



Some Quiet Place

Kelsey Sutton

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I can't feel sadness, anger, or fear. I can't feel anything. I've grown talented at pretending.

Elizabeth Caldwell doesn't feel emotions... she sees them in human form. Longing hovers around the shy, adoring boy at school. Courage materializes beside her dying friend. Fury and Resentment visit her abusive home. They've all given up on Elizabeth because she doesn't succumb to their touch. All, that is, except beautiful Fear, who sometimes torments her and other times plays her compassionate savior. He's obsessed with finding the answer to one question: What happened to Elizabeth to make her this way?

They both sense that the key to Elizabeth's condition is somehow connected to the paintings of her dreams, which show visions of death and grief that raise more questions than answers. But as a shadowy menace begins to stalk her, Elizabeth's very survival depends on discovering the truth about herself. When it matters most, she may not be able to rely on Fear to save her.

Some Quiet Place Details

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From Reader Review Some Quiet Place for online ebook

Melanie says

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Thank you Flux for sending me this copy. No compensation was given or taken to alter this review.

'People are so complex. They want to hear the truth, but they want you to lie to them.'

This month hasn't been a happy month for me. Some Quiet Place is just another addition to the 'meh' pile. While the cover and synopsis scream with brilliance, in the collection on my thoughts, this book could only be summarised as insipid and inconsistent. Here's just a few teasers: love triangle, cliché school crap and poor execution.

Elizabeth Caldwell is dead to the world. Or she may as well be. Ever since a tragic car accident, Elizabeth has changed greatly- she doesn't feel or show any genuine emotions. Not because of the trauma or shock though, it's actually due to something more paranormal and mind boggling. Something, no one is sure about yet, even now. Attempting to juggle along with her best friend's cancer, Sophia- mean girl at school- glares and mocks, and tight tension at home, Elizabeth commences to unravel the truth behind her change or personality and character.

Nothing about Elizabeth struck me as outstandingly remarkable. Yes, her disability to not sense or react with emotions was fascinating. Intriguing and eye-catching for a short span of time. Yet soon, this was lost in the sea of boring words. Thankfully enough, I could take time to appreciate Kesley Sutton's effort in building unique and touching family relationships. All held different types of moods and were highly complex in the sense that they all contained a second meaning within. There's Elizabeth and her mother, the connection is wary and even foreign, yet bittersweet all the same. Elizabeth's father stood a more viscous and broken connection. It was compact of fire and guilt. And lastly, Elizabeth and her brother. It's short lived, light but swaying.

What I feared most appeared in Some Quiet Place. It always does. The love triangle. No matter how much I try to rub it out with an eraser, it's still there glaring back at me. I want to erase it because it's a mistake. That is the point of the love triangle here? Our two love interests, Fear and Joshua, are rather trite in the sense that their ego is the same as every other YA paranormal novel. I wasn't awfully invested in either relationship but Fear was much preferable for me. He was clear minded and filled with emotion- a great contrast to our MC.

The writing was what kept me driving though Some Quiet Place. It was beautiful and picturesque in descriptions that just seemed to flow out effortlessly. Kelsey Sutton's words created an ideal setting and powerful mood. In contrast, the weakest link was the stereotypes being thrown about here. The major one was 'mean girls'. I don't get why every main character needs to have a girl bitching about them. It's irrelevant and shifts us readers away from the main plot.

An atmospheric novel intertwined with great writing skills for the most part. Yet many small points lead me to dislike and bore over this novel. Like many others have said, this is much like Another Little Piece. So if that was your cup of tea, this could be your next book to highly anticipate.

Sarah Marie says

Some Quiet Place by Kelsey Sutton

First book in the Some Quiet Place series

3.5 stars

Elizabeth Caldwell has always known she was different, but it isn't easy for to hide. She doesn't feel emotions, but she can see them. All of the emotions surround her classmates and family. All the emotions have given up on her because she doesn't succumb to their touch, except for Fear. He wants to figure out who Elizabeth really is and why she can't feel anything. Something is stalking Elizabeth, but how can she understand what is going on if she can't remember who she is and how she got to such emptiness? I've been meaning to review forever, but vacation got in the way, so apologies to the publishers and how I'm so terrible at this. I apologize. On to the review, I'm not really sure if I like Some Quiet Place. I loved it at first thought it was going to be a five star book, but the middle just halted and it all went downhill for me. I would like to give the reason as to why this book just stopped working for me, but it's a huge spoiler. That means if there's a spoiler tag, it's best not to read it at all if you are interested in this book.

Whimsical Writing Scale: 3.5

The main female character is Elizabeth. I actually like Elizabeth, but she can be so much of a Debbie Downer. It made me like her less and less the more she would deny how she couldn't feel, which I thought was ironic since she isn't supposed to feel anything, but she can obviously deny stuff. This book is really just one big contradiction of itself. It works at the end, but not the beginning. You can't have a character who is not supposed to feel things, but can deny things. According to Ms. Sutton, Denial is an emotion. This annoyed me to no end. I would occasionally skim a review before starting this book and I saw that a lot of reviews mentioned this. At least I think I saw this. (I'm not sure since I've been having dreams about books and reviewing and Goodreads, so I don't know if it happened or not. I think I saw this though.) Anyway this is really the one thing that bothers me about Elizabeth. I also really wanted to slap her at the last 80% of the book, but she got better at like 98%.

Kick-Butt Heroine Scale: 3.5

The main male characters are Fear and Josh (or Joshua). I love Fear. He is amazing and it is as simple as that. I don't need reasons to love him because my love isn't an obsession like some of my fictional character lovers loves. I just really enjoyed him as a character and he was one of my favorites in the novel. Then we have Joshua, who I wish was a nonexistent entity in the novel. He had absolutely no point and I want him gone. I will scream if I see him in the upcoming books and I know I will. I really dislike unnecessary love triangles and Joshua just needs to go away and let Fear be happy with Elizabeth (view spoiler)

Swoon Worthy Scale: Fear-4.5 Josh-2.5

The Villain- I shouldn't seen this plot development coming. It has been done quite a bit. There is always a rogue something or other from a race of people not humans. It gets tiring sometimes. Plus this guy is literally your worst nightmare and I felt like he was a mediocre YA villain. It would've been more interesting if we got to see something, I don't know more sadistic, but this is YA. So for a YA villain he was a good one.

Villain Scale: 4

I have to address this one character that I absolutely love, but hate how she was just another tool in this book.(view spoiler) I also liked Elizabeth's "brother". I also wanted to see more of Morgan who held a lot of promise as being an actual character, but I must admit that ending with her made me tearing up a bit with happiness. I also don't like how Sophia just didn't like Elizabeth when they were once besties. Once again another mean girl meant to terrorize the heroine. At the same time, I actually enjoyed how she was an actual mean person and not just someone who would just say cruel names, but went out of their way to cause physical humiliation.

Character Scale: 4

I really enjoyed Some Quiet Place, but I wish some things would've been done differently. I will be continuing the series though. I really like where it is going, but I wonder if it'll be enough for an actual plot.

Plotastic Scale: 4

Cover Thoughts: It's absolutely gorgeous. One of my favorite covers of the year.

Huge thank you to Netgalley and Flux for a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review. Also I'm sorry it was passed the "deadline".

Karina Halle says

I liked this strange little book. I had a lot more to say about it back when I read it last year, actually quite a bit more. Alas, I never wrote it down and my scatterbrain can't recall anything, so I'll just have to do a quickie. Quickies are great if they get the job done.

Some Quiet Place was unique and at times challenging. I enjoyed the relationships between the MC and the character of Fear (though I kept picturing Spike from Buffy), the complexity of her family life, and her most interesting affliction - the fact that she doesn't feel emotion.

At times it bordered on paranormal romance, others it felt like a coming-of-age, maybe all these elements together made it stand out from the pack. The mystery surrounding her past, however, was the main draw to me flipping through the pages, though the romance with Fear was a nice - if not primary - plot.

I mean, damn, when a guy whose job it is to terrorize the world falls in love, there's nothing

so...challenging as that.

It was also well-written and compelling, a huge plus for me. It wasn't perfect - there were a few confusing timelines and moments and maybe a plot hole or two - but not so distracting that I couldn't recommend this to a YA reader who wants a bit of mystery and a change from the cookie cutter set-ups.

Faye, la Patata says

An ARC was provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review. This did not influence my review in any way.

Once again, a book that is stamped with such a lovely, eye-catching cover, but with a storyline and heroine so bland and dull that it hurts. Honestly, I expected a lot because that pretty dress made of flowers and sepia tint just screamed "UNIQUE" in bold, capitalized letters. And it's true, it is unique. The premise was definitely interesting. I mean, dude, how often do you see a story that portrays personified emotions - with their own feelings, faces, and personalities - in fiction? Not much, I bet.

But I think we're all too familiar with books with great premises but subpar delivery and execution. *Some Quiet Place* is one of them, truth be told. What could have been a great read was dampened nearly halfway through. As the other 2 stars reviews of this book have said, the story started excellently - beautiful, almost musical narration, a practical realistic protagonist void of any emotions, and side characters that I felt were unique and dynamic. It had a great start, but after some "twists" were introduced almost halfway, I found myself getting tired and exhausted that I stopped reading this book and put it aside for a few months.

Main Character eventually becomes too bland and empty for my taste. And she's already emotionless to begin with, so that's like adding insult to injury. I didn't feel for her at all, and there were times I wished she'd just disappear from the face of the earth (I know, how mean of me...). Despite the vivid and expressive details and whatnot, it was hard for me to take her seriously. She became extremely annoying, too - from practical and realistic to just downright infuriating. Like, I know you have no emotions whatsoever, but girl, seriously. If you're being slapped around and beaten up by your dad, you fricking defend yourself, call the cops, or ask for help! You *don't* just limp there and do nothin'. T_T **Thanks to the heroine being so useless and dull, it kinda quenched the reading experience, and I only felt exhausted whenever I tried picking it up again.** Sorry :(

The twists and turn of events which linked the MC to this strange, mysterious, dead boy just made things confusing. Another one of the factors that contributed to the headache this book has given me. As previously stated, it started excellently, but as I read further, the escalation of events and the revelations just made me scratch my head and wonder, "*What the flying fuck is going on here??*" I thought I missed some things and would go back, and then become even more confused. Also, the dream scenes felt pretty lame and dragged out, and I just couldn't appreciate them overall. When I got to the end, I only felt relief from the fact I was finally free of this book.

Don't get me wrong, friends. This isn't a bad book, but it just didn't work out for me. In the end, I couldn't appreciate it and eventually disliked it. A lot of my points were subjective, so if you wanted to try this book out, by all means go ahead. A lot of people did, but it's just not my cuppa tea. I will still read the author's future books, though. She does have a musical prose :)

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Jen (The Starry-Eyed Revue) says

The fact that Kelsey Sutton was eighteen when she wrote *Some Quiet Place* notwithstanding, this is a phenomenal debut. It would be a uniquely captivating story regardless, but when you take into account the author's youth, it makes it even more so. The mystery of Elizabeth's existence was compelling and her isolation from the feeling world was complete. And yet I wanted to know the why and how, unravel the enigma that was Elizabeth in her emotionless state.

Some readers will find it difficult to connect with such an uncaring and unfeeling character as Elizabeth Caldwell. But that's if the reader chooses to view Elizabeth as she portrays herself. The deeper you delve into Elizabeth's life, her world, the easier it is to see that she is *unable* to emote like the rest of us. She feels twinges and twitches that alert her to the fact that she *should* feel something...the emotions just can't break through the barrier that's been erected around her. Emotions can't touch her -- not the Emotions personified, nor the sensations they radiate.

But Fear is enraptured with her very existence. His touch alone should leave her enveloped in terror, yet she feels nothing. He tests her again and again, sure that her hard exterior will have to crack one day. While everyone else, those in her human life and those in the other plane (the other Emotions and Elements) have all but given up on her, Fear becomes more and more intrigued by Elizabeth. Oddly enough, this obsession didn't squick me out. Maybe because I'd already figured out what role Fear was to play or maybe because he was the only one who seemed to care about Elizabeth anymore, but whatever the reason, I was hopeful that his presence would do just as he intended.

Just as I was shipping a Fear/Elizabeth romance, though, Joshua entered the picture. And I thought to myself, *This could be the kid that breaks through the wall*. I know, I know...a love triangle? How is that even possible when the girl feels NOTHING? It wasn't...not really. And I think I'll leave it at that...except to say that this romantic triangle won't leave you with a bad taste in your mouth. Because it's almost nonexistent. But there are feelings that need to be resolved...and they are. And now I've said more than I meant to. *sigh*

Anyway, the Emotions and Elements themselves were a nice addition to the cast of characters. To see each one embodied, to see the sway they held over humans...it was atmospheric and intense. And kind of creepy. The setting only added to that, with all the corn fields, the shadowy barns, and creaky screen doors. Not to mention that Emotions like to appear out of nowhere. Not that that really bothers Elizabeth.

I'd already guessed the big reveal halfway through the book but not to the detriment of my reading experience. In fact, knowing *what* likely happened to Elizabeth made concentrating on the *how* that much more intriguing. Usually, I mind coming to revelations pages or chapters before the characters do, but in this case, it made complete sense that it took Elizabeth so long to get there. It did make for some slow pacing at times, but the beautiful imagery and the shock and awe of it all kept me engrossed in the story. I should mention that the story does touch upon some rather tough subject matter, and yes, maybe it should have been examined further, but as it wasn't the *primary* focus of the story, I am going to refrain from judging it too harshly. Since the rest of the story was so compelling, I'm willing to overlook it this time.

I really love how this story came together. I loved the beings from the other plane. I even loved the tragedy of the fact that Elizabeth couldn't experience sorrow or hope or fear -- even when she knew she should feel them -- and how she was portrayed in those moments. I think I kind of even love Fear. I'm so glad to have had the opportunity to read this story, and I was even more excited to learn that the author is slated to write

another story set in this world, scheduled for release next year. I hope the cover is just as gorgeous as this one!

Thanks to Flux and Netgalley for providing a copy for review.

This review can also be found at The Starry-Eyed Revue.

Krissysch says

Der Erzählstil dieses Buches ist ziemlich ungewöhnlich und ich musste mich tatsächlich etwas daran gewöhnen und hineinkommen. Ein bisschen hat er mich an Siren von Kiera Cass erinnert, da auch dort sehr langsam mit diesem leicht melancholischen Unterton erzählt wird. Die Story an sich war gut und die Liebesgeschichte nicht typisch wie zumeist in anderen Jugendbüchern, aber obwohl mir das Buch gefallen hat war es doch eher was nettes für Zwischendurch ohne den grossen Wow-Effekt.

Kisses A says

I was pleasantly surprised by this book. At first it was a bit dragging but then I started to understand Elizabeth, protagonist, more.:

Elizabeth

Short synopsis

When Liz was 4 she got in an accident and then on does not have any feelings. No love, anger etc. She can see and touch the emotions and they look like people but no one else can see them. Fear has an interest in her, BTW he is an emotion. He wants to find out what happened, make her feel again.

Fear

So she has weird dreams and they try to put pieces together. Another guy is Joshua.... You will see how he fits in. The book got more interesting towards the middle. It is something I will always remember, a fresh breath of air. Applause to author! The emotions and elements are really interesting. BTW a villain is also trying to kill the protagonist.

Adriana says

5 ESTRELLAS QUE SE LLEVA EN ESTA RELECTURA, SÍ SEÑOR.

Primera frase:

"Fear is coming."

Reseña:

Como muchos sabréis, Some Quiet Place es mi mejor lectura de este 2013: con un planteamiento original a

rabiar, una pluma poética y unas escenas increíbles, superó con ventaja a todas las demás. Lo leí en primavera pero no pude reseñarlo, así que aproveché la Christmathon para releerlo... y lo he encontrado aún más perfecto si cabe. Así que preparaos para leer una de las reseñas que más me ha costado escribir.

Elizabeth Caldwell ha crecido extrañamente conectada con el otro plano: tiene la capacidad de ver las distintas emociones y elementos en su forma humana y los efectos que causa su toque en los demás... pero no a ella. Por mucho que lo intente, es incapaz de sentir tristeza, rabia o anhelo, ni siquiera sucumbe a los constantes intentos de Miedo (Fear) de saborear su terror. Al mismo tiempo, extrañas pesadillas azotan los sueños de Elizabeth, ¿Estarán conectadas con la extraña barrera que le impide sentir nada?

¿Por dónde empezar? El planteamiento de este libro es impresionante, nunca había leído nada igual y Kelsey Sutton lo plasma con una elegancia y un estilo evocador, de tal forma que el lector puede imaginarse perfectamente cada una de las emociones, no sólo físicamente si no también sus distintas personalidades. Sin olvidar a Fear, uno de mis mayores amores literarios, misterioso, cruel, dulce, intenso... Y sí, hay una especie de triángulo amoroso, pero no del todo, ¿Cómo puede haber un romance de tres partes cuando una de ellas es incapaz de sentir nada? Y Joshua es la persona más adorable y tierna del mundo *llora* ESTE LIBRO ES PERFECTO, ¿VALE?

Ya he mencionado antes lo mucho que me ha cautivado el estilo de la autora, pero siento la necesidad de repetirlo: nos encontramos con una pluma intrincada, clásica y detallista, llena de imágenes preciosas y con unas escenas tan intensas y un clima tan sofocante que oprimirán el corazón del lector hasta romperlo en pedacitos, sobre todo cuando describe las escenas de todos los personajes miserables que llenan la novela y las emociones más oscuras del ser humano. Es sorprendente como, siendo esta su novela debut y contando con una edad tan joven, el estilo de Sutton destaque por encima de muchos autores de renombre. Incluso aunque *Some Quiet Place* no contiene muchísima acción, la autora mantiene enganchado al lector, detalle del que no muchos escritores pueden vanagloriarse.

En la primera lectura, comenté que el único elemento que no me había convencido de la novela había sido el final y ahora, tras la relectura, lo retiro. No sé si ha sido mi amor infinito por el libro o bien que tras leerlo por segunda vez he podido pensar con mayor profundidad en el mismo, pero la verdad es que me ha impresionado lo bien hilado que ha resultado y la perfección de las últimas escenas.

Si con todo esto aún no estáis convencidos de leer esta increíble novela, resaltar que es un libro auto-conclusivo y que el nivel de inglés es bastante asequible con la excepción de algunas palabras. De verdad espero que alguna editorial española le de una oportunidad porque lo vale. Si queréis sumergiros en una novela única, con unos personajes muy desarrollados, un misterio constante y un estilo incomparable, *Some Quiet Place* os cautivará.

Stefanie! says

I had the privilege of reading an earlier draft of this book back when I first met Kelsey, and I was completely blown away then. Such a unique, clever concept! Such gorgeous, thought-provoking writing! And also, FEAR. Yes. Fear. I have only one thing to say to him:

Recently, Kelsey and I caught back up and she sent me the final draft version, which I happily dove into, and just...wow.

It's very rare (for me, at least) to find a book where *everything* --the writing, the plotting, the characters-- captures my attention and imagination. Kelsey Sutton has that rare ability to write beautiful, envy-inducing prose while at the same time keeping the story moving and the plot twists twisting and the romance swoon-worthy and the characters intriguing and just...*gah*.

Bottom line? You NEED this book. Trust me. You'll thank me later.

Julia (ten_thousand_books) says

Elizabeth can see emotions as people. That hooked me as soon as I read that line. She lives in an abusive household with a father that physically and verbally abuses her and a mother that verbally told her that she doesn't want her, that she isn't her child. Elizabeth doesn't feel. Anything.

"I guess pretending can be similar to hiding. Hiding doesn't seem like the right word to use, though. I would say that when someone is pretending to be something, or hiding who they are or what they believe, they're really more... Protecting themselves."

Guys you will never understand how much I'm in love with this book. It makes me sit and think about things. I have those wonderful, beautiful moment when I read something put my book down and just feel my heart expanding and a smile growing on my face. I love those moments. This book always causes those moments. :)

"There's no expression, no light, just bones and skin and organs that are fast losing their purpose. How odd, for something to lose its purpose."

"My grip tightens, as if I hold on tight enough she won't drift away in this current, as if I hold on tight enough she won't hurt so much."

Both these parts wrecked me. It's my second favourite part in the whole book when Elizabeth is sharing that sweet story to Maggie. It makes me cry every time.

"Sometimes the things you see aren't very nice, are they?
Fear whips around, his glare burning through me. "I'm nice!" He protests."

Oh my goodness. Fear. I am in love with this character. I've got only one book boyfriend and it's him. It's sad that there's isn't a well known fandom for this book so I'm all alone. It's horrible. But I love him. He's hilarious and lovable as soon as you meet him. <3

"Her story isn't finished, and for once she's picked up a pen."

I feel for Elizabeth's mom. I really do. She has her own pain and though it's not right to tell our child that she isn't yours and emotionally wrecks them (even if the child doesn't feel emotion) isn't right. She's living in an abusive relationship and she just wants to be free. She has passions and hobbies that she doesn't get to enjoy anymore. She has a life to live but she can't due to the horrible husband that's holding her back. When she finally makes her decision to fly I was routing her on.

"I just wanted to go to... Some quiet place. To forget. To be someone else."

I think we can all relate to this one. We want to just go to our special place where we can be ourself. Where we can be free. Our quiet place.

"As a wise human girl once told me, you fear what you don't understand.

Humanity is a choice, power or no power."

"If we don't take any risks, then we won't find the things worth living for."

I love this book with all I've got. I'll be re reading this again at some point this year. I wanted this book to be the first one I read and finished for my 2017 reading challenge. It's my all time favourite and I hope you guys take the time to read it. It's amazing.

100/100 stars.

But sadly it only goes up to 5 starts so

5/5 stars. ;) <3

Emily May says

2.5 stars

I'm sorry but so much of what I want to say about this book requires spoilers. All spoilers have been placed in spoiler tags but they are very real ones. Only click if you have read/have no intention of reading this book.

There was a short period near the beginning of *Some Quiet Place* when I truly believed I might have found another 5-star read. It started out beautifully with some excellent, evocative language that made up for the lack of emotions felt by the protagonist. This main character - Elizabeth - was shockingly well-rounded despite her inability to feel emotions (or perhaps because of it); the problems this causes put Elizabeth in a situation which, to me, was entirely unique amongst other young adult paranormal novels. I thought the concept of emotions appearing as physical beings - either draping themselves over the shoulder of their victim or lurking in the corner or staggering in (whichever was appropriate for that emotion's personality) - was fantastic, original and fascinating. Especially when applied to the subject of domestic violence like this was; there's a particularly well-told, horrifying scene not too far into the book that was very powerful.

However, I think this is one of those cases where the author takes an excellent concept and fails to utilise it's full potential when it comes to the plot/story. As for the fantastic idea to create physical manifestations of emotions that only Elizabeth can see, I believe there is a point about a quarter to a third of the way in where the novelty wears off. Once I got over the use of such a creative technique, my eyes were drawn back to the plot and the love triangle that may impress readers who prefer romance over everything else but left me bored and unsatisfied. When the novelty period ended, for me, this became just another typical paranormal romance story with a couple of questionable love interests (one much more so than the other and (view spoiler)).

Yes, this has a love triangle. And it has the characteristics that most young adult love triangles do: mysterious bad boy (Fear) vs good guy (Joshua) who the heroine has known forever. Both of which come with their own set of problems but I still think (view spoiler).

I also didn't like how Sophia was presented as a mindless mean girl. Introduced as such a shallow, evil character who picks on Elizabeth and randomly slams into her in the school corridors. I understand that there is a lot of pettiness that goes on in high school, often between girls, but this was ridiculous and felt unnecessary for the most part. I will give the author credit where it's due and say that she did give a reason as to why Sophia behaved in this way. But I don't think it was enough to make it worth it.

Just to conclude, I would recommend this for readers who have enjoyed many paranormal romance stories in

the past. However, I think those who prefer books that go beyond that will find themselves more and more disappointed as the book progresses. But there is definite potential here with Sutton and I still find myself interested enough to check out her future work - hopefully it will be something with less of a romantic focus.

Kira Simion says

Yes! I finally got the book today! :D

Edit:

Okay, I have given this book 4 stars but it should really be 4.5. The only reason I'm not giving it five is because the love triangle didn't seem to help anything (I know that ending but still!) and I kind of wanted Elizabeth to end up with the secondary character ~~and maybe Rebecca to end up with Fear, the other partial main character.~~

shady boots | #WatchPOSE says

This review is also available over at my blog.

Everything about this book called to me. From its eerily gorgeous cover to its intriguing and original premise, I was hooked, and I dove right in as soon as I got my hands on a galley of it.

Final thoughts? Well . . . this book *could have* been fantastic. And don't get me wrong, it was. At least, during the beginning parts. I was grinning from ear to ear most of the time because seeing the world Kelsey Sutton built was so fascinating. The whole concept of this book is just so damn *cool*. Not only are there personified emotions, but also elements, like Light, Rain, Fog, etc. So many were showcased in this book and I was really glad about that, because ultimately that was what I was the most excited to see, and the author gave it to me.

What bogged the book down a little in my opinion was how it dragged. The pace was *extremely* slow. I got the feeling that the author was going for more of the character-based, emotional route rather than focusing on the fantasy element, but . . . it was kinda hard for me to get into that because our main character is incapable of feeling. Literally. She gives a whole new meaning to the term "wooden plank protagonist". But because she couldn't feel, that also kind of made me disconnected from the side characters as well.

There are some pretty serious issues that are in this book, like the main character's abusive father, and her only friend who is dying of cancer, but due to Elizabeth's inability to emote, I just . . . didn't really care all that much. That probably made me sound like a horrible person, but it's true. >_< I really just wanted to get to discovering more about the fantasy element of the story, and I was aching to find out what exactly made Elizabeth the way she is. But the story just kept dragging and building up for hundreds of pages and I was seriously hoping the payoff would be satisfying.

When the big revelation came, I was . . . a bit underwhelmed. I guess I was just expecting something else, because I saw that twist coming a mile away, and I can't help but feel as if it's done before in YA. I'm not sure if that's true or not, but it definitely felt familiar. There's another reveal not long afterwards that I was

kind of impressed with, but when the end came I was still pretty underwhelmed. The ending did leave the small possibility of a sequel, but I think it'd work just fine as a standalone.

As for the romance, I . . . don't really have much to say about it. There was a little bit of the whole "connected" and "meant to be" thing that I almost always loathe in YA, but it wasn't that bad in this one. And there's also a love triangle, sort of, but it's blatantly obvious who the main love interest is, who the main character is going to end up with in the end. Oh, and some of you might be thinking, "How the hell could there be a romance if the main character can't even *feel*?" Well, I'll let you find that out for yourself.

So all in all, this book really could have been an absolute masterpiece, if only it were executed a little better. But I still applaud the author for coming up with the incredibly original concept.

Many thank you's to NetGalley and Flux for sending me this galley!

Gabrielle Carolina says

Kelsey Sutton's provoking, gut-wrenching, and twisted (in all the best ways) novel about a girl who sees emotions as personified, meddling beings, is a debut to treasure.

Original, unique, and brimming with Emotion, *Some Quiet Place* made me ponder, ache and feel, even when the MC, Elizabeth, was doing her best to stay herself from those feelings.

I love a book with a message, or a story behind the story, and though I couldn't really see the entire picture until the final brushstroke had hit the canvas, I now understand the meaning of SQP to the core. I doubt I'll ever forget this book.

Even though it was long, and I occasionally felt it lagged here and there, *Some Quiet Place* is written in indelible ink.

Simona Bartolotta says

3.5

"It's the way humanity is; give them what they want, and it turns out it's not what they wanted after all.

I've said it before and I say it again: I started this book with high expectations. Very high expectations. But, in contrast to what I thought, not too high. Which may seem contradictory considering that my rating is 3 stars out of five, and here I have to ask you to believe me: I was somehow able to impose on myself as much objectivity (speaking about literature and books and art in general, that of objectivity is maybe the trickiest idea you could ever stumble on, so never forget to interpret it rather broadly; I should have probably said 'lucidity' instead) as I needed in order to rate and review the book. I know I was, and that I am not speaking out of disappointment. And now here I am.

- The **concept** of *Some Quiet Place* is wonderful: the Emotions, incarnate in actual creatures of blood and

flesh with human aspect, walk among us. So does the Element: Moss, Wind, Fog, but also Life, Death, Nightmare. And then there is this girl, **Elizabeth Caldwell**, whom Emotions cannot touch. The whole book is the story of her discovery of herself, of her journey toward the truth.

The problem?

It didn't feel like one.

Some Quiet Place is supposed to be a sort of coming-of-age novel. It is after all concerned with Elizabeth's struggle to find out who she is and where she comes from. But, maybe due to the fact that she's unable to feel Emotions, **the reader does not perceive her journey as an effective element of the plot, does not feel involved in it, is not brought to care about it.**

Now, I think that in choosing a protagonist with no Emotions the author was aware that this path could bring her to two different outcomes: cause a deeper empathy in the reader, as a opposite reflex, or cause nothing at all. She succeeded in the latter.

- The **plot development** is **articulate, complex**, and I appreciated its being non-linear, but it should have been handled as not to seem so **blundering** and **disorganized**. Not that I had particular difficulties in following it, but it isn't the well-composed picture it should have been to be great.
- The **characters**, all of them, are kind of shrouded in a **sense of mystery and secrecy** that adds a lot to their charm, but it's only a superficial impression. They didn't manage to actually touch me. And, if I have to be honest, the discovery of the truth about Elizabeth, at the end of the book, made me despise her a little more instead of helping me warm to her. I know it is maybe a little presumptuous of me to judge her, but for me she acted like a coward, (view spoiler). I'm not saying I wouldn't have chosen the same thing (even though I think I actually wouldn't), and if I did I would call myself a coward as well. It's just not a choice that I can support. Thus, **the protagonist is a big no for me.**

Fear and **Joshua** never really spoke to me. And that's all there is to say.

Another character that I really loathed, but this time for the right reasons, because she is really well-rounded, is **Sarah**, Elizabeth's mother. I get she didn't have the strength to sustain her family's situation, but you never give up on your children. And the fact that she believed that (view spoiler). I think that's cowardice too.

So, in a nutshell, *Some Quiet Place* is a book that has **many flaws**, but it's also a **fascinating and peculiar read** that you will not forget. Its weaknesses are the development and, to some extent, the characters, while the concept is astounding. If you are interested in it, you should give this book a shot.
