



My Life Undecided

Jessica Brody

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PLEASE READ THIS! MY LIFE DEPENDS ON IT!

Okay, maybe that was a bit melodramatic, but I'm sorry, I'm feeling a bit melodramatic at the moment.

Here's the deal. My name is Brooklyn Pierce, I'm fifteen years old, and I am decisionally challenged. Seriously, I can't remember the last good decision I made. I can remember plenty of crappy ones though. Including that party I threw when my parents were out of town that accidentally burned down a model home. Yeah, not my finest moment, for sure.

But see, that's why I started a blog. To enlist readers to make my decisions for me. That's right. I gave up. Threw in the towel. I let someone else be the one to decide which book I read for English. Or whether or not I accepted an invitation to join the debate team from that cute-in-a-dorky-sort-of-way guy who gave me the Heimlich Maneuver in the cafeteria. (Note to self: Chew the melon before swallowing it.) I even let them decide who I dated!

Well, it turns out there are some things in life you simply can't choose or have chosen for you—like who you fall in love with. And now everything's more screwed up than ever.

But don't take my word for it, read the book and decide for yourself. You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll scream in frustration. Or maybe that's just me. After all, it's my life.

My Life Undecided Details

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From Reader Review My Life Undecided for online ebook

Mari says

3.5 stars

“But aren’t you mad?” I ask. “I mean, that the only reason I said yes to you, that I even spent any time with you, was because a bunch of strangers told me I should.”

He seems to find humor in this question as he adjusts his jacket tighter around my chest. “How could I be mad at something that brought you to me?”

♥?

This was so cute and entertaining!

Unfortunately I wish I read it when I first added it to my TBR (4 years ago! WHAT AM I DOING WITH MY LIFE) because now I'm too old to enjoy these borderline-middle grade YA contemporaries. Some things just don't click with me anymore and come out as too unrealistic because now I'm either too mature in life experiences or experienced with books and I have higher standards. Which is very sad, if you ask me. Examples of this in the book are the 7-Eleven robbery or the sister's hospitalization or the relationship with Hunter III. These had in common the fact that they had no solid foundation to make them work with the narrative, they were kind of only plot devices with no substance. They were there just to make something more important happen.

But I loved reading this book the same! My favorite person ever was Brian. So dorky and cute! I have a thing for cute, sweet and smart guys. And he also had this amazing super curly black hair that I think you can't find very often in YA books. He was perfect for Brooks.

The concept of the book was well developed and I enjoyed the ups and downs of the blog polls so much.

Oda Renate says

this book. ugh.

it defently deserves all the bad reviews it has got. the idea is interesting enough but the excecution and the characters ugh.

giving it 2 stars cause it was somewhat interesting.

Angela Kocheshkova says

#booktubeathon2018

first book's down

this is a two-star book for me - meaning it was ok BUT it made me tear up twice so i'm giving it an extra star for that.

brooklyn annoyed me a lot until maybe the very last bit. she was shallow and stupid and everything she did irritated me. which is not me bashing the book. people like that annoy me in real life as well.

hunter the third seemed to change personality in the end. i don't know, from their first interactions i thought

him to be more of a loner. like you that cool guy who doesn't give a shit about this whole school hierarchy bullshit, like "i do what i want" kinda guy. i guess i was wrong. oh well. that detention scene was amazing nevertheless.

the plot was fairly predictable and the foreshadowing was quite obvious but that didn't bother me that much. i thought Brooklyn would try and find the guy Mrs. Moody freaked out about and there would be a resolution before.. you know. but she completely forgot about doing anything about it. you could argue she just wasn't fast enough. i actually think it's more realistic that way. not everything in life gets resolved, you know. it's the truth, however sad.

i didn't like the bit about Shayne's dad at the end. it feels like a cop-out or a convenience to me. i'd appreciate it more if Shayne still had anything but knew she didn't have Brooklyn.

Theresa ? says

I'm extremely proud to say that the rating that you're seeing above this review is not a mistake.

THIS BOOK WAS A FIVE STAR READ FOR ME!!!! YAAAAAAAH! (My first 5-star book!)

Now I know this might not be a big deal for some of you. You're probably thinking "I gave 5 stars to like 50 other books--what's so special about a 5 star rating from YOU?"

Out of every book I've read, I've always found flaws in some form whatsoever (which is absolutely, positively OKAY because what kind of life would we be living if there were no flaws?). It's either because the writing drags on into the realm of boredom, or maybe it's cliché, or maybe I just had to pitch the thing across the room in some point of my consciousness. I've always given four-stars to the books with the most MINOR mistakes that I've ever seen.

But this one? This one got a five star rating...why?

BECAUSE I WAS TRULY ASTOUNDED BY THIS FREAKING BOOK!

1. It had VOICE!!! VOICE, I TELL YOU!!!! It went no where NEAR the realm of boredom! It was totally in...the realm of NOT BOREDOM!!

It wasn't in that icky melodramatic tone that's in most YA's these days. "I ran. I ran from the beast with fear in my grasp. Oh my. How frightened I was..."

It was more like, "I tromped down the path away from the beast, flailing my arms like a monkey and droning one long, monotonous scream through the entire event." (<-Trust me, that's how I would run away from a beast.)

Well--no, none of the sentences in this book had anything to do with running from a beast. This was just my (lame) example of how this book added comedy to it's pages to actually invite the reader into reading instead of that whole "Edward/Bella moment".

2. IT TAUGHT LIFE LESSONS.

In some of the YA's that I've read so far, I skim through the whole entire book and try to wonder... "WHAT'S THE LESSON THE AUTHOR IS TRYING TO TEACH?!"

Each story should have a theme to it. Sure, you might want to create a story where two characters fall in love--but it shouldn't be in the situation where in the first chapter, ALL THEY DO IS EXCHANGE A GLANCE and in the next 30 pages, one of the characters is like "I need you. I can't stay away from you."

NO!!!! THAT IS NOT A LIFE LESSON!!!! In life, when you meet someone, THERE IS NO WAY THAT

TRUE LOVE WILL MAKE ITSELF APPEAR IN THE SPAN OF 48 HOURS!!!!

Well--this book is mainly about a girl, Brooklynn Pierce, who decides that since all of her decisions must be purely rigged so that they all happen to ruin her life, she creates a blog in order to post her decisions for blog readers to choose for her. The thought running through her head is that since she must be the worst decision maker EVER, she can have a bunch of other people vote which decisions they think is best and therefore, Brooklynn shouldn't be able to make any mistakes.

But this book's life lesson is that you should make the choice for yourself because you CAN make a choice. There are also some things that you can't choose yourself. (Now THAT is something I learned myself through life experiences LONG before I started to read this book.) I'll let you guys figure out what that is by READING THE BOOK YOURSELF!!!! :D

And every day is a choice. You make choices every day (no matter how minor they are--like what food you eat, or what you say...). Since you make so many choices in a life time, YOU'RE BOUND TO MAKE MISTAKES, right?? That's what life is about!

And since Brooklynn thought that she seemed to be surrounded by perfect people, throughout the story, she learns that everyone makes mistakes (even the most perfect of people) and that perfection is only an illusional word and that her thoughts of everyone else's perfection is an illusion.

This book truly presents life lessons that are ACTUALLY REAL. I really want to meet Jessica Brody!

3. Wording! WORD CHOICE! DESCRIPTIONS! Eh-ti-cuh!

Jessica Brody's descriptions and wording and metaphors ARE SO BEAUTIFULLY WRITTEN!!! She doesn't use plain, old, boring words like "walked". She uses "tromp" "strut" "stumble".

Her descriptions are so precise and I can just imagine the settings that she sets up for the readers DIRECTLY IN MY HEAD!!! That's definitely also worth 5-stars, right??

4. Symbolization!!

When Brooklynn has to read to Mrs. Moody during her community service hours, Jessica Brody CREATIVELY chooses the "You Choose The Story" series to represent decisions. When they read through the story and Mrs. Moody always steered the decisions in a path where they always ended up being eaten by alligators or stepped on by giant dinosaurs, they always flipped right back to the beginning of the book to start over again and to make different decisions.

Now what the author is trying to show the readers is: Wouldn't it be easier if life was similar to this? When you ended up in an unfixable situation, you could just rewind back to the beginning and start over--this time avoiding the first choices and choosing different decisions in order to win.

Life isn't like this. When you're faced with a choice, you don't know WHAT'S going to happen next. It would be so easy if we could just fast forward to see our results if we do a specific thing and then rewind back and be sure that the decision we make is correct. Or we could just rewind back to the beginning when we face a blinking, bold GAME OVER shoved in our faces so we could know what we should choose.

But who said life was easy? When you're in a sticky situation where all of your choices are revealed and you finally know what you SHOULD have chosen, you can't just press the "RESET" button. All you can do is sigh and think "I shouldn't have chosen this" or "I should have done that instead."

Trust me, whenever I get a test handed back with a bunch of red pen strokes smeared across the pages, I skim through the test thinking "I should have known this! I should have known that!! CAN I HAVE A REDO?!"

The author understands this, and so she presents it in her story. BEAUTIFUL!!! ASTOUNDING!!!

5. Cliffhangers.

I always promised myself that I'd limit myself to ONE CHAPTER of this book because if I got too lost in the book, I wouldn't be able to complete my homework.

But the cliffhangers at the end of these chapters (and the cliffhangers that the pages of the MyLifeUndecided.com Blog presented) always made me turn some more pages.

THIS BOOK IS NOT PREDICTABLE. It is FREAKING UNPREDICTABLE!!!!!! I ran into a bunch of surprises in this book, and JESSICA BRODY WEAVED EVERYTHING TOGETHER SO WELL!!!!!!!!!!!!

Throughout the book, Brooklynn did seem to change her actions over the span of 6 weeks. At times, she would reveal to the readers in her narrating what she would have said or done before the moment the book started (when she was popular and best friends with the "princess" of the school). But near the end of the book, her actions compared to the actions she would have created if she was still the way she was REALLY made the way she has changed her ways stand out.

This book is a truly BEAUTIFUL, FIVE-STAR BOOK. I love this freaking book.

Wow, this is my longest book review ever. ANYWAY YEAH, I LOVED THIS BOOK.

I recommend this to the fellow humans in search for a humorous tale of a decisionally challenged girl.

Mezza Hafizhah Nirwanto says

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TOLONG BACA BUKU INI!! HIDUPKU TERGANTUNG PADA BUKU INI!!

Baby Brooklyn. Itulah nama tenar yang dimiliki seorang Brooklyn Pierce. Nama itu disematkan padanya setelah sebuah tragedi dramatis yang terjadi di saat ia masih berusia dua tahun. Tragedi galian tambang, nah itulah tepatnya. Ia terjatuh di galian tambang tua dan terperangkap di sana selama lima puluh dua jam, di saat usianya baru dua tahun. Bayangkan, betapa dramatisnya kisah penyelamatan Brooklyn yang disiarkan di setiap berita. Bahkan menurut Wikipedia, seluruh negeri terpaku dan menonton siaran langsung usaha penyelamatannya di televisi, dan yang lebih hebohnya lagi, kisahnya bertengger di dua puluh sampul depan koran dan majalah yang berbeda-beda.

Namun nampaknya kesialan itu pun terbawa sampai usianya menginjak angka ke-15. Ia mengulangi kisah itu lagi. Kisah yang mengharuskan dirinya diselamatkan, namun dengan sebab yang berbeda. Kali ini, ia kembali terkenal akibat membakar rumah contoh milik ibunya. Semenjak saat itulah kehidupan sosialnya semakin memburuk. Shayne, teman sekaligus orang yang mempunyai ide untuk mengadakan pesta di rumah contoh ibunya—sehingga rumah itu terlalap habis oleh api—malah menjauhi dirinya tanpa sebab yang jelas. Ia mengubah semua jadwal pelajarannya hingga ia tak sekelas lagi dengan Brook. Dunia seolah tidak menganggapnya ada semenjak tak ada Shayne di sampingnya. Ia menjadi tak terlihat di sekolah. Lebih buruknya lagi, ia harus menjalani serangkaian hukuman, baik dari pengadilan—menjadi relawan di panti jompo—, maupun dari ibunya—menjadi kuli untuk merenovasi rumah contoh—akibat kebakaran itu.

Kesendirian telah mempertemukannya dengan seorang cowok dari daerah selatan, ketika iya tengah sendiri di satu sudut sekolah. Hunter adalah nama cowok keren berambut pirang gelap, dan bermata biru bak kristal yang berkilauan seperti dua batu safir itu. Ia menawari Brook rokok yang membuatnya ketahuan oleh pihak sekolah dan akhirnya ia diskors. Diskors setelah semua ulah yang ia lakukan tempo hari? Hal itu jelas membuat ibunya memekik, marah besar, dan akhirnya menyita laptop serta layanan internetnya.

Sampai suatu hari, ia bertekad untuk membuat sebuah blog yang nantinya akan ia isi dengan segala kegagalan tingkat dewanya itu. Serta mengadakan voting pada setiap hal yang mengharuskannya untuk memilih. Untuk itu, ia harus berbohong pada orang tuanya bahwa ada tugas sekolah yang harus diselesaikan, dan itu membutuhkan bantuan laptop dan internet.

Hasil voting pertama mengharuskannya untuk tetap makan siang di kantin tanpa mengacuhkan tatapan jijik dan terisolasi dari yang lainnya, dibanding harus bersembunyi di perpustakaan. Ketika ia bertekad menjalankan janjinya untuk selalu melakukan apa saja yang menjadi hasil voting, ia merasa gugup. Dan itu mempengaruhi cara makannya. Ia menelan irisan melon seketika tanpa dikunyah yang membuatnya tersedak hebat hingga hampir tak bisa bernapas. Brian, cowok dari kelompok tim debat, dan kutu bukulah yang menolongnya. Dan ketika di kelas bahasa Inggris, Brian jugalah yang menjadi partnernya ketika membahas buku *The Grapes of Wrath*—yang juga dipilih oleh pembaca blog—sebagai hasil voting yang ia adakan. Padahal dulu Brian sama sekali tak terlihat di matanya akibat kemilau Shayne yang melapisi dunianya. Kini, Brian menjadi satu-satunya orang yang menyadari keberadaan Brook.

Ada sebuah kejadian dimana Brook harus diselamatkan kembali, dan hal itu membuatnya tenar di sekolah. Apa itu? Baca sendiri! Kemudian Brook yang ikut tim debat bersama Brian. Tantangan Truth dan Dare yang menumbuhkan benih-benih cinta antara Brook dan Brian, yang akhirnya membuat Brook semakin galau demi memilih antara Hunter dan Brian. Serta bagaimana dengan Shayne yang sempat menjerat Brook kembali ke dunia ilusinya, dan menjadikan Brook seperti bonekanya? Temukan semuanya di buku unyu ini.

Sampulnya manis. Bagian yang aku suka dari buku ini adalah ketika Brook mengatakan cinta pada Brian di sebuah restoran di Main Street Diner. Kenekatannya menyatakan cinta dan juga reaksi Brian setelah mengetahui Brook juga mencintainya menurutku sangat manis. Konflik di novel ini juga tidak mengada-ada, terkadang memang terjadi pada hidup siapa saja, tidak hanya remaja. Merasa semua pilihan kita salah setelah kita mendapati hasil dari pilihan itu tidak sesuai dengan apa yang kita harapkan.

Yang membuat saya kurang nyaman justru pada penggunaan kata *well* yang terlalu sering, serta penulisan cetak miring di kata-kata yang menurut saya tidak perlu dicetak miring. Seperti di halaman :

- (1) ingar-bingar, lagi, apalah
- (2) bagus, seperti biasa
- (3) dilahirkan, akulah
- (7) memang, dan lain-lain

Memang kesannya seperti memberitahukan kepada pembaca bahwa harus ada penekanan ketika membaca kata-kata yang bercetak miring tersebut. Tapi menurut saya itu tidak perlu. Rasanya kok kurang nyaman

begitu ya (-_-") Dan lagi di halaman 6, 7, 9, dll, ada kata-kata yang berada di dalam tanda petik, padahal bukan kalimat langsung. *bawel*

Ada beberapa typo yang saya temukan;

"Spektakular" itu seharusnya bukannya "Spektakuler" ya? (19)

"Aku sudah menangani banyak kasus terkait mabuk di bawah umur," Hakim memulai pembacaan keputusannya, semburat garis muncul di dahinya, "tetapi, selama dua puluh lima tahun aku mengabdikan di pengadilan ini, aku nggak pernah mmelihat remaja putri yang begitu mengecewakan, memalukan, dan nggak pantas seperti ini." (22)

Mengenai percakapan langsung di atas, apa tidak sebaiknya kata "nggak" diganti dengan kata "tidak". Mengingat yang berbicara adalah seorang hakim. Dan kata "mengecewakan" sepertinya tidak perlu dipenggal.

"...tugas aku" (54) — lebih enak dibaca kalau diganti dengan kata "tugasku"

"...kelas aku..." (106) — lebih enak dibaca kalau diganti dengan kata "kelasku"

"menunjukkkan" (144) — "menunjukkan"

"mengalami emosi" (175) — "mengalami emosi"

"voting sura" (179) — "voting suara"

"sudah ak" (239) — "sudah tak"

"ke alam bahwa sadarku..." (323) — "ke alam bawah sadarku..."

Kutipan favorit :

"Kesalahan dapat diperbaiki. Tapi, keputusan buruk nggak bisa dibatalkan. Rumah contoh bisa dibangun kembali. Dan, kesempurnaan hanyalah kata yang akan membuat dirimu merasa buruk." (312)

Sampul asli

Joey Reyes says

Instead of writing a review, I'll just enumerate my top 5 quotes of the book (in no particular order):

- 1.) "It's your life, Brian! You can't just roll over and play dead on your life! You need to make your own decisions."
- 2.) "I never liked you very much when you were perfect. You're much cooler now that's you're human."

3.) "I don't want to be a ninety-year-old woman with a life full of regret. I don't want to wake up one morning seventy-five years from now and discover my life has been a series of bad decisions and wrong turns and heartbreaks."

4.) "Mistakes can be fixed. Bad decisions can be undone. Model houses can be rebuilt. And perfection is only a word that makes you feel bad about yourself."

5.) "It's like I'm caught between two versions of myself. The person I used to be and the person I'm too scared to become. I feel like I'm looking in a mirror and my reflection doesn't match. I just want to be myself again. Only I'm not sure who that is anymore. Is it the girl in the mirror, the one I've struggled to be my entire life? Or is it this stranger living inside me who wants nothing to do with her? How do you decide between them? How do you know which one is really you?"

Cindy says

I found myself enjoying this book a lot more than I expected, to be quite honest. I was in the mood for a light read and that it was. But this book carried a lot of meaning, and is one I eagerly passed off to my teenage step daughter.

I thought back to when I was teen; how every decision made in high school feels like it can make or break you, when all you ever want is to be accepted, but you also want do what is right. In *My Life Undecided*, Brooklyn can't seem to do anything right, when she really does mean well. So she leaves it up to the readers of her blog that she has created to make the decisions for her.

Brody handles things with sincerity, yet also with humor. She puts Brooklyn through the typical decisions teens are faced with, and although there are a couple of things that happen that are bit unbelievable, they work. Especially since Brooklyn is the type of person who just happens to be at the wrong place, at the wrong time. Brooklyn has to deal with the consequences of her decisions and takes responsibility for her actions. She is a character I liked from the get go and cheered for her all the way to the end.

This would be a book to pass on to readers who are looking for something similar to Sarah Dessen, Elizabeth Eulberg, Deb Caletti, or Suzanne Colasanti.

Joany de Vries-Verbrugge says

Jessica Brody is gewoon hilarisch. Ik vond 'Elke dag maandag' al gaaf, maar deze is absoluut ook hysterisch (maar tegelijk ook best diep). Geweldig!

Eliza (silverbookshelf) says

This was fun, entertaining, with some really good emotional moments. Also offered some pretty solid advice.

One thing that annoyed me but was intentional (I think), so it's pretty good: Brooklyn is so naive and so concerned with everyone's opinions of her and that seemed pretty realistic to me for a 15-year old. She polls

her blog readers on decisions she should make and a lot of the time they steer her in the right direction, while she thinks they're being ridiculous and boring. There's always that detachment when it comes to making your own decisions vs. making decisions for other people. You can't really see your own course of action that clearly but any time a character on TV makes a dumb decision you instantly know it's a dumb decision even when they don't see it. It's just easier when it's not your life. Brooklyn's polls and blog posts were great and her reactions to them were on point.

The writing was a little uneven sometimes, but the major problem I had was a glaring lack of wholesome female friendships. I liked Brooklyn's relationship with Mrs. Moody, but I was wishing the whole time she'd find another friend at school who wasn't Shayne. It would also be nice if she didn't talk shit about literally every single woman she meets in the book before even exchanging conversation with them. If I've said it once I've said it a thousand times, but we need more supportive female characters in YA. Give me more girl best friends who DON'T secretly hate each other k thanks.

Nearly all of the characters and some of the plot points were unbelievable stereotypical (bitchy frenemy bff, overshadowed friend-of-the-popular-girl protag, hot new guy, nerdy alternative love interest, typical Hollywood-esque cliqued-out high school etc. etc.) and most of this was what caused a lot of the eye-rolling I did throughout. The best parts of the book were the ones that felt most genuine, and least overused. Brooklyn's relationship with her sister I liked, even though it was given a short spotlight. I loved the subplot with Mrs. Moody, which was easily one of the strongest parts of the book. I wish more of it was as emotional and as moving as the foil Mrs. Moody offered. Brooklyn annoyed me a lot of the time but I liked the person she became around Mrs. Moody and Brian and I'm glad the books did a good job of putting this forward as the kind of person Brooklyn should be and wanted to be.

Some things were slightly unbelievable too, like the sheer amount of trouble Brooklyn gets herself into. It's pretty ridiculous. Someone who thinks they had normal teenage years: please tell me if this is in fact the norm because I have no idea. I was sheltered and a weenie and I went to a goody-two-shoes high school. Also, the fact that everyone seems to know she's Baby Brooklyn? Like even forgiving the fact that she seems to have gotten a LOT of public attention before even making it through a second decade, but would EVERYONE really remember her from an incident ten years ago? Not sure.

I still liked it for the most part though, especially considering I'm probably slightly old for the targeted demographic. I'm getting pretty close to polling my own blog readers for decisions I can't make. Just for some perspective you know?

Ida says

The story is just so and so. However, I like the idea of making a blog to ask people to make the decision in your life because you just can't believe in yourself to make your own decision. Pfft!

3.6 stars

Ivy says

My Life Undecided by Jessica Brody is a cute and funny read!

This is the first book I have finished written by Jessica Brody. I started one of her adult novels and it was

pretty interesting. Therefore, I decided to try one of her young adult novels and I am impressed!

In life, we are required to make many decisions and sometimes it may not be the best decision we have made, but that is how we learn. We need to make some bad decisions sometimes in order to make the right decisions.

Brooklyn has always seemed to make the wrong decision or she calls it, “decisionally-challenged.” I like the idea that the author incorporated blogging into a book and how it played out so well in the story. Since Brooklyn is “decisionally challenged,” she decided to set up a blog for her viewers to help her make the decisions. Along the way, there were some decisions she did not really like and some that she did not really agree with.

My most favorite part of this book was the two guys she had to choose. She also posted a blog post about them and has her viewers help choose what she should do involving them. I think it is cute. I like how she was able to make her own decision and know what she wants in the end. It is good to know that you can make your own decisions

Overall, I really enjoyed this book. I had my laughs and thought it was extremely cute. I was not disappointed at all and was everything I thought it would be, if not, better! Great and interesting read!

Lisa (Remarkablylisa) says

A better book review can be found on my book blog here: <https://remarkablylisa.wordpress.com/...>

Real rating: 4.5

I feel like all Jessica Brody books look and sound like trashy novels that will leave readers unsatisfied but it's soooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo not true!

Her books are written with quality and depth. The synopsis and plot sound really flimsy and fluffy but her characters always have such fatal flaws that leave readers sympathetic to them.

With that being said, My life undecided was a fantastic read. It kept me entertained throughout my read. It was funny. It was smart. It was super cute.

Sara Grochowski says

Oh, Jessica Brody, you've done it again...

I adored Brody's THE KARMA CLUB and have been anxiously awaiting MY LIFE UNDECIDED for months. After all, MLU combines a teen girl, cute boys, bad decisions, funny decisions, and a BLOG. Really, the blog alone (okay, and maybe the boys) would have done it for me, but Brody goes above and beyond, which is always a good thing in an author...

At first, I worried that Brooklyn's age, 15, coupled with this particular plot would make the novel feel a bit too immature for my tastes, but I shouldn't have worried. While Brooklyn does, for the most part, act like a 15 year old, Brody's use of humor provided a healthy balance and served as a distraction. I never felt like the story was slowed... she was able to just be a confused 15 year old girl, even if the reader is a few years older.

Additionally, I would feel comfortable handing this novel to a younger reader as well... Perhaps not any younger than Middle School, but there wasn't anything particularly scandalous.

I love the whole concept of this novel. It may not be entirely realistic, but, as a real life blogger, I can say there are parts of this novel that ring true. I've never had an entire blog dedicated to my life decisions, but I can't tell you how many times I've utilized Twitter when making a decision... Should I buy this? Did anyone see this movie and like it? I'm bored... what should I do? Brooklyn takes this idea to a whole new level... and learns quite a few things in the process.

The endeavor might have been slightly misguided, but many teens will empathize with Brooklyn. She's really screwed up this time around... And making the wrong decision is sometimes entirely too tempting. Having someone else make your decisions takes all the pressure off you. If it's a good decision, great! If it's a bad decision, hey... I didn't make it! At some point in your life, you'll realize that, ultimately, only you can make your decisions - it's just the way the world works - but it was an adventure to watch Brooklyn discover this for herself (and in a much more fun and exciting way than most of us do)!

I can't wait to read Brody's next offering... I fully expect it'll make me laugh... and think.

nick says

Read more of my reviews at Nick's Book Blog

When I started My Life Undecided, I expected to read a funny and enjoyable book. The premise of the book sounded so original and entertaining that I decided to give it a shot.

Brooklyn Pierce, the main character, is pretty famous. That's because when she was 2 years old, she fell from a mine shaft and her rescue was aired on national TV. Everyone knows her as "Baby Brooklyn". Thirteen years later, Brooklyn is still a disaster. She cannot help getting into trouble. The poor girl keeps making bad decisions. On the night of her parents' absence, Brooklyn throws a party at one of her mom's model homes. However, the party ends up in a fire and Brooklyn is sentenced to community service. Brooklyn realizes that she has poor judgement and starts a blog and ask her followers, who are complete strangers, to make decisions for her.

Brooklyn, according to me, was a selfish main character who thought about herself the entire time. She whined and complained and at times it became really annoying. There were times I honestly wanted to slap her because her constant bratty attitude frustrated me. Towards the end of the novel, she does change, but it took her a lot of time and by then I had already made my mind on Brooklyn : I didn't like her. It was very difficult to connect with her for the above reasons.

The book consists of two love interests. Firstly, there's Brian, the cute nerdy guy who accepts Brooklyn and becomes her friend when everyone including her so-called best friend, Shayne, abandons her. I really liked Brian. He was cute, shy, adorable and extremely likable. I took an instant liking to him. I liked how shy he could be around Brooklyn. I loved how nerdy he was. I loved how sweet he was to Brooklyn and it seemed that he truly did care for Brooklyn although she couldn't initially see it.

Secondly, there was Hunter. Hunter is the hot new guy at school. Brooklyn becomes instantly infatuated with him. Hunter was also a nice character according to me. Of course, he had that bad boy thing going on with him, but he was still likable. However, we don't get much information about him or his personality throughout the book, which is why, out of the two, I preferred Brian.

The secondary characters also include Brooklyn's best friend Shayne. Shayne was such a terrible friend. I

hated her. She was the gorgeous pretty girl at their school. I hated how Brooklyn let Shayne manipulate her when it was pretty clear that Shayne was using her as a means to become more popular than she already is. Overall, Shayne was a horrible character.

One secondary character I really liked was Mrs Moody. Mrs Moody is a senior citizen at the elderly home where Brooklyn does her community service. Mrs Moody's name is pretty self-explanatory of her character. Nevertheless, she is the one who indirectly helps Brooklyn throughout this book.

Without knowing it, Brooklyn develops a sort of relationship with Mrs Moody.

The plot of the book was original and refreshing. I thought that the idea of readers making your decisions was unique.

Also, the book is mostly about realizing that you make your own decisions, but you have to learn to make the right ones.

It involves a lot of growth on the part of Brooklyn, but she eventually does grow and become a better person. Friendship, love, personal growth, responsibility and making the right choice forms a huge part of this novel.

The writing was simple and easy to follow. Jessica Brody has written a great book with a creative and unique plot. Although I didn't like the main character, I did enjoy the story.

Overall, My Life Undecided is a cute light book with a simple message that I think is important that all teenagers realize.

Cait • A Page with a View says

I wanted to try something new, so I just blindly grabbed a book off my shelf and committed to reading whatever it was. So here we go:

The main plot is that Brooklyn has been best friends with a super popular girl who's told her how to live her life. After that girl turns on her, Brooklyn looks at her life and realizes she hasn't made the best choices so far. She starts a blog so those "responsible" types out there can make all of the decisions that are presented to her everyday (like if she should go out with a certain guy, try out for the rugby team, join the debate team, etc). Her blog goes absolutely viral and even her sister's friends at Harvard are totally into it.

The story obviously ends with Brooklyn learning to trust her own choices, but it's a fun YA contemporary. The writing was good and the main character's voice is totally what made me stick with it. Brooklyn was the typical self-absorbed popular girl who's not very kind to others, BUT her first person narrative was actually *not obnoxious*. She was hilarious, realistic, and still relatable. So that was a relief.

But can we just talk about how the whole blogging thing worked?! In the span of a few minutes she decides to start a blog, types up a quick post, hits "publish," and waits for the internet to reply.

Like where is she getting these readers... and pretty just sure buying your domain would take longer than that. And by the next day Brooklyn had 11 responses from all of these lovely people who just magically found and read her blog and CARED ENOUGH TO VOTE/COMMENT?? And she kept trying to get to a computer and only used her phone to text her parents (despite this being written 5 years ago). So those parts felt really odd.

But it's still a fun read!

