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Callie Evans would rather hide out in her DJ sound booth than face the fact that she's in love with her best friend, notorious campus hottie Tayber King.

Tayber turns hooking up into an art form--no drama, no commitment, no lies, and nobody gets hurt. Nobody but Callie, that is. When she sees an opportunity to explore his sexier side using a fake online profile, she grabs it. Now her uninhibited alter-ego 'Sasha' is steaming up the screen, and Callie is breaking all of Tayber's rules.

As Callie and Tayber get closer, online and off, she knows she has to confess. And risk losing him forever.

****For mature readers, contains strong language and adult situations.****

The Opposite of Nothing Details

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From Reader Review The Opposite of Nothing for online ebook

Lia Riley says

Please note: I stopped starring reviews awhile ago. They make me stress, and I like to avoid stress. Instead I designate this book as: Running-into-Walls good. The last book that made me run-into-walls was Alexis Hall's Glitterland. Not a comp title, but gives you a sense of my taste.

In THE OPPOSITE OF NOTHING, Shari Slade takes the "Just Friends" trope and injects it with such wry, authentic, achey longing that I became physically uncomfortable. GOD HOW I SQUIRMED. SO. MUCH. SQUIRMING.

Callie (the Nick Drake loving DJ who I want to be my BFF) secretly crushes on her friend, Tayber. In a moment of drunk, lust-fueled bad judgment, she created a fictional online identity. Yep. She secretly engages in online masturbation sessions with her pal. It's blisteringly hot. And awkward. And creates all the conflict, obviously.

Here is a book that delivers the New Adult awkward with honesty, sexual awakening (a dumb term, but I can't think of better one offhand) with scorching intensity. DID I MENTION THE DELICIOUS SQUIRMS?

Shari Slade brought her A-game with language. It's literary without becoming pretentious--a difficult feat. This is the real deal, yo. Writing chops are in full force.

My only criticism is that it's a novella. Yeah, yeah, it's perfect, but MUST HAVE MORE SLADE BOOKS.

Jane Miller says

ugh! simplemente no pude con esto. *emojifrustradoaqui*

Mari?ina says

2,5 Stars! The Opposite of Nothing was a nice story! It could have been so much better thought, if the heroine wasn't so depressing as a character and if it was a little bit more lengthy because many things were left unsaid..

The story is about two friends that secretly have feelings for each other, Tayber, the gorgeous playboy with the disastrous childhood and the sweet heart and Callie, the very closed of and self-conscious, music geek with many possibilities. So the real story begins when she gets drunk one night and decides to talk to him online pretending to be someone else..

Yes that is very interesting plot! And i was waiting for something to happen.. I was left with the hope..

Although the book is nicely written and i liked most of it, the main characteristic of Callie couldn't let me

rate it higher. She was too dull and not even a little bit funny.

THOUGHTS ABOUT THE BOOK

- Tayber was very hurt from Aaron's betrayal..
 - No matter what happened in the past i wanted Aaron to be there for his brother.
 - The relationship was too dramatic..
 - It could have gone in so many ways.. But still it was ok..
 - I liked the ending..
-

Mandy Saial says

**** Received a Ebook copy From Author for an Honest review.****

I am a little late posting this review due to the fact that I let my TBR pile get so Big .I neglected or forgot about certain books I really should have read at the time I received them.

I'm sorry for the delay Shari Slade!!

Callie never had many friends growing up .She was teased and bullied most of her life. That is until she hand picked a college away from everyone who knows her to start anew .She's finally making a few friends and even finds a bestie she enjoys spending time with.

The only thing is he's a guy she can't date ,so she invents an alias and flirts with him online incognito.

Tayber has had to practically raise himself , he's finally starting to get on the right track, but once things get good something or someone always finds a way to screw things up.

He's a manwhore who is with a different girl all the time , but if he's friends with hershe's untouchable .

Until he realizes he's falling for his best friend Callie .

Will Tayber break his rule of not Dating Friends or will their Budding Relationship be destroyed once heartbreaking secrets are revealed ??

I'm glad I finally read The Opposite of Nothing .Although a short read at 100 pages , this angsty , emotional New Adult Romance was packed with suspense and vulnerable longing for the one person you can't have .

Bella' says

Una linda historia que muestra lo que en ocasiones somos capaces de hacer para obtener lo que queremos, aun si no pensamos en el daño que podremos hacer cuando todo sea descubierto.

TeriLyn says

****ARC generously provided by author in exchange for an honest review****

The Opposite of Nothing is everything for the two main characters in this sweet novella. For my personal tastes, the book was a bit young for me. The characters were young and the actions of Callie were juvenile. But since it is NA and she was young in college I was able to look past it. Sorting through your feelings, however unconventional, is part of maturing so it worked here. The characters are a bit under-developed when it's come to both of their pasts and I wish we would have gotten a deeper look into both Callie and Tayber. The author provides us with a basic understanding of what their issues are but I thought even knowing a little more information could have made them that much more relatable. However, their friendship and banter is easy going and fun making their friendship a perfect base to explore deeper feelings for each other. From the very beginning you can tell they both care deeply for one another even though neither are ready to explore deeper feelings. I really enjoyed the dialogue in this story as I felt a connection to both characters. Having been in college once and having kept to myself like Callie does, I felt her pain although I didn't quite agree with her methods. Tayber is also working through some demons and realized Callie is a constant in his life who has taken root in his heart. Their story is fresh, a bit young, and fun. It is told from dual POV's which I liked here, as well. Being able to see how both reacted to events and one another was a good storytelling choice here. I enjoyed The Opposite of Nothing and would be interested in the relationship of Callie and Tayber further in another installment.

Black Rose says

Meh!

Está bien. Es una historia tierna en donde la premisa de los mejores amigos que se enamoran es re visitada. No sé qué tienen las historias sobre mejores amigos pero siempre me gustan.

En tres palabras: tierna, sencilla, linda.

No te cambiará la vida pero para un viaje de 3 horas está bien.

Megan Erickson says

Oh holy cow. I loved this book. Ms. Slade's writing was so beautiful and vivid, it sucked me in and wouldn't let go.

I LOVED the deep third point of view. And we get to hear from both Callie and Tayber. I loved the story and the way they connected. And I can't say anything because of spoilers but I loved how a certain plot point played out. I thought it would go a certain way and I was super happy with the way Ms. Slade took it.

Her style of writing is what I want to see more of in NA. Gorgeous prose and real characters. They weren't perfect looking or damaged beyond repair. They had flaws but both made every effort to overcome them and be independent.

Highly, highly recommend this read.

PJ says

This was okay. It wasn't bad AT ALL. It was just a bit too "in your head" with too many words unsaid for me. Maybe what I'm trying to say is that it was a bit young. Still, I'm glad I read it. I'm glad things were resolved for the most part. I just feel there could have been so much more. That's about all I can say without giving the storyline away

Lauren Kathryn says

"Sucks, doesn't it? Realizing that what you want and what you need don't always line up."

Novellas have to really hit hard to make a good impression. The limited amount of time they have to hook the reader, and deliver an impressive, likable story line, is very slim. **The Opposite of Nothing** did deliver on these points...

Callie was basically what we all probably envision ourselves to have been throughout childhood - different. She never felt like she fit in with the "right" crowd, but was belittled and bullied when she went her own way. She had a negative family life, due to the bullying, and therefore became a closed off individual.

Tayber, however, was our A-typical bad boy, who isn't really a bad boy and is as insecure as the rest of us. He too had a troubling childhood, albeit worse off than Callie, and was shunned by the people he loved most. He therefore cuts himself off from serious commitment and doesn't really engage in long standing relationships.

The interesting concept came with the fact that Callie desperately loves Tayber. But how does one go from the "friend zone" to something more? How do you risk exposing yourself, your friendship and future, by professing your love for your best friend? More importantly, **would** you risk it?

Now I'm sure a lot of people have felt the same way as Callie, which is why I liked this novella. It takes unrequited love and spins it in a different stance; mixing it with almost forbidden love, personal acceptance and today's epidemic of online networking. How easy is it to hid behind an online profile? But, on the other hand, how easy is it to truly be yourself whilst hiding behind a computer screen?

The Opposite of Nothing was a fast paced ride that hit me with some pretty impressive truths. It made me think, and unlike others, I think that it was just the right length. It was steamy, lovable and interesting. I think it would have lost itself in the vast expanse of YA/NA novels out there - the novella makes it stand out; it leaves you pondering.

I received a free copy of this novella, from the author, in exchange for an honest review. This does not affect my opinions or thoughts, and any expressed are that of my own.

Catherine Stine says

Callie's a sweet, shy girl who left her hometown to attend college where she wouldn't be pegged the uncool recluse as before. Her secret crush on her guy friend, Tayber is very believable, even for these days, where the assumption is that most girls are fast, free and up front about their desires.

Callie and Tayber are great friends, but in truth, she'd long for much more with him. He's also been hurt, by family issues, and has closed himself off except for fast, commitment-free hookups. Callie's found a way to get inside his fantasy world through, but it's the most dishonest thing she's ever done: she sets up an account as Sasha, a sex freak, and when Tayber goes for it, their back and forth messages get quite steamy. There are huge drawbacks: Callie finds herself terrified that she'll slip up in real life and blurt out something to Tayber that only "Sasha" would know, and then he'll discover who she really is.

I powered right through this novella by Shari Slade, and totally enjoyed it. Slade's writing style and characterization is a cut above many of the novels I've recently read in the new adult and adult romance genre. Highly recommended, and I look forward to her next new adult read.

Molly McLain says

I really, really enjoyed this book. Callie and Tayber's story was a great, light read with an authentic, true-to-life plot that can resonate with just about anyone, especially those who've been college-poor and those who've tried to sort out feelings for a close friend.

What I liked best about this story was the top notch writing. Ms. Slade's style mixes humor, wit, and emotion, with realistic dialogue and an overall fluid presentation. As a writer, I could take a few lessons from her, and I definitely look forward to reading more of her work in the future.

Fiza says

"All she did was lie."

She met Tayber first when he was having sex with her roommate, Callie spoke up during their tryst and asked them to keep it down. Next day Tayber recognized her in calculus class and asked for her help with the subject. He wormed his way in from there, but seeing him hopping from one girl to the other had her scared. She didn't want to be nothing to him.

"I don't lie. I don't make promises. When I fuck someone it's because we both want the same thing."

Don't ask. Do not ask. Her heart lurched into her throat, but not fast enough to block the question she did not want the answer to. "What's that?"

"Nothing. When we both want nothing."

So she had created a fake profile to get closer to Tayber. Closer to a side of him she thought she would never

see in person. What else was she supposed to do? She promised herself she would stop soon though, that she would tell him the truth. But the more she got from online Tayber the more she wanted. Which led to her keep postponing her confession.

Tayber hadn't had the best childhood and that had him thinking everything good in his life would be screwed up by him or his family, sooner or later. So he took great care to never care too much for anything or anyone. That didn't include Callie though, he let himself care deeply for her....but he felt he didn't deserve her.

“She’d looked at him like he was the monster under the bed. Maybe I am.”

Somehow he befriended an online friend, one whom he could vent to. One thing lead to another and soon things got pretty steamy. But how would he react when he would find out that his online friend was actually Callie.

“I am not heartbroken. I’m pissed.”

“Sometimes that feels pretty much the same.”

It took me a while to write this review, there were things I liked in this book and there were things I didn't like. Or more so didn't completely understand. Like both Callie and Tayber had rich backgrounds but they were only briefly mentioned, there was no real dept to that or them. Which led to me not completely connecting with them.

Let's take Callie, I didn't like her deceiving Tayber but everything is easier done online, especially while pretending to be someone else. Her reasoning made sense at first, she was scared of being rejected and ridiculed for her attraction towards Tayber. Taking in consideration that she had escaped her hometown because she was bullied there, didn't had me in her corner but I understood.

Her mother was mentioned briefly, she didn't do much to help Callie when she was being bullied. Her only advice had been, for Callie to try harder... Didn't like the sound of that mom of hers.

“Trying doesn’t work with people who’ve already decided they don’t want to be friends. And why would you want friends that don’t want you?”

But I wondered why Callie was bullied and when did it start. Why didn't anyone help or step in. And what was wrong with her mother.

Tayber too had ran from his past, his was a little shady and he had done shady things for money as well. It was implied what he did, but if he did what I think he did.....that's really messed up for one so young. And it made sense why he hadn't had the best opinion of himself.

I liked the beginning where Callie and Tayber's friendship shined through. The thing I liked best about the book were the steamy chat sessions. All in all it's still a pretty decent story, a little fast paced, a little short, a little vague but the steamy parts saved the day.

“She lied to me. A lot.”

“Why?”

“That’s what I’d like to know.”

“People lie for a lot of reasons. Because they want things they aren’t supposed to have. Because they’re afraid of the consequences. Because they don’t want to hurt or be hurt. Any of that ring true?”

Fanny says

The Opposite Of Nothing es la primera novela que leo de su autora, Shari Slade.

Para ser sincera empecé esta lectura porque la portada me llamó mucho la atención, además nunca me puedo resistir a las historias de amor entre amigos.

Esperaba algo diferente cuando lo inicié. La trama no era mala pero para mí le faltó mucho desarrollo, tanto a los personajes como a la historia en sí, todo era demasiado *simple*.

No me desagradó que fuera un libro juvenil más que Young Adult, lo que no me convenció fue que todo el desarrollo, si se le puede llamar así, fuera soso y sin chispa.

Al ser mi primera experiencia con el trabajo de la autora no sé si todos sus libros son así o si simplemente este era un *caso extraordinario* pero después de leer The Opposite Of Nothing me pensaré mucho el leerme otro libro de la autora.

1.5 Estrellas!

Amy Cousins says

4.5 stars, mostly because I wanted it to be longer. :)

I am always excited to read books written by friends, but I'm also always a little nervous. Because if I don't like their book, then I have to find an honest but gentle way to let them know why. And that can be hard. So when I can honestly rave & enthuse about the book, I'm always thrilled.

Shari's book sucked me back into my teen/college years with a vengeance. My life wasn't nearly as rough as either Callie or Tayber's, but I can identify so strongly with that sense of isolation & that **need** to connect with someone, that it was hard to read sometimes. I was so worried about what might happen to this pair's friendship, that I almost skipped a HOT scene because the potential consequences were freaking me out.

(Relax. I went back immediately and read that scene. I haven't **completely** lost it! Oooh, and it was smoking hot.)

Some of the scenes involving Tayber's family issues didn't quite satisfy me, mostly because I think I wanted more background or detail, which is hard to accommodate in a novella, I know. But I loved Callie's awkwardness, I loved that she eats crap food and doesn't always clean and sometimes says mean things when she doesn't know how to say what she really wants. And I wish I'd had a Tayber to look out for me when I was doing stupid shit in college, because everyone should have that kind of backup.

This book made me break out old CDs I loved and remember old mistakes I made, and I've never been so glad to know I was going to get my HEA at the end of a book. I wish all messed up college students and lonely kids could have one of those, just like this.

