



Band Geek Love

Josie Bloss

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All band, all the time. That's how trumpet goddess Ellie Snow has made it to senior year. No drama, no dating. Just keeping lock-step within the safe precision of the Winslow Marching Band. She's a fierce section leader now, and so over the heart-crushing social disaster of her freshman year. No boy is going to ruin Ellie's shining moment-her senior solo performance at the homecoming game.

And then Connor Higgins shows up. Not even Ellie can resist the trumpet player who could be a model for Abercrombie & Fitch. It's a hook-up made in band-geek heaven! But Ellie's not ready to publicize their romance, not even to her best friends. After all, Connor's just a sophomore. What would everyone say? Breaking formation and revealing her true self would be like . . . marching on the field completely naked!

Then Ellie discovers the flipside of secrets and how it feels to be shut out by the ones she loves.

Band Geek Love Details

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From Reader Review Band Geek Love for online ebook

Andrea says

I'm abandoning "Band Geek Love." I got 1/2 through and couldn't go on. I have better than things to read than a book about a horrible, stuck-up, whiny little girl and her nonexistent problems. Ugh. I have a high tolerance for BS but this is a huge NO!

Jessie says

If you were a band geek, you either WERE Ellie Snow, or you knew Ellie Snow. She's narcissistic and arrogant, to put it bluntly, but I still enjoyed her character. It's a pretty cute story, I admit, and fairly accurate as far as band geek life goes. My problem was just that the "twists" weren't "twisty" enough, and I think that much better things could have been done with them. But I did read this book very quickly because it held my interest and it was actually pretty cute. I enjoyed it. I rate it four stars because I feel like, again, more could have been done with the plot twists and revelations.

King Haddock says

This book is great for the band geek who can relate.

Aka me.

Compare me to Ellie: I am a semi-stickler section leader who is always practicing her butt off, who never gets involved with boys because of embarrassing incidents from early experience, and who lives in a world where all the musicians in high school get together and you accidentally run into them making out in the band storage room.

Sound familiar? Yeah, this book was pretty much very similar to my band life. Except that I am a flute/piccolo player, whereas Ellie has the stereotypical trumpet ego - and I can also be one of the goof-offs (in the stands, not on the field).

So therefore, I enjoyed it immensely. Maybe it was so over-the-top dramatic near the end that it annoyed me slightly (I usually do not read romance novels or the usual high school drama whatnot; I'm more of science-fiction, fantasy, and nonfiction), but when I think about it... my high school life had its moments where it was almost that ridiculous, too.

But for the die-heart musician, this can be sort of a fun, light read. Like candy, where it's just sugar, but still good.

Ben says

Okay, I should have learned from reading the second book first that I did not like this character. Ellie Snow has an attitude problem, but she has a bunch of problems with her life so that's okay. (that was

sarcasm by the way)

What I saw in this book was this; she falls in love with this guy because he's so hot, but oh no he's a sophomore and she's a seniors, ewww. (that was sarcasm too) So she starts secretly dating him in the process she starts ignoring her friends, is extremely self centered, thinking everyone's problems are about her. So her friends get mad at her, which they should be, and her freshman crush comes back and because she's so in love with her boyfriend she allows him to have a part in her solo.

But she still has a tiny crush on this guy who embarrassed her in front of all her friends. So they practice together and one thing leads to another and they start kissing and stuff, but it wasn't her fault of course. (sarcasm)

So everything after that falls apart because she's so stressed and her friends are being secretive, which of course means they hate her. (sarcasm) But they don't they're having their own problems but self centered Ellie can't see that.

So then she learns that her boyfriend was a trumpet prodigy all along and she gets mad because, oh no he's better at the trumpet then she is.

What I disliked about this book the most was that in the end everything worked out. And she learned nothing, they never brought how she was ignoring her friends, or was being self centered, or really anything she did wrong.

So just like the second book I feel that in the end she learned nothing.

Marissa says

If you're a hardcore band geek, this will be one of the most relatable books you will ever read.

Sophia El Kerdini says

Je garde la couverture quand même! :D

Rad says

Let me tell you a few things about Band. First, my credentials. I played trombone (mediocre-ly) from 4th-12th grade, so I know a thing or two about band. Second, what I know is this: trumpets think they're all that. French horns are small, trendy, and somewhat unique girls. Saxophones are a mixed breed. Clarinets are the studious ones that make the great grades, while flutes are prim and have excellent posture. Percussionists have ADD and get bored pretty easily. And trombones are the backbone of the band. Trombones are the bomb.

THERE WERE NO TROMBONES IN THIS BOOK!

I mean, there were ... they just weren't featured players.

Okay, so my main beef with this is that the book should just be called TRUMPET SECTION LOVE because no other instruments get a spotlight. Hardly. I'm holding out hope for the sequel. Otherwise, I'll have to write my own band-themed book, and that won't be pretty.

Anna Vizzini says

Band Geek Love

By: Josie Bloss

Date Published: 2008

Genre: Teen Drama

Everybody has a different high school experience, ranging from being the all star sports player, or the popular who likes to cause drama. For Ellie Snow, things are a little different from the others. Ellie is a hardcore band geek at Winslow High. Her life practically revolves her trumpet, and her position as the trumpet section leader. Her and her friends, Kristen and Jake, take band very seriously, but the thing about Ellie is that she takes it a little too seriously. She has never been in a relationship, and she is a senior. All she thinks is that a relationship will only cause drama, and that letting herself like someone else will cause her to slip up in band. She has already had a bad experience with Jake's older brother Nathan. When Ellie was a freshman, she had a huge crush on Nathan, who was a senior. A group of girls found out and spread it around school. Soon enough, everyone knew, including Nathan, and they all made fun of her. Ellie then decided to never let herself act on a crush because all that comes from it is drama, until this all changes due to one performance at the school. She spots a new boy, who she immediately has a crush on, and they start dating eventually. This is hard for Ellie because her crush, Connor, is only a sophomore. They secretly date for a long time, and eventually come out as a couple. A lot happens along the way including best friend drama, drama with Nathan, drama with band, and drama with relationships. This is definitely a dramatic story of a teenage girl who is afraid to get involved with others because of her past.

The theme of this book is that keeping secrets can lead to drama and stress, and that if you tell the truth right away, you can possibly save a great relationship. An example from the book is when Ellie hides the fact that her and Connor are dating. If she told people right away, she wouldn't have been so worried that people would unknowingly find out. She also would have a lot less stress in her life. Another example is when Kristen and Jake started dating, and decided to keep it a secret from Ellie by avoiding her. This causes Ellie to feel really left out and have a lot of stress to deal with. Lastly, another example is when Ellie doesn't tell Connor that she kissed Nathan. If she told him right away, she wouldn't have had so much drama because of wondering when to tell him. She also could've prevented a large fight that they had.

This book is a great book for teens who enjoy drama and romance. The book itself involves a lot of that. It is also great for teens who enjoy books about friendship. This book is actually really different from books I usually read. I normally read mystery or scary books, but I decided to take a chance on it, and I realized that it is a great book. It definitely has a lot more romance than most of the books that I read, but it has about the same level of drama, but the drama is different though. In this book, the drama is based around Ellie's relationships with people and band, while in most books I read, the drama usually ties in with the mystery in the story. I now know that I like many different types of books.

An interesting quote from the book is,

"Everything everyone had said to me over the past few days repeated over and over in my brain. All the disappointment and doubt and anger swept over me like a muddy tidal wave. And I felt like my whole life and everything I had hidden was oozing out of my skin, for everyone else to see. For everyone to know about, and point at, and laugh at." This quote was found on page 233, which is in chapter twenty-four. This quote shows Ellie's emotions while she was having a breakdown at band practice. She was dealing with a lot of drama, and while she was playing her duet, she broke down. She stopped playing, and stood there in silence, she then started to cry because she was so overwhelmed. This quote shows the author's writing style

because it shows how well she describes feelings and emotions with great clarity. It also shows how she uses comparison to show similarities like when she compares the way Ellie's emotions swept over her like a tidal wave. This quote shows what the drama in this book is like.

All in all, this book was amazing! It was full of drama, romance, and problems that many teenagers may face. I really enjoyed the author's way of writing. Josie Bloss is very good at describing, and I would love to read another one of her books in the future. I also really loved the topic of teens in high school. I always found the way that people make relationships with others interesting. I also like how sometimes the most unexpected people can fall in love. The theme also means a lot to me because keeping secrets can not only cause you a bunch of unwanted stress and drama, but it can do the same to who you're keeping it from. This book has affected me by making me think more about how my relationships with people can change in a matter of days, depending on what you say or how you act. I liked everything about this book, ranging from the characters to the theme. I liked these aspects because they were all well developed, and played a large part in the story. I would recommend this book to all of my friends! I hope that all teens can get a chance to read it because it applies to all of them in way or another.

Andrea says

My sister gave me this book for my birthday. She probably saw the title and thought "Band Geek Love. Well my sister's in band so she'll love this!" First off, how stereotypical of her to think that I would only like band books and second off, this book wasn't even about band more so it was mainly about the TRUMPETS in band.

This book was unique and I wanted to read it since not many books have a band geek for a main character. When I first started reading the book, it wasn't that bad. It caught my attention and I adored Ellie's witty, tough humor. It didn't really bother me that this was from a senior trumpet player's point of view but I was waiting for the author to mention the the other instruments in the band- preferably the CLARINETS!- or maybe make Ellie's crush a non-trumpet player. I ended up anticipating for nothing because Ellie's crush ended up being yet another trumpet player and-wait for it- a SOPHOMORE! Ew. That's basically what this whole book was about. Trumpets, trumpets, and more trumpets. Even the damn drum major was a trumpet player. Ellie's crush from her freshman year also happened to be a trumpet player. It seemed like the only non-trumpet player in this book was Ellie's perky friend, Kristen, and she played saxophone. And of course her parents but they don't really count.

Besides the whole trumpets-dominating-the-whole-story thing, I also wasn't a fan of Ellie and Connor. I wasn't really bothered by the whole age difference- who am I kidding I totally was! Maybe it wouldn't have bothered me if Connor was more mature and manly for his age. Face it, he was a freaking annoying pussy! It's because of him that I added this book to my annoying-characters shelf. No surprise there. As Ellie started hanging out with Connor more and more, Connor's sensitivity- or as I'd like to say his wimpiness- was started to rub on Ellie. So I think its safe to say that Connor was a bad influence on Ellie since she went from a bitchy disciplined section-leader to a crying boy-crazy bitch. The only reason why I continued reading this book was because I was hoping that Ellie would end up with her drum major friend, Jake. Even the characters in the book asked Ellie what was up with her and Jake and her answer would be "oh, we're just friends". Uh-huh sure, that's what you guys all say but we all know what you're really thinking. <*/spoiler*> Apparently not, because Ellie stays friends with Jake and ends up with the wuss she has for a boyfriend. <*/spoiler*> One thing that I DID like about this book was the authentic sense of humor Jake and Ellie had when they talked to each other. <*/spoiler*> What good was it anyways since they didn't end up together <*/spoiler*>.

Christine says

Oh, gosh. This book cracked me up and disgusted me at the same time.

First of all, it is so accurate. All the marching terms, the trumpet cockiness, etc....Oh, yeah. It was true.

In some ways it was too close to home, what with the age of Connor. Sheesh...Anyway.

Anyway, she was about as annoying as my anal band director...only then she quit caring about band which was just...weird...

I don't know. I can only give it four stars because I liked it, but I didn't like Ellie. So...yeah.

Zoey Kloewer says

"Band Geek Love", by Josie Bloss, is about a senior, Ellie, who is completely devoted to trumpet playing and nothing else. She had been hurt by a boy and the drama that followed in her freshman year and this made her closed off because she didn't trust anyone. During the first marching band performance of the school year, she gets distracted by a boy in the audience and she messes up her solo. The rest of the book is about how she tries to juggle trumpet playing and her new social life which involves the boy from the audience and 2 of her friends.

I absolutely loved this book because I could relate to it so much. I am also obsessed with band so I understood a lot of her struggles with leaving time for other things. I would give this book 5 stars because there was never really a break in the plot and it was a perfect fit for me. There was some parts that made me mad because I thought that Ellie should have done something different but that just shows how into the book I was. I would recommend this book for anyone who loves, or even just likes band because it talks more about band as a whole than just trumpet playing. If you are looking for action, this is the wrong choice but the continuous drama in this book is what makes it so interesting.

Amber says

So, I only kept reading this book for the marching band throw-back. This is the only teen book I've ever read where marching band was a key part, and really only the second I've read where band was mentioned at all (while there are just hundreds of sports/cheerleading/dance/theater books out there).

It was HILARIOUS to me how spot-on some of the marching band things were. At the very end the drum major yells "Mark Time Mark" and my heart had a little flutter of pre-competition jitters and excitement.

Also, this book was published the year I graduated high school, so some of the other pop-culture references were also SPOT ON. The U2 obsession, the low-rise jeans, the phrase "hooking up" to just mean dating...

Also, the little friendship trio/love-triangle drama hit a little too close to home.

Parts of this book really were like reading the story of my own high school years.

But, really, if it didn't have the nostalgia element I wouldn't have read past chapter 1. Not great writing, not great character development, not great conclusion of issues at the end. Too love-triangle-y. But, like I said,

HILARIOUS if you were in marching band in 2008.

Stephanie A. says

[(I just made out with another guy. But HOW DARE YOU NOT HAVE TOLD ME WHY YOU WERE ALLOWED INTO BAND LATE. BETRAYAL!!) (hide spoiler)]

Tara says

Alright. Time to list my problems with this book. I've never really written an angry review, but this truly deserves less than one star. I hope no one takes offense to this, for I'm just stating my opinions.

First: Most band geeks are nothing like Ellie Snow. Don't let her terrible attitude and judgment discourage you from making friends with high school musicians and please, please don't stereotype trumpet players based on her behaviors. We aren't all stuck up and rude. However, constantly being represented in this light has really earned us a bad reputation.

Second: The constant whining, complaining, and messing up her section would definitely not fly in most bands. If this book were even the slightest bit practical, Ellie would have been removed from her placement as section leader.

Third: It's okay for seniors to date underclassmen. I don't understand why this was dramatized so much. If you are around the same maturity level, it's fine. Really. This would be different if Conner and Ellie, were say, 6 years apart. However, they are what? Two?

Fourth: Ellie doesn't deserve Conner. At. All. He could have done so, so much better.

Fifth: Ellie's friends are way too loyal to her. She acts like a toxic friend to them all the time yet they still come back.

Sixth: If someone hurt you in freshman year and you're still upset and disgruntled by it as a senior, you should see a therapist. There's nothing wrong with that, everyone needs help sometimes. I just wish Ellie could have realized she was behaving very immaturely at some point in the book or sought out help.

Seventh: Having a boy laugh at you after asking him on a date, although very rude, does not make you a victim.

Although I had multiple problems with this book, I did like the added variety of a marching band story in YA literature. I just wish it could have been better.

Jordan says

This book could have been such a great love letter to band geeks and instead featured a protagonist who made me want to throw the book at the wall.

Ellie's inability to think about anyone but herself made the book a difficult read. While there were moments that the nostalgia of being in band was accurately played up, I couldn't get past her self-centered, whiny voice.

Then again... she is a trumpet player.
