



Curve

Nicola Hudson

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** A debut novel from a British writer**

A New Adult novel suitable for readers aged 15+, due to strong language, sensitive themes and sexual content.

Cass is seventeen and never been kissed, let alone touched, when two boys become interested in her. Flynn is the older brother of her best friend, yet Cass has never considered him as anything other than that. Rob is the school sports star and becomes obsessed with Cass when he loses a bet because of her. As the relationship between Cass and Flynn develops, Rob's interest becomes increasingly malevolent. One night changes Cass's life and threatens to destroy her relationship with Flynn, as well as her future.

Curve Details

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From Reader Review Curve for online ebook

Alessandra says

I just read the book and I could not fail to mention how much I enjoyed the respectful and inspiring way to deal with such a sensitive subject that we women of all ages and social classes around the world spend at some point in life. A beautiful and inspiring story with the right amount of romance

Karenj says

Sweet young adult romance

I loved this debut novel from Nicola Hudson. I related to the characters ... the close friendship between Cass and Neve, two girls who didn't quite fit into the 'in' crowd. Coming of age brings its problems and we see the potential pitfalls when Cass can't quite believe her luck that the high school heartthrob is flirting with her at their Christmas dance, but all is not as it seems. Enter Flynn, Neve's older brother, to act as Cass's protector when he finds out that Rob's interest is all for a bet! Whoa...I think I felt quite quickly that Flynn felt more for Cass. Its what high school dreams are made of and a story I could put myself into right there and then. We see a sweet and unsure girl grow in confidence at the attention she receives and I loved Flynn for his sensitivity and care shown to Cass's feelings and also the way he interacts with others around him.. I love the way the author even brings in his interaction with Cass's young sister. Their relationship is set back by something that happens to Cass (but you'll need to read to find out what as no spoiler) but Flynn persists but shows a maturity towards Cass's feelings which made me fall even more in love with him. Will Cass let him back in.. well you'll just have to download and find out !! Other parts I loved were the way the relationship between Cass and her mum was told... gosh this could so be me and my daughter, the distance but then development between Cass and her stepdad and the start of the relationship between Neve and Jake.. cant wait to read their story !!

books are love says

this is a poignantly written book that covers so many real emotions young woman Cass's age go through. Her insecurities about boys, her body, herself, her feelings are all things all woman go through and Nicola Hudson writes them in such a real way that we all can relate to. With each pain Cass has you feel them for Ms. Hudson has you right in the moment.

Cass is so sweet and kind. As she starts to get comfortable and confident, thanks to the most amazing Flynn, her world is put in a tailspin and she begins to push Flynn and others away. Unfortunately Flynn gets the brunt of her pushing and that is so sad. You cry for Flynn yes You will cry for the young man. Cass is blindsided by her emotions and anger and although understandable at one point you want to tell her to wake up and smell the coffee girl. Begin to own your feelings and deal with all that is going on.

Flynn is so amazing and precious. He is kind and sweet and beautiful inside and out. His love for Cass is so beautiful you will laugh and cry with him. He shows that looks are not what matters when it comes to affairs of the heart for he looks beyond this with Cass. Her beauty to him is on the inside and has loved her in secret for so long before acting on it. When he does he is patient and kind and so honest with his feelings. Overwhelming Cass at first but she grows into this love and thrives in it. When Cass's life goes into a tailspin

so does Flynn's for Cass begins to hurt him. Not meaning to but she does.

A story that deals with how insecure we are and how love can make us grow. How when we care we are patient and show our love by giving support from a distance. A beautiful story that will pluck at your heart.

I ♥ Bookie Nookie (bookienookiereviews.blogspot.com) says

“Rob was with you for a bet.”

I can't imagine anything more crushing to a seventeen-year-old girl than to hear those words.

Rob is the school's super-stud and has girls fawning all over him left and right and I can only imagine Cass' delight to discover that he actually wants to go on a date with her! SQUEEEEEEE!!!! Yeah, sounds awesome, until his “real” persona breaches the surface and she realizes that Rob is actually a super-sleaze bucket. Never fear! Because Cass has an awesome support system to help her pick up the pieces and thank goodness for Flynn – she has always seen him as an older brother type, but to my delight, a sweet romance begins to bud between the pair.

After the horror and humiliation of scoring a date with the handsome Rob only because of a bet, Cass returns to her normal routine, but Rob isn't having it, he is determined to finish what he started. What began as a joke turns into an obsession and the target is Cass. Although Rob's attention seems a little “off,” she thinks he is harmless, never thinking that the devil lurks beneath the surface that handsome exterior... until the unthinkable happens. Cass' life is forever changed and she retreats from everything and everyone that previously brought her joy. Once again, Flynn is her strength and works tirelessly to help her return to feeling confident and safe.

Although Cass' vicious sexual assault is ever present in CURVE, it isn't necessarily the focal point of the story. Curve is about innocence lost, healing and finding love in the most unlikely of places. Author Nicola Hudson does a fantastic job at “showing” rather than “telling” and I think showing is so much more powerful, and lends a hand to creating multi-dimensional characters, than telling. The relationship that transpires between the very innocent and “never been kissed” Cass and the college-aged Flynn was sweet and refreshing and sometimes pretty hot!

“Every millimetre of me craves his touch. As the fingertips on one hand follow the lace edging of my bra, causing goosebumps to follow in their wake, his other hand slowly strokes downwards. Past the indent of my belly button, past the curve of my tummy, under the elastic of my knickers. My left hand is enmeshed in his dark hair, my nails grazing his scalp, as he kisses the line of my neck, branding me with the heat of his mouth. My whole body is on fire and I can feel a release just out of reach when his mouth stops and leaves my neck naked.”

CURVE is labeled on many shelves as a “young- adult” novel, but I would say 18+ due to sexual content and adult themes. Any way you slice it, CURVE is a winner in my book and I enjoyed every minute of it. Lovers of New-Adult romance and drama will likely love it too – you can bet I will be checking out more of what this author has to offer!

** Copy provided by the author/publisher for an honest review.

** Reviewed on I ♥ Bookie Nookie Reviews

If you like this type of book, you might enjoy one of these groups. Check us out!

Menage Readers

Erotic Enchants

Bookie Nookie's Erotic Lending Group

Jacqueline says

3.5 stars

This was such a fab surprise. Set in the UK, I was completely engrossed in this story of 17-year-old Cass's coming of age. He's her bff's older brother - Flynn - and he's sweet, protective and just a really good guy who rescues her from a horribly humiliating experience at the sixth form disco. I got all of the feels from watching them get together.

After all of that feel-good loveliness, I was a little shocked when this took a turn into gritty, dark reality when something terrible happens to Cass. I really felt for Cass, but I didn't quite get why she reacted as she did with Flynn and because of that, I did feel a bit like I was waiting for her to come around in the second half of the book. I guess I enjoyed the first half of the story so much, I just wanted more of that.

Standalone, complete story. Recommended if you're in the mood for a na story.

Laurynne Gouws says

First of all - before I begin this review I wanted to point out the stunning cover to you. Isn't it just divine? I'm so proud of Arijana - she constantly amazes me with her cover designs and with that said, I'm also just going to take moment to remind every author that it doesn't matter whats inside your cover pages... if you cover isn't screaming for me to pick it up... then I'm probably never going to read your book. It's important to put in as much effort and attention into your cover design as you did while writing your book. So if you even think that your cover is a little 'not pretty' chances are it isn't. So... do something about it.

Anyway, I just wanted to let you know that I think the cover is gorgeous and funny enough, when Nicola Hudson emailed me about doing a tour - her cover was what made me go 'yes please'. I couldn't wait to work on her cover for the tour graphics and I loved, loved doing it. So yay to Nicola for getting Ari to give her such a stunning cover that made me look not only once, but three times. For a first time author... great step in the right direction!

Now back to what's actually between the covers of Curve. I can tell you that what I read was not what I was expecting. For whatever reason, I was expecting...I don't know... a different kind of book. The fact that Curve is rather an emotional read took me by surprise. I wasn't expecting that at all. I was going into it thinking it was going to be light, warm and romance all around. But what I got was... romance yes, I found myself smiling - not laughing - but smiling at the interactions between the characters especially Cass and Flynn. As their relationship developed and time went by I had cozied up to them so much that I was devastated when things made a turn for the worse.

Basically, Curve is about a girl called Cass. She's 17 going on 18 when the book starts. She's in what I would imagine is her final year of high school since I think British schools work similar to our South African ones. When we are 18, we are in our final year of high school or grade 12 as it's officially known. Cass is someone who isn't the kind of girl who gets up to too much trouble. She's quiet, calm and just plain-ish (according to her). Her life is rather dull. Her stepfather isn't her biggest fan but it's ok. She happy to just go through the days. Until one night at a school social or dance one of the popular boys ask her to dance with him. At first shes confused. Not sure what to make of it since it's never happened to her before. But she's excited as well. So off she goes and they dance a little. Then... Cass's best friend Neve's brother, Flynn, who's come to collect them arrives and cuts into the dance between Cass and Rob (I believe) and insists Cass dance with him. Unbeknownst to Cass this is where it all starts. She suddenly finds herself in a spiral of emotions - what's up with Flynn? - Should she go back to Rob and leave Flynn behind? - She's unsure of what to do because she's never found herself in a situation where a boy pays her any notice, much less where two boys are vying for her attention.

Long story short - Turns out there's more to Flynn's actions than Cass first thought. And that's the basis of the actual book. It's written in first person and I would even go as far as to say it felt like a daily diary of sorts. It doesn't have 'chapters', it has 'days'.

The relationship between Flynn and Cass is unique. Flynn's a really good guy. It's was a nice break from the usual dominant males we read about often. But it also threw me off. I was convinced that he was going to turn. I don't know why - maybe if I had read a little from Flynn's POV, I may have gotten a different image of him, but the one I got I kept waiting for a change... but it didn't so I'm all good now.

I'll admit that there was a point in the book where I was wondering if something was going to happen. Each day we moved through the motions of Cass and Flynn's relationship, the growing of feelings, the clamping down of desires ect... that I did reach the point where I went ??????..... then, it came. And it gutted me. I'm not even such a softy but really it made me emotional. I think that the reason for this (& if you've read Curve you will know, if you haven't don't worry, I wont spoil it) - but the reason for my emotional turmoil was that while something horrible happened, there was another sad turn of event's happening in the background. So really I think it was just to much stress for me :)

Although this book was nothing alike, I kept thinking that Curve's style of writing, the character interaction and the laid back but effective way in which Nicola Hudson made me feel as I read Curve, reminded me of the time when I read Flat Out Love. It has a very similar reading feel to it. But like I said, not at all the same kind of plot or tale. Completely different yet similar in my reaction.

I remember when I read Flat Out Love I was lying around reading and wondering what? when? and where was something going to happen? Then as you'll know if you've read it... it was drastic... the same with Curve. I had a lazy mood as I lay around reading and then... I sat up, wiped my eyes and became invested from that point onwards right until the end.

As a debut novel for author Nicola Hudson, I can't fault this book at all. She's on the perfect path to becoming a well respected author. So far she's done it all right. Her writing style is so smooth, I have no doubt that while writing, her focus was solely on Curve. I noticed that immediately. She didn't falter in the standard and pace she set out with. It remind consistent and detailed right until the last page. I'll also admit

that it took me a while to get into the British swing of things since I'm so used to reading American. I remember struggling in the same manner at first when I read the This Man series, but it didn't take long to fall into step so I kept up.

I thoroughly enjoyed Curve. With the exception of the major twist I spoke about earlier, this book was actually kind of beautiful. It was deep, Cass is kind of a deep soul. I know it's hard to sometimes read a book and feel as if you are so connected to a character you feel and experience every single one of their emotions, but when you are done with the book you can smile and say out loud "That was a beautiful book"... I did that. I told my boy exactly those words when I was done reading Curve. I had a goofy smile of my face and he glanced up from his Ipad and looked at me funny but who cares..

So with a smile still on my face I'm writing this review of Curve and I'm so happy to have been able to get to read it. It would be a sin for this book to get lost amongst the mass of new releases out now. Curve needs to shine through because it deserves it. So if you are looking for a Sunday afternoon read that will make you grin and glued to your screen... then I'd suggest Curve my Nicola Hudson.

Thank You Nicola Hudson for getting in touch with me and allowing me to experience your words. It was... just so beautiful, a real feel good book - I'm getting emotional just thinking about it :)

L.A. Cotton says

This was such a sweet read... I wasn't sure what to expect when I started this book (I have only read a couple of books set in my home country) but it was a pleasant surprise...

It's full of teenage angst, those feelings of first love, lust, and desperation.

Flynn is like every seventeen year old girls' dream... he's protective, sweet, romantic, and of course, gorgeous. But after something awful happens to Cass she's not sure she can let him in again.

I read this really quickly... I had to know how things ended for Cass and Flynn. And I LOVED Flynn's texts and emails to Cass - really made the story for me!

Can't wait for book two!

Christine says

I barely finished it. The relationship(s) felt awkward.

I see all the 4-5 Star reviews, but I don't get it.

This may work for you. I am not telling you not to read it. I wanted to like it, but it did not work for me.

For the Love of Books says

I have to say that I read this entire book in an English accent.... and was surprised by how much I didn't have to google for definitions of English slang. This book was sweet, sexy, and heartbreaking. You typically think a book with a girl in high school it will lack in the schmexyness, until you read this book. It defies the typical genre of YA and dabbles in sexual situations that are not often spoke about and unwavering and unconditional teenage love. This is most brilliantly written novel that younger girls can read as well as us older folk. ~~Cathy

Holly Sutton says

Very lucky to receive an ARC - a brilliant read which took me straight back to my youth; discovering love and everything that goes along with it. Amazing writing, intriguing characters - there is nothing predictable about Curve and I cannot wait to read the sequel. Love love loved (!) the references to so many familiar places in England :-)

Tracey (Life and Literature) says

curve

noun [kʌrv]

- 1. A line or surface that deviates from straightness without angles.*
- 2. A rounded line or contour of the human body.*
- 3. A bend in a road or other path.*
- 4. Slang Something that is unexpected or designed to trick or deceive.*

Seventeen year old Cass can't believe her luck when the gorgeous Rob shows interest in her at the school dance. She is so happy and excited to be dancing in the arms of such a popular boy. But then her best friends brother Flynn cuts in and whisks Cass away. Cass is angry and confused. No boy has ever shown interest in her before. Why is Flynn acting this way? But much to Cass's dismay, Flynn's reasons are very honourable. And around this time Cass starts to see Flynn in a completely new way. He is no longer just her best friends brother.

I couldn't stop thinking about the way he felt, tasted even, the night before. Yes, he made me laugh, and yes, he was thoughtful, but for me he was so much more than that. I wanted to touch him everywhere. I wanted to be a part of him. I wanted him.

For the first portion of the book the focus is mainly on the development of the relationship between Flynn and Cass. A new relationship is exciting and filled with moments of getting to know each other better, the make out sessions, dates and deciding if and when to take things to the next level. I enjoyed taking that journey with them. Things were going along smoothly for them. And then BAM!! There is a big change in the tone of the story. While there was a big chunk that dealt with the relationship of Flynn and Cass, they were dealing with much bigger issues then either of them could have ever expected. And it was through this period that my love for Flynn really grew. The type of man he was became so apparent. He was loyal, loving understanding, patient and caring. His love for Cass was so clear.

The last few years of my life can be measured in moments spent with you. Yet you were completely unaware. Oblivious.

I really loved the way the issues that Cass was dealing with were handled. Her pain and the effect of everything on those closest to her could really be felt. Whilst this book is New Adult and deals with some really heavy issues, for the most part those scenes aren't overly descriptive. You most certainly know what is occurring and the author did a fantastic job of setting the scenes without being overly wordy. I think it was the absolute perfect way to portray things.

The only real downside I could find with the story was that I personally found an overuse of the characters names in some scenes which I didn't think was really needed. Although it didn't really detract from my enjoyment of the story, but did stand out to me at times.

Overall, Curve is an emotional story that has your heart really feeling for Cass and Flynn. A beautiful story of love, trust and strength. I'm looking forward to seeing what happens next for Cass and Flynn.

4/5 Wonderful Flynn Stars.

Sarah says

Disclosure: I received a free copy of this book from the author in exchange for an honest review.

Full review posted here on TotalTeenFiction

Curve tells the story of seventeen year old Cass who does the unthinkable and falls for her best friend's brother. With working in her stepdad's shop, applying for university and dealing with incidents of bullying, can she and Flynn ever be happy?

There was a lot to like about Curve, so I'm going to start out with the positives. This is one of the few British NA books I've read and that was wonderful and refreshing. I think it made a lot of what Cass goes through even more recognisable. I loved seeing her juggle her life at sixth form with a job in her family's shop, because I think that work/college battle is something a lot of people are struggling with right now. I think the author has managed to sum up that time of life perfectly, and that a lot of people will be able to relate to it.

I really enjoyed the friendship between Cass and her best friend Neve. It was just so nice to see two girls getting on so well and not being bitchy and horrible too each other. They were so natural around each other I loved that they always had each other's backs. I think everyone wants a friendship like theirs!

The central relationship between Cass and Flynn is one I did enjoy. It took me a while to decide whether or not I liked them together, as Flynn is quite protective of Cass. I think you can take it one of two ways, and I chose to take it that he was genuinely caring about her and was sort of her knight in shining armour.

The book deals with some very dark issues which I mention in this review in case they are trigger warnings for anyone planning to read the book. There is a scene of sexual assault which is then followed through with a police investigation. I found the whole thing to be handled extremely well and I think it was really encouraging to see a character seeking out help and talking about her ordeal.

I did have a few niggles with Curve. The dialogue was a bit of a struggle for me because one of my biggest pet peeves whilst reading is clunky dialogue. Unfortunately this book falls into the trap of characters using each other's names far too frequently, which is something that just doesn't happen in every day speech. In this case it was done almost every sentence so it just jumped out for me.

I also had a dilemma when it came to Cass's guilt when things are going wrong with Flynn. She takes responsibility for things I don't think are really her fault, and sometimes the fact she feels she has to apologise for things made me uncomfortable. I say this is a dilemma because while this is an attitude I don't like to see promoted in relationships, I know it is very realistic for girls to feel like this, so in that sense the book is being true to life. I think you have to really get inside the head of Cass as a naïve and inexperienced teenager to see things from her point of view to understand those feelings she has.

I think there's real potential in this book and that it will really appeal to NA fans looking for something a little bit different. I applaud the author for taking on the subject of sexual assault and doing it so well, and also for capturing that time of life where university is looming in the distance and suddenly your whole life is about to change so well. Cass goes on a real journey and I did enjoy taking it with her.

Find more books like this at [TotalTeenFiction!](#)

Shamika says

Curve is a cute novel which brought me right back to my high school years. It brings out all of those high school feelings and insecurities. Cass is a relatable seventeen year old who falls for her best friend's brother, Flynn. Cass has never had a boyfriend or even had a boy interested in her at all. She's insecure, doesn't feel pretty and just leads an boring life. Neve and Cass are best friends and do all the things typical teen girls do.

Cass is involved in a prank (unknown to her) that is to be played out at a school dance involving Rob who is a jock at the school. This prank will humiliate her in front of the entire school. Flynn is aware of the prank and saves Cass before it gets out of hand. Over the next few days Cass and Flynn become close and develop feelings for each other. It was really cute or let's say refreshing to see these two become a couple. Young love is always such an experience. As Flynn shows her his feelings, Cass develops more confidence. Again this is all new to her. I simply adored Flynn. He is such a respectful young man. He always thought about Cass' feelings and was just a true gentleman. There is such an innocence to their relationship which you don't see often.

However, Rob is not completely done with Cass and intends on carrying out the prank. A horrible event occurs involving Rob and it almost destroys Cass. She's hurt, sad and depressed. She has also lost the confidence that she has gained. And for some reason Cass blames Flynn for the events which have happened. I didn't quite understand why she blamed Flynn and pushed him away, but I was still sympathetic toward Cass and felt her pain. Flynn on the other hand is so patient with Cass, but is also hurting that she pushes him away.

I really enjoyed Curve. As I was reading the story just felt effortless. Although I've been out of high school for quite some time now, I related to Cass on many levels and I think others including teens her age may as well. Nicola Hudson did a very good job writing a relatable story with a mature and dark topic. It's emotional at times, but also such a cute love story between Cass and Flynn that represents their age. In the end it made me smile.

Louise Mackin says

Wow!! What a fantastic book.

I received a recommendation to read this book & I certainly wasn't disappointed.

This book deals with some very complex topics and lots of emotion & I feel that the author really conveys the emotions really well in the book.

I really liked Cass (the main character) and was very keen to keep reading to find out what happened next. I have got Nicola's other book, Heart, lined up to read next & I am very much looking forward to it.

Vanessa says

I love British writing...good story, looking forward to more from Nicola Hudson. Full review to post on 11/1 with my tour date!

****FULL REVIEW****

“Rob was with you for a bet.”

“The rugby team all put ten pounds each into a pot which would go to the person with the best photo of a girl’s, umm, breasts by the end of the night. Rob said that he was onto a winner if he could get a photo of yours as, unlike most of the other girls ending up with the team tonight, yours haven’t been seen by anyone else.”

Sigh Got to love high school. Boys are perverted and girls are sluts...except Cass. She’s uncharted territory and if Rob (or any of the other jocks) has anything to do with it, it won’t be long before she too, has been fully exposed. Thankfully, Cass has a fabulous best friend (Neve) and her brother (Flynn) to keep her safe the night of the dance (and the bet). What Cass hadn’t counted on were the feelings that developed shortly after her “rescue” between her and Flynn. He’s always just been a big-brother type...could he be her type now?

Having a low confidence in herself hinders thoughts that Flynn (who is older & gorgeous) would actually be interested in Cass as more than just his kid sister’s friend. It’s going to take time, and a little persuasion from Flynn to convince Cass that she is the beautiful girl that he sees, and has seen every day since she was a young girl.

“What do you want me to say, Flynn? That I’m so turned on right now I am struggling to even string a sentence together? That, even though we probably would regret it, I don’t want to stop? That there is no way I’m going to be able to sleep in your bed tonight without replaying every second of that? I’ve never so much as kissed a boy before and you have got me ready to give you everything so quickly – it’s scary how much I want you. So sorry if it’s not the response you were after. I’m don’t the best that I can.”

Whoa! Way to lay it all out there. The relationship between Cass and Flynn is cute and classic. I enjoyed getting to know them and the honesty that they shared. I also love his natural instinct to protect her, the fact that he remembers everything about her (even things she’s forgotten) and shows her more than just says how he feels. They have created memories in their courtship and that is a beautiful thing. Now, things go horribly wrong and because Cass is so inexperienced in life and love, she shuts everyone out...but I guess being attacked will do that to you.

Once Flynn goes back to University, Cass goes back to her normal schedule of school, work and home. Only because she sees that her family needs the time together, she offers to take an extra shift at their family store, working late and closing up. Not once did Cass think a bet between teammates would cause Rob (remember him) to go after her...sure, there was that one time before the holidays but it was stopped...and there were his friends making threats and jokes...but surely things wouldn’t get out of hand. She’d never done anything

to any of them, nor did she deserve to be treated poorly. Well, what one thinks versus what really happens are often two separate things. Now, Cass has to figure out how to do the simplest things again; like go outside. Fear is a strong incentive to stay locked up, and that's exactly what she does; shutting everyone out, even Flynn, in the process.

“Recalling the amazing feelings Flynn had created in me, I felt sad that it had come to an end. Would I ever feel that way again?”

First, let me say, I love reading works written by British Authors. I love the use of the English language and the slang is completely different from here in the States. With that being said, this book was very good. Being a debut novel, I am impressed. It's well written and although it seems to jump a little more than I would like, it has a great storyline. I love the relationship between Cass and Neve as well as Cass and Flynn. Those seem very age-appropriate for the setting and being a high school romance, the steam factor caps out at PG-13...aside from that one part (which I'm not telling you about, you'll have to read it). Apart from that, my favorite part about this book, which I didn't really touch on in my review so far; the relationship between Cass and her mom. Finding that common ground and finally understanding the decisions her mother made, that was pure gold. It gave a little twist in the story that I wasn't expecting and melted my heart. I hope Nicola continues to write as she is a talented woman, I look forward to reading more of her works soon!

****4 Bright Future Stars****

Title generously provided by the author in exchange for my honest review.
