confusion over whether she loves one guy more than another was also stupid and annoying. I was also left feeling frustrated that she hadn't dealt properly with the abusive grandfather. I like chick-fic books but this one, apart from the opening chapters, was a waste of time.

Ena Hase?i? says

Kamryn i Adele su bile najbolje prijateljice sve dok Adele nije ostala trudna s Kamrynim zaru?nikom. Nakon toga ih Kam briše iz svog života i zaklinje se da više nikada ne?e razgovarati sa njima niti imati djecu. Ipak, dvije godine kasnije Adele je na samrti i moli Kam da joj pomogne... da nakon njene smrti usvoji njenu k?i Tegan i odgaja je.

Roman je prožet dirljivim scenama i preprekama s kojima se Kam susre?e svaki dan. Zahvaljuju?i Tegan ona pronalazi novu ljubav ali i susre?e Teganina oca. Ho?e li se probuditi stari osje?aji ili ?e se pridržavati obe?anog?

Za ovaj roman 5/5 zbog toga što je ovo jedna životna i veoma dirljiva pri?a nakon koje niko ne ostaje ravnodušan, a onda i zbog toga što nije bilo likova koji su me živcirali i za koje sam poželjela da nestanu kao što se dešava u 90% pro?itanih romana.

Jacki Ford says

This book is a fabulous read!!! Very moving - the characters are so real that you feel for them and their pain.

Its a great story line and sometimes I was thought I knew how it would end but I didn't. I cried lots and laughed a bit too but couldnt put it down and felt like I had lost a friend when it finished.

Would definately recommned.

Christa says

About a quarter of the way through this book, I almost decided not to read the rest of it, which is very unusual for me. I was not finding any of the adult characters likeable, and was not enjoying reading about them. I decided to keep trying to go on, and before long, I finally started to empathize with the characters barely enough to care what became of them. The main character, Kamryn Matika, is given a huge shock when her estranged dying friend, Adele, asks her to raise her child. The two became estranged two years previously when Kamryn found out that Adele's daughter, Tegan, whom Kamryn loves, is the product of an

affair between Adele and Kamryn's fiancé, Nate. Kamryn broke off both relationships and moved away. After Adele dies, Kamryn does her best with Tegan, and they both become attached to Kamryn's boss, Luke. Before long, Nate comes back into the picture, and Kamryn's relationship with Luke is threatened, both by Nate and by Luke's feelings for a former fiancé.

I thought that all of the characters acted childish much of the time, and I didn't ever feel that either Kamryn or Luke were really committed to each other. I didn't mind that the characters were flawed, but the descriptions Kamryn constantly gave of herself as being unfriendly and unlikeable made it difficult for me to warm up to her. I did like the way she tried so hard to do what was right for Tegan. Luke came across as a really nice sympathetic guy most of the time, but it was hard to get past how nasty he was to Kamryn when they met, and the way he made derogatory comments about her looks and weight when they first met. The premise of this book made for a good story, but for me, the characters were a little too flawed and caught up in their pasts to be enjoyable.
