



## Plan B

*Jenny O'Connell*

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**Plan B** Jenny O'Connell

**Coast through senior year. Graduate. Travel around Europe. Join boyfriend out East for college.**

That's the plan. Then the phone rings.

Vanessa has the next year of her life pretty much figured out. Sure, there's some parental convincing to do but she and her celebrity-obsessed gal pal Taylor pretty much think their plan is airtight.

Then Vanessa's parents get a mysterious phone call and drop a bombshell on her that she never could have imagined. She has a half brother. And he's coming to live with them.

If that wasn't bad enough, this half brother is none other than Hollywood bad boy Reed Vaughn. He's famous. He's going to be a senior, too. And he's going to ruin Vanessa's life for sure....

### Plan B Details

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Author : Jenny O'Connell

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## From Reader Review Plan B for online ebook

### Steph Su says

Vanessa Carlisle--salutatorian, Yale prospie, and unacknowledged control freak--knows exactly how she wants her senior year of high school to go. She's going to breeze through, get accepted into Yale to be with boyfriend Patrick, and take a summer trip through Europe with her gossip-crazy best friend Taylor.

However, her family gets extremely unexpected news: it turns out that Vanessa has a half-brother, and not just ANY half-brother. She shares 50% of her chromosomes with the nationally known pretty-boy actor Reed Vaughn. And Reed is coming to stay with her family and attend her school in order to get away from Hollywood. Vanessa knows they won't get along. After all, what does she want with a drop-dead gorgeous bad boy who makes the girls swoon and has gone through rehab more times than she can count on one hand?

But initial impressions may be wrong. Vanessa struggles to deal with unexpected bumps in her senior year plan, including drifting apart from Patrick, finding academic competition from the new smart girl Sarah Middleton, dealing with Taylor's PEOPLE magazine and famous people fetish, and having feelings for another guy, John. When will this I-hate-surprises girl learn that unexpected events in life can actually help her grow up?

PLAN B is a quick and cute read. The characters are rather flat and their circumstances are a little far-reaching, but it makes for great last-days-of-tanning reading material.

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### Jennifer Wardrip says

Reviewed by Me for TeensReadToo.com

Although I sometimes get irritated by the label of "chick lit" as a book genre, I'm going to be my own oxymoron and say that PLAN B by Jenny O'Connell is, indeed, teen chick lit. And that I also really liked the book, thoroughly enjoyed it, in fact, and can now no longer say "chick lit" with my previous snobbish sneer.

Vanessa has her life all planned out. All she has to do is survive the next nine months of senior year at the prestigious and private Cabot Academy, ace her SATs, and then spend a year touring Europe with her best friend, Taylor. After that, she'll be more than ready to enroll at the same college in Connecticut that her boyfriend, Patrick, attends, and life will be perfect.

Except life isn't perfect, and it's the definite fault of Reed Vaughn, Hollywood "It" guy, the most good-looking hottie to have graced the planet with his existence in the last several years. Taylor is already ga-ga over him, and although Vanessa can appreciate his good looks, she's not entirely sure about his appeal. Appeal is the last thing on her mind, though, when she finds out that there's more to Reed Vaughn than meets the eye--he's actually her half-brother, the son her father never knew he had.

As if a previously unknown sibling wasn't bad enough, Reed is coming to stay with her family in Chicago. Even that wouldn't have been so bad, if not for the fact that Reed is also a senior, will also be attending Cabot Academy, and will, without a doubt, ruin her life as she knows it. Now school is going to be as messed up as her home life, where tensions are running high between her parents and the lack of regular phone calls from boyfriend Patrick is driving Vanessa insane. How can she possibly survive this last year of high school

with a celebrity brother, a maybe-cheating boyfriend, a disgruntled mother, and a shell-shocked father? All the plans she's worked so hard on getting perfectly arranged might just have to go out the window--and it will be time to put PLAN B into action.

This is a fun story about friendship, family, love, and loss that will have you remembering the ups and downs of having a sibling, and the trials and tribulations of getting ready for college. PLAN B is an engaging, entertaining read from a talented new author, and you won't go wrong by picking up a copy.

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### Dee says

It was okay. I did not necessarily dislike it or like it a lot either.

A lot of parts bored me to death which caused me to skim some of the pages.

Okay, for the most part, my opinion of the book would be *too boring*. It had the appeal of a dead slug. I still finished it, though. I don't like the feeling of not finishing a book.

A lot of stuff bothered me in the book, too. Anyway though, I liked Reed being her big brother and how protective he was. Another thing would be, I just couldn't connect with Vanessa. She was just really shallow. On the rare occasion, I would agree to her but it wouldn't get past that.

I'm not really going to recommend this book.

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### Alessandra says

*I knew it was too good to be true. Only nine months. Forty weeks. Two hundred eighty-four days. If I wasn't so busy getting ready for the first day of my senior year, and I'd remember to buy the calculator required for my AP calculus class, I could have it down to the exact hour. The day I graduate from high school. Then a summer travelling around Europe with Taylor, where hopefully five years of conjugating French verbs would finally pay off.*

The main character of Plan B by Jenny O'Connell, Vanessa Carlisle, has it all already figured out: she's going to ace through her senior year, spend a summer vacationing around Europe with her celebrity-obsessed best friend Taylor, then start college at Yale, which her boyfriend Patrick already attends. It hasn't occurred to Vanessa that things don't always go as planned.

As a matter of fact, Vanessa's plans start to go out of the window when she learns a mind-boggling truth: her father once had an affair with another woman, thus producing a child. Vanessa has a half-brother. And he's none other than Reed Vaughn, one of the hottest and most popular actors of the moment. Reed wasn't contemplated in Vanessa's plans. And of course he's going to wreck her life...

I liked this book very much. The character of Vanessa is very much believable and likeable, and I could relate to her feelings very well. This is a quick, enjoyable read, which I'd recommend to lovers of the YA genre.

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### Julia says

## Plan B:

### It Takes One Person to do a Whole Lot of Bad

One person ruined the whole plan. Everything got flipped upside down with one phone call. Plan B by Jenny O'Connell is realistic fiction set in Chicago, IL in present day. The two main characters are Vanessa and Reed. I give this book a four out of five stars because I really enjoyed it. Vanessa is in her senior year in high school and everything is going to be perfect. She just has to get through this year so she can soon be reunited with her boyfriend at Yale. But then a new family member joins the picture. Her family gets a phone call and she has a half brother who is four months older and will be also starting his senior year. But that is not the bad part. Her brother is Reed Vaughn the famous Hollywood actor who will now be living with them. Everything goes wrong and Vanessa does not know if she will get her picture perfect future after all. Three themes in Plan B includes do not make quick assumptions about people, Learn to trust your feelings; and do not assume things just because you want to believe they are true.

Do not make quick assumptions about people. Vanessa always makes assumptions based on first impressions. "Like him? As far as I could tell there were a billion reasons not to like Reed, and I'd never even talked to the guy"(37). She even says that she never met him and yet she still has her mind made up about him. She makes assumptions like this throughout the book with numerous characters. She learns to be more open minded with people she does not know by the end of the book.

Another theme is to learn to trust your feelings. Vanessa always fights things if they are too easy because she likes to be challenged. "I was kissing someone who wasn't my boyfriend, and it was nice. Very nice"(134). In this quote she is learning to trust herself and to not play by the rules for once. She was learning that she needed to trust her feelings and to have them lead her to where she wants to be.

Finally, another theme is do not think something just because you want it to be true. She always is convincing herself that things are true just because she wants them to be true. "What I don't get is why you'd say you wanted to stay together when you really wanted to be with other people"(211). She wants to believe he wanted to be with her forever. She thought it so many times that she convinced her self he would never do something bad to her.

Three themes in Plan B is do not make quick assumptions about people, learn to trust your feelings and don't think something just because you want to believe its true.

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## Ellen Martin says

So disappointed in what this book turned out to be. I was looking forward to a cute read, because I admit I love a good teen romance novel, and I liked her other books.

Not only was Vanessa whiny and nothing was ever really good enough, even when she finally loosens up a little I still didn't like the turnout. It just wasn't what I expected and I almost gave up on the story all together.

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## Hannah says

Cute book. I didnt really like the ending though... :/ I kind of wish there was a sequel. :)

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## Jacob Proffitt says

It's hard for me to place Plan B on the genre spectrum. It's YA, but with a couple elements that make me hesitate to recommend it to teen readers, including drug use and frank (though not detailed) sexual activity. I

enjoyed the book, though, and can say that it's well-written and with one of the best unromances I've encountered.

The central theme for the book is Vanessa's need to control her environment and working to overcome her tendency to cling to plans that are overtaken by circumstances. Fortunately, Vanessa is a well-crafted character and Jenny O'Connell does a good job drawing the reader into her world so that I sympathized with Vanessa even as I was frustrated with her clinging to things that have clearly passed their useful lifespan. This is nowhere more evident than in her relationship with Patrick, the boyfriend who has gone off to college. Much of the novel is about Vanessa letting go of the dream of being together eventually in the face of an obvious estrangement that is doing neither of them any good.

And I liked Reed Vaughn's character, too. He serves mainly as the catalyst for Vanessa's change—disrupting her life in ways that only a brother really can. Vanessa has no defense against his disruptions, if only because she isn't used to having a brother at all, let alone one with his own overt needs and issues. Their relationship, each learning to be a sibling and, eventually, friend, held the book together and kept my interest when it might otherwise have been lost (waiting for Vanessa to make the changes she so obviously needs but stubbornly resists).

So in all, a good book, just one I'll have a hard time recommending to others without careful consideration beforehand.

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### **neveen says**

*"Maybe planning everything wasn't really what it's all about. Maybe it's not about having a plan, or even a plan B. Maybe it's about seeing where life takes you and learning to enjoy the ride."*

This book completely took me by surprise. I must admit at first it gave me a headache but after getting 20 pages in it got better. Vanessa is a character I could see myself in because she's selfish but doesn't mean to be and she just wants everything to go smoothly. Reed is your typical "bad boy" but his feelings and advice definitely go deeper than that. Throughout this book I was planning on giving it 3 or 3.5 stars but by the end I was in my feelings. I'm not sure if it's because my senior year is coming up and all the changes she went through made me feel some type of way but the character development Reed and Vanessa go through is the major reason for 5 stars. Their relationship at the end of the book made my heart flutter and I just love them. I really wish there was a sequel to this book that answers all my questions like: Did Vanessa choose Yale?, Did Reed go back to L.A?, Is Reed gonna shed his bad boy persona and become a theater actor? I usually hate open-ended endings but this is one of the few exceptions. Every thing played out perfectly and this book has earned a special place in my heart.

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### **Faye says**

how would it feel if one day, your perfectly organized life would be disrupted by an unknown brother who also happens to be a star who seems to be popular because he manage to keep his life right on the wrong track fashionably?

that's how the story evolve and frankly, i think the plot was good, unique and refreshing but the fabulous boyfriend who turned-out-to-be-a-jerk routine is getting old and maybe it is essential to the story so that the sister who hates her teen star brother's guts would find a common ground but really, she already kissed a guy

and she found out that her perfect boyfriend is kissing someone too and he was classified as a jerk? does her doubts about not wanting to cheat on her boyfriend an excuse then? nevertheless, i somehow enjoy reading jenny's book and i enjoyed it better than book of luke (the first book of her that i read). this book wasn't phenomenal but it is decent.

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### **Karin says**

Typical high school chick lit book: boyfriend away at college, trying to get into college. The "movie star boyfriend" idea is interesting, but I find it hard to believe that his TV show would just give him a 9-month hiatus (needed to make the story plausible). No real surprises at all.

Also: they emphasize several times in the book that the narrator has well-chewed fingernails, yet the girl on the cover has a nice manicure. I was waiting and waiting for that to happen in the book but it never did. Guess the cover artist didn't read the story!

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### **Lyn says**

Vanessa has her senior year all planned out. She'll continue to get good grades, graduate second in her class, and be accepted to Yale University where her boyfriend will be in his sophomore year. She'll spend the summer bumming around Europe with her best friend. Life is good and getting better.

Or is it? An only child, Vanessa is shocked to learn that during a short separation from her mother, her dad fathered a baby with a world renowned actress. Their child is bad-boy sit-com star Reed Vaughn, who is only a few months older than she is. Worse, he will be living with her family for his senior year and going to Vanessa's school.

Vanessa, the good girl, has never had rules imposed on her because they were never needed, but to be fair her parents now insist that the rules imposed on Reed are for her too. Her female classmates drool over Reed while her male classmates scorn him. Her star-struck best friend has Reed Vaughn posters on the walls of her room. The only one who seems unaffected by him is a new female student who is a real threat to Vanessa's second in class status. She is also Reed's tutor. Vanessa can't decide whether to be insulted that Reed asked her competition for help or relieved he didn't ask her.

Vanessa's senior year is out of control and she blames Reed Vaughn. How will a girl who has her life planned out and never leaves anything to chance handle these major changes that rock her world?

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### **Alina says**

In Plan B, Vanessa has her life really planned out and presents herself to be a perfectionist and likes to have everything a certain way. Although, the conflict that she deals with is when she discovers that she has a half-brother who just so happens to be an extremely famous and successful actor who had lived in Hollywood. He enters her life and her family opens up their home to him so that he can finally attempt at a more normal and low-key life. However, Vanessa does not cope with this well at all initially because she feels that he is invading and disrupting her life. She wants to enjoy her senior year and now that Reed, her half brother, has literally came out of nowhere has enrolled into her school, her life is altered. The fact that Vanessa hates

surprises and having specific things occur that she did not see coming, really bothers her. This drives the story and since she is a complex character, this book was really fun to read. Along with this, she has other obstacles that she has to face academically and with her personal life where she drifts from her boyfriend, Patrick and develops feelings for someone else. I would recommend this book to people who enjoy reading books that do not have your ordinary plotline yet explores themes and emotions that everyone faces at one point in their life.

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### **Rachel says**

I mean it wasn't that bad. But it was still bad so yeah...

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### **Katherine Coble says**

The popularity of Cinder + Ella (the single greatest book of this type I've EVER read) has generated a lot of copycats. This one is fairly lackluster.

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