



Love Notes For Freddie

Eva Rice

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Marnie FitzPatrick is a reclusive sixth-former from Hertfordshire with a dysfunctional family, a penchant for Pythagoras' Theorem and an addiction to doughnuts and gin. Julie Crewe is a disillusioned maths teacher who lives vicariously through the girls she teaches, yet who once danced barefoot through Central Park with a man called Jo she has never been able to forget.

This is the story of what happened in the summer of 1967, when the sun burned down on the roof of the Shredded Wheat factory, and a boy called Freddie Friday danced to the records he had stolen. This is about first love, and last love, and all the strange stuff in between. This is what happens when three people are bound together by something that can't be calculated or explained by any equation.

This is what happened when they saw the open door.

Love Notes For Freddie Details

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Author : Eva Rice

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From Reader Review Love Notes For Freddie for online ebook

Ptiteaurel says

Un roman très intéressant avec des personnages aux destins inoubliables

Chronique à venir demain

Sara says

While I enjoy the authors style of writing immensely, sadly I found myself wanting the book to be finished 3/4 through. It could just be my current frame of mind and at another time I would have been consumed by the book but sadly, not at this time. The book just never took off for me, there was no mystery or suspense.

Linda Hill says

What a triumph of a book. I really enjoyed Eva Rice's *The Lost Art of Keeping Secrets*, my review of which can be found here, but *Love Notes for Freddie* is in a different league altogether. It is more sophisticated, more intense and frequently beautiful in style.

Initially I wasn't sure if I was going to enjoy the book that starts in a girls' boarding school as it felt a rather alien world to me, but within a few pages I was completely hooked. The power of emotion conveyed by Julie Crewe's memories of a lost love and Marnie's sense of guilt and her passion for Freddy dances off the page in the way Freddy dances for real. There is apparent surface control but also an underlying abandonment that makes the reader understand exactly how the characters are feeling. As several truths are revealed the reader experiences the same sense of loss, shock, love or grief that the characters express. This is wonderful craftsmanship from Eva Rice.

In a sense, *Love Notes for Freddie* is all about passion and making the most of life, even when it throws the most unexpected elements at us. However, the plot is constructed so intelligently that the themes arise naturally and convincingly. I loved the concept that coming of age is not just the prerogative of the young. I thought the structure of the narrative was perfectly balanced but that the characters' worlds could come crashing down at any moment – rather like life itself. Indeed, those characters felt real and human, even in their most stereotypical presentation like Howard with his theatrical persona. Whilst there are echoes of Marnie in Miss Crewe and vice versa, they have distinct voices in their first person stories so that each has her own personality.

But for me, the aspect I enjoyed most was the quality of the writing. There's a poetic nature to some passages and a staccato feel to others which mirrors the emotions presented at the time in a sophisticated style that I found very effective. I thoroughly enjoyed *Love Notes for Freddie*, and those who know me well will realise that a reference to Bryan Ferry, even in passing, always pleases!

Irena says

Years ago, I came across a book called *The Lost Art of Keeping Secrets*.

I still remember how much I loved the writing style and the way Eva Rice described the setting, making me feel like I was there, with two girls she created in that cold but wonderful house where one of them lived. I remember how they liked music, Elvis Presley and fashion, and how one of them made herself a green coat from an old blanket.

The Lost Art of Keeping Secrets in one of my all-time-favorite books today and I truly believe that that book will stay with me forever.

When I found out **Eva Rice** had a new book I was so excited. I had no idea what to expect from the story, but I had a feeling I would like it.

I mean, how could I not? **It was created from the same mind that brang one of the best stories I had a pleasure to read in my life.**

Love Notes to Freddie takes place during summer 1967. It follows **Marnie FitzPatrick** – a teenager who got expelled from her private school, **Julie Crewe** – Marnie's (ex) Mathematics teacher and **Freddie Friday** – a boy who loves to dance and dreams of being a professional dancer.

Yet again, Rice's **writing style was amazing**. There are no other words that can describe it better.

I wasn't sure whether her style will have the similar impact on me as the one in her first book had, because I read that one in croatian translation, but I didn't have to worry.

Even though this time around I read one of her books in a different language, the writing style was recognizable.

And in all honesty, **even though I liked the story in a whole, the writing style is absolutely the best part of this novel.**

Some people might not find it as their cup of tea and some might say that it's a bit slow, but it is the style that suits me the best.

Marnie, Julie and Freddie were loveable **characters**. They were and they weren't unique at the same time, but **the way Eva Rice presented them made me fall in love with them** even though I couldn't even say why did I care about those people so much. I couldn't help but root for Freddie to make his dream come true, I felt heartbroken over Marnie and wanted to be there for her when she was lost, and I had to feel sad for Julie and her broken dreams.

This is the story of love in different shapes. It talks about love of a girl for a boy, because she is interested in him. It talks about love a woman can have for a boy because, in him, she sees a dreamer she once was. It talks about love for dance, about the passion someone has and a dream that keeps that person going.

It talks about parent's love. It talks about friend's love, brother's love. **It shows us how many forms love can have.**

Even if forbidden, a love can still be strong.

Maybe that is the reason why this novel is so beautiful. You can feel the love coming from it's pages, and you can't help but love it.

It also covers some serious topics, showing us how much big of a consequence one secret can have and how far guiltiness of a person can go.

The story is **written in first person**, following Marnie's and Julie's POV.

This is an **adult novel, but I think younger audience would enjoy it just as much.**

After all, it follows a perspective of a teenager and a perspective of a woman who most of the time is reminiscing about the days when she was young.

If you're a reader of ya genre and would like to try adult general fiction, this book is a great choice to

start with.

Love Notes for Freddie is also a good choice if you're looking for diversity in books.

Note: I got this book for free via Netgalley in an exchange for an honest review. Thank you Quercus Books.

Read this and more reviews on my blog: <http://bookdustmagic.wordpress.com>

Bev Taylor says

every ending is a new beginning

follow the lives of miss crewe and marnie. the former is a maths teacher at an all girls school and marnie was one of her pupils - until she was expelled

miss crewe is an ex dancer and marnie happens upon a young boy who she yearns for, even though he is in a much lower class than her and finds he loves to dance. she sees a possibility of enhancing this by inviting miss crewe to watch him and teach him further

told in alternating chapters between these two it follows the tale of first loves and secret passions

you will notice how events in each one's lives, both past and present, have a habit of reflecting on one another along with comments made

wonderful characterization and an excellent method writing by this author

4.5 stars

bev

Pamela says

I received a free copy of this book through Goodreads First Reads.

Set in Welwyn Garden City in 1969, this is a stylish and compelling coming of age story about love and dance. The story focuses on the interactions between sixth former Marnie, her Maths teacher and ex-dancer Julie, and the enigmatic Freddie Friday, a talented but tortured dancer who becomes the focus of Marnie's passion.

The narrative switches between Marnie and Julie, a device that allows us to get close to both characters, and to see Freddie through their different perspectives. Marnie is a character you warm to, she has vulnerability but also strength. Julie was initially less likeable - not having the excuse of youth, she came across as self-obsessed and over emotional - but she develops well during the course of the novel to become a more rounded character. There are some lively and interesting secondary characters, especially Marnie's irrepressible twin brother Caspar.

The themes of growing up, understanding who you really are, and taking the opportunities that life offers, are

subtly and carefully played out against the background of music and dance. There is great intensity in Rice's descriptions of dancing and music, that makes the scenes come alive.

Intense but also very charming, easy to read and yet often thought provoking, this is a captivating novel that will appeal to those who enjoy a sophisticated love story, with a background of 1960s music and dance.

JenniferB says

ok, very good in parts about relationships and emotions, but in other parts reads like a young adults novel because main characters are very young.

sue says

Now and again we could all do with a romance.

I chose to freshen my usual pallet genres by reading this.

A well written book full of love, emotions, turmoils and very poignant in ripping open your feelings.

Beautiful read

Thank you Quercus Books via Net Galley

Sophie says

Netgalley Copy in exchange for an honest review.

I loved this book. The story is gripping, highly entertaining, I loved the dual point of view from two different women, of different age too. I loved the setting, the story telling... Great, great book.

Renita D'Silva says

Beautiful, sad, poignant, heartwarming. Loved this book.

Jenn Estepp says

3 1/2. I didn't love it nearly as much as *The Lost Art of Keeping Secrets*, but it was still a fast, enjoyable read. I quite liked the characters and I so enjoy the way that Rice weaves real bits and characters from the era into her stories.

Jo Bullen says

Hmmm. I feel this lacked the spark, spirit and sublime loveliness of *The Lost Art of Keeping Secrets* and *The Misinterpretation of Tara Jupp*. There was something kind of off about; especially the epilogue: far too twee.

Jo Barton says

Love Notes for Freddie starts off in the cloistered atmosphere of an all-girls boarding school and tells of an unlikely encounter between studious, Marnie Fitzpatrick and the more wayward, Rachel Porter. The two girls couldn't be more different and so when something happens which causes both girls to be expelled from St Libbys, there is no-one more shocked than Marnie's maths teacher, Julie Crewe, who had expected Marnie to go on to a brilliant career in mathematics.

Suddenly, Marnie feels that her life is ruined, that is, until she meets and becomes romantically obsessed with the quirkily named, Freddie Friday, a young man who has the potential to rise above his humble upbringing to become a dancer.

The story is told in two distinct voices, that of Marnie and her obsession with Freddie, and also that of Miss Crewe, who we learn once had a dream to be a dancer, and through their insightful narratives, a story emerges of the sadness caused by lost dreams and the pain of first love.

Love Notes for Freddie is a lovely coming of age story which emphasises the idea that we should never give up on our dreams. The author writes well and gives such an authentic voice to the characters that they literally leap off the pages. I enjoyed getting to know Marnie, Freddie and Julie and watched with interest as their stories started to merge in such a tender and realistic way.

Overall, what comes across in *Love Notes for Freddie* is the idea that love can break down barriers and that everyone should be allowed to have a second chance and that with perseverance and hard work, dreams are there for the taking.

Fiona says

I have read both *The Lost Art of Keeping Secrets* and *The Misinterpretation of Tara Jupp* and absolutely fell in love with Eva Rice's writing style. Her books are engaging, eccentric, fantastically vintage and spilling with original characters.

As expected, I adored *Love Notes For Freddie*. It was an engrossing, rich and heart-warming story about new

love, the ghost of love, new dreams, and shattered dreams.

The chapters alternated between Marnie's and Miss Crewe's point of views. I loved the parallels between the two characters, and the fact that they both loved Freddie, but for different reasons, added an intriguing dynamic to the story. I was glad that we didn't get to read Freddie's point of view, as I feel he was essential only as a catalyst for Marnie's and Miss Crewe's personal development. Miss Crewe's fascination with him particularly was magically progressive for the story, as you got to see into her past and how it shaped her into the person she is now.

Eva Rice has a unique narrative style that is gloriously detailed and almost filmic in its vivid description of emotions, people and places. She has the ability to write about a particular era with originality and authenticity, and she makes every moment of her novels feel entirely real. You fall head over heels in love with the characters she creates and are immediately drawn into the world that they live in.

I loved Marnie just as much as Tara and Penelope, but for different reasons. The author writes with an empathy that enables you to understand the character's feelings and actions, and fill their shoes entirely, even if you do not agree with their decisions. I love how real the story felt. There are too many novels that end with ridiculously predictable endings, and happy endings for the sake of a happy ending, even if the story has to forsake its natural direction.

Eva Rice is not scared to write a story that does not end exactly the way the reader would like it to. Her stories are unpredictable, and this is an amazing thing. She writes books that you wish you could have written yourself. Love Notes For Freddie, I believe, teaches you to make the most of the present, and to not dwell on the past. The ending was important as it let you know that love, however heart-breaking and life-changing it might feel at the time, can end, and you can live past it; that sometimes, you have to let things go, in order for them to blossom.

I absolutely adored this book, just as much as the previous two novels, if not more. Love Notes For Freddie is fantastically vivid, heart-warming, rich and truthful. I loved every second of it, and the only thing I hated about it was that it ended. I can't wait to see what Eva Rice will write next, because I know it will surpass all my expectations and be just as loveable and brilliantly written as this novel is.

Review also posted at <https://fionareads.wordpress.com/2015...>

Heidi says

I wouldn't recommend the audible version of this book - the narrators were miscast, especially Miss Crew who sounded way too old for a 41 year old, and neither made me care about the characters they portrayed. I imagine this might make a better read (rather than audio)
