

WAITING FOR YOU

SHEY STAHL

a novel



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Bailey Gray is tired of her perfectly planned life. Everything about her life has been organized and lived out to the expectations set of her parents. She is the class valedictorian, has perfect grades, the perfect friends, a perfect boyfriend, basically perfect life...or so everyone thought. That's when she realizes the path planned isn't always the path chosen.

On graduation day she makes a decision. One that changes everything she thought she knew about her intended future.

On a whim, she runs away with the town rebel, Dylan Wade, in search of the unknown.

Dylan Wade isn't looking to run away from anything.

He knows what he wants as he's been waiting on it for years.

On a journey to find the unknown, they discover a friendship they once knew along the open highway and have not a care in the world. Between the yellow and white lines of the heated summer asphalt, a spark draws them together as Dylan's past and Bailey future try to rip them apart.

Could it be that Dylan and his GTO are exactly what her perfectly planned life needs?

Waiting for You Details

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From Reader Review Waiting for You for online ebook

J says

~ Just like the sky, a change, a thought, a feeling, doesn't happen right away, for me anyway. You don't see it at first. It's nothing but chalky warmth, a glow in the distance completely humbled to the magnificence of Helios. As a dawn starts to shake the ash from the night, revealing the bright red scarlet of morning that ran riot in the sky, a decision is set, but you don't know it. There's something refreshing about a sunrise, It's just as unpredictable what a new day would bring. ~

A child hood that had been scripted for a girl, Bailey Gray.

Bailey Gray is tired of her perfectly planned life, she has perfect grades, the perfect friends, a perfect boyfriend, life was perfect...or so everyone thought.

Bailey can't stand her life, HATED her life. Going to a certain school, her parents picked her friends, a certain boyfriend forced upon her.

During Graduation Bailey snaps right before her Valedictorian speech.

"The truth is that my entire life has been planed out for me. Did you know I couldn't even buy my own underwear? My mom does that for me," I said with a laugh.

My dad, who had shot out of his chair in embarrassment, had reached the stage by then grabbing my arm. Straining to speak into the microphone, I needed to say one more part that was important.

"Looks like my time is up but I just wanted to say one last thing to everyone... Fuck off!"

Bailey Runs,

Runs right into town bad boy Dylan Wade

Dylan was Bailey's 1st kiss, growing up across the street from each they were childhood friends.

But when Dylan's mum died in a car accident, a part of Dylan died with her. He started acting out pushing everyone away. Bailey and Dylan haven't spoken in years.

Embarking on road trip the unknown, they re-discover a friendship they once knew.

~Sometimes you just know a person. It doesn't matter if you never talk. You know them. You have a silent connection. We had that. ~

Bailey questions what she wants out of life. What would you do of a piece of forever? What would you do to love more, feel more, and live more?

~More than anything, I wanted to feel alive. I wanted to feel and appreciate a passion for something

that I loved. For most of my life, I felt like a puppet on strings and I wanted that feeling gone.~

Together they experience life, live it, breathe it, enjoy the moment, be present and take a risk.

~When I got in that car, It wasn't a thought out decision. The decision to want something more from my life was but Dylan, what was happening now, that wasn't planned. To me that was the best part of it though, the unexpected.~

Their Summer was spent on the open high way chasing sunsets.
Creating a bucket-list, learning about themselves and each other.

~ You know those moments, whether you're in them or not, you feel something more than you intended to feel, what you wanted to feel. That was right now. It was like watching a sunset, one that I expected to be an average sunset and know what colours would be and the specific setting I would use, but then, with so much as a shift in the clouds, a sunset you never expected is revealed. It's a stolen heart in the rain, sprinkled ray of light that kiss your skin and dance in the rain to sounds of thunder and rolling growls. ~

Slowly Bailey learnt that a lot of times, the best things in life didn't rely on being planned. On that summer road trip Dylan and Bailey feel hopelessly in love.

~To me, love was like the colours of the sun bleeding and spilling over the best part of you and him together and highlighting what needed to be. Love doesn't necessarily mean anything. It's a word, a phrase you give to someone that bleeds the same colours you bleed, feels those same lines.~

Lessons are learnt and secrets come to head threatening to destroy everything they had.
What would you do? Deny the truth?

"I love you, please remember that," he whispered tucking a lock of my hair behind my ear. "Half of me will be with you, barely breathing, watching your sunset."

That one summer, taught Bailey to open her eyes on a lot of things, her family, life, a world she never knew and world she can be herself in.
She lost so much but gain a lot more..

'Waiting for you' is a story of kisses, lust, passion, youth, mistakes, lies, hiding, stupidity, judging, but most of all, love.

~We loved. We made memories. Our love was dangerous. It was asking me to come with him. It was dancing in the rain on the hood of his car. It was making dents that only we knew. It was living in the moment and making memories and deals. It was being in love and having your heart ripped from your chest. Here you take it, I don't want it anymore. It was that kind of shit. It was please don't do this, not here." It was hear me now, listen to me. It was waiting. I waited, and we waited. Nothing. It was remembering every detail, everything that made him Dylan Wade and remembering nothing at

all. ~

When I start a book I normally know what I'm getting into. I know what type of mood I'm in for. I will, most of the time read through a few reviews weighing up my options. There are some books that make you laugh, cry, swoon and even angry. Some leave you on a cliffhanger making you beg for more. I love all the emotions you feel when reading a good story. I Love getting lost in a story, love being taken in to the pages, to feel everything I'm reading.

Every once in a while I will be taken on a journey that I wasn't prepared to take. I will be thrown head first into the lives of the ones I'm reading. It invokes all the wonderful emotions you want to feel plus so much more. It's a feeling of pure excitement when my adrenaline kicks in. But most of all, it's the words that you read that connect to you. It's like the words are flowing out of my kindle wrapping around me, caressing me, comforting me pouring into my body and soul and speaking to me. It is freaking amazing when I feel that. It resets you, It opens your eyes to everything around you.

Shey Stahl's *'Waiting for you'* invoked all those emotions for me, I can't even begin to tell you. I was not expecting such an intense pull.

Her words came out at me, wrapped around me and opened my eyes.

~Some say a sunset can be too beautiful for words. I'd agree with that. There are a lot of things too beautiful for words for me.

To me, it was the earth's way of saving the best for last.~

ADD IT. READ IT. LOVE IT.

+++5 AMAZING, EYE OPENING STARS +++

Jenn says

I hate to say this but: what was the hype all about? I couldn't connect to either of the main characters. I didn't feel the love connection either. I felt Dylan was more of a jerk then anything the whole book. And Bailey needed a back bone more often then not where Dylan was concerned. These two had more trust issues, lack of communication, jealousy issues and lusting going on then anything... And maybe some anger issues.

I wanted to love this but the book just didn't work for me. I couldn't connect and it dragged a lot. Lots of things could have been deleted from the story. There were some unnecessary parts too. All of the: I want you but can't have you parts got old. The lack of communication was frustrating beyond anything for me with these two as well. Also Bailey not asking or saying certain things to Dylan was frustrating too.

This isn't the sweet second chance childhood love story it sounded like it would be. Very disappointed. Dylan was just not relatable at all. These two didn't even act like real teenagers IMO a lot of times.

Akanksha♥ Søren? says

4 Stars!!

She believed lies because they were the only truth she knew.

So..... this book is about a road trip two lost friends take..

Bailey goes on this trip to get away from her monotonous planned life, to break free...

to explore her wild side, to live a little... HELL, you are 18 only once bitches!

When everything was planned for you, spontaneity and the unknown is something worth living.

I took the whiskey back looking at the label and wondering why they didn't put a warning label on the outside of the bottle that said: May induce sexual behavior.

Meet Dylan!!

I was about ready to rape him. I was.

Sexy mysterious tattooed bad boy, with his pains and secrets

He's loved only once... At the age of 7 he fell in love with his brown eyed girl!

Half of me will always be with you

[image error]

**They take off... on a journey, to reunite friendship, to find love, to lose themselves and find each other.
To take control of their own lives, to live a little..**

They find each other and a bit more, they find love, compassion, sex ;)

"You scared?" "A little."

"Good.. It means you're doing something wrong the right way."

**They make beautiful memories along the way, down south.. they make friends, they find music,
photography, compassion**

**But what they also find out is, a secret, jealousy, betrayal can crack them appart, they find out the
truth, which was always a lie fed to Bailey..!!**

They find a life, they find a new friendship, they find love, they find them.

They find their sunset

*“Tell me a secret Dylan, something you’ve never told anyone else,” I said
He whispered in my ear, “I love you.”
I knew his secret, in turn, he felt mine.*

*Have you ever been in love?
Love doesn’t necessarily mean anything. It’s a word, a phrase given to someone that bleeds the same colors
you bleed, feels those same lines.*

~~~~~

This book was so going to go into my favorite shelf until I reached the last few chapters, then the book just got fucking annoying for me..  
Hence, the 4 STARS.. Because I’m very confused between the 2 or 5 stars I want to give it.

~~~~~

Let me start of by saying Shey Stahl has won me over, The author seriously has her way with words and expressions!! They made me LOL and chock on my laughter, blush and totally fall in love with this book, the characters and their story.

I think I fainted with the way he said whip it out and I really wanted to be around when that whip it out took place.

I hadn’t even clicked my own mouse, as Mercedes would put it.

Hahahah, this book had some maddddddd lines in it!!

Oohhhhh, the good ol’ word vomit, gotta love the shit people speak when their nervous, loved that!!

“Everyone expects me to come up here and give a speech about how I got to where I am because of all my hard work and that may be right. I did work hard. But I’m not so sure I did that for myself. I did it because my parents wanted me to.”
*If I thought, my parent’s eyes were wide before, they looked like they were both about to have a fucking heart attack now. It was a great feeling. “The truth is that my entire life has been planned out for me. Did you know I couldn’t even buy my own underwear? My mom does that for me,” I said with a laugh. My dad, who had shot out of his chair in embarrassment, had reached the stage by then and grabbed my arm. Straining to speak into the microphone, I needed to say one more part that was important.
“Looks like my times up but I just wanted to say one last thing to everyone...
fuck off!”*

WOAH :O She just gives rebel a new meaning, I mean.. I should know about rebels being that I totally am one, being a rebel gives you a purpose, a purpose to irritate your parents just to get a spite out of them, trust me when I say, it is fun.. its cheap thrills, you get a good kick out of it and you feel good... haha!
Yes, I am nuts.

After you finish this book, all you can think about is

There’s something about a road trip that’s relaxing to me. The silence, the unknown, the sunsets, the perfectly planned songs with the hidden meanings

Angie - Angie's Dreamy Reads says

This review was posted at Angie's Dreamy Reads!!

5 DANGEROUSLY INTENSE STARS

AHHHHHHHHH.....what a book!! Holy crap. I literally just finished and I'm still gasping for air and trying to come up with words to tell you about it.

GRIPPING
INTENSE
HEART STOPPING
SWEET
TENDER
MOVING

Are just a couple of the words that I would use to describe the book.

Dylan is over being home with his drunken father. He's tired of being beaten down and taking crap for a life he never chose and choices he's not responsible for. He's sick of being alone and feeling abandoned.

Bailey is sick of having her life planned out. Of being told what to do or how to dress. She wants freedom. Freedom from her overwhelming, seemingly perfect family, her annoying boyfriend who brings nothing to her life and the meaningless friendships she has. She wants to go out live her life, be reckless and enjoy every moment.

"I wanted to feel the freedom he felt, unpredictable freedom. I wanted to be out of control and I wanted to be a rebel. I wanted a sunrise, an opal sun dripping from the sky, with a new day where anything was possible and the sunset was unknown - Bailey"

It all comes to a head at Dylan and Bailey's graduation where Bailey has a moment of **SCREW THIS**, and throws caution to the wind letting the world know how she feels. After Dylan has a confrontation with his father and Baileys pulls her little stunt, they take off together. Both ready to **LIVE, LOVE and FEEL**; to let loose and enjoy the moment. They hit the open road for a summer road trip that will make your heart stop and dance and your palms sweat. It will give you tingles, make you smile. It will make you cry, tear you apart and then put you back together. It will take you on an amazing journey; a journey of young addictive love, huge secrets and heartbreak. One where you'll see two people grow, change, learn and mature.

"You don't just fall for someone like Dylan Wade. You bleed for someone like Dylan Wade."- Bailey

Love can be a dangerous thing. An addicting thing and for Bailey and Dylan their love is not only dangerously toxic but undeniably real. Their chemistry and need for each other is consuming **BUT** the past that Dylan holds and the secrets that unravel can destroy even the most intense and true of loves.

"Don't have regrets or second thoughts."... "Love, love with all your heart, every piece if it. Love anything as much as you can."

Reading this you will fall head over heels in love with Dylan; the sweet, soft and tender musician, whose

heart is also and angry mess of sadness and disappointment. You'll fall in love with Bailey who's innocent, fun, sweet and craves freedom to live her life like any normal young girl does. These characters will breathe life into you. They'll become a part of your heart. You will be enamored and captivated by their spirits and intensity.

I think every good romance has to have a bit of angst and this one had **A LOT**. It's not a smooth ride but it's worth every agonizing moment.

Overall I'd say this was a brilliant story, a sweet romance and an angsty affair. I would **MORE** than recommend it. It was absolutely fantastic.

I received this book from the author for an honest review

Kristen says

2 stars New Adult Romance

This book had potential but tried too hard to be deep.

Christy says

4.5 Heartfelt Stars!

Bailey has spent the majority of her life being who everyone else wants her to be. Living up to the expectations of being the perfect daughter, perfect student, perfect girlfriend. Her life isn't really hers anymore. It's the day of her highschool graduation, where she is Valedictorian- of course. And she decides to take a stand. She says exactly what she wants to say and doesn't think about the consequences. Staring at the back of the audience, she see's Dylan. Her first kiss, her old friend, and she gets the courage to tell everyone to pretty much 'fuck off' then she leaves.

Dylan is Bailey's neighbor, and once they were friends. He is the opposite of Bailey. He doesn't care what anyone thinks, and no one has any expectations of him. He has tattoo's, smokes, plays guitar and gets into trouble every now and then. Dylan life isn't perfect. When his mother was killed in a car accident, his life changed.

After graduation, Bailey is in a fight with her soon to be ex-boyfriend, and she see's Dylan. He is fighting with his dad, getting ready to take off. And she goes with him. They take off, going south, no plan, no expectations, just going on a road trip. It's easy with Dylan. They can talk and just be together. Bailey is starting to finally feel like she can be herself again.

As their journey goes on, they become closer. As friends, but also something more. They do all kinds of fun and crazy things, make up a 'bucket list' for Bailey.

After a while, Bailey realizes something. Everyone in her life was trying to control her, but not Dylan. He just wanted to be there for her, she just never let him.

“For eight years I’ve waited for you to see what was in front of you.”

God- I loved Dylan! Seriously loved him! He made me melt! Knowing that he was watching out for Bailey all this time, he was such a stand up, sexy and sweet guy.

“Tell me a secret Dylan, something you’ve never told anyone else.”? “I love you.”

“She’s not my brown eyes,” he whispered. His lips touched my temple as he spoke. “Nothing will ever compare to you.” He groaned into my neck, carefully nibbling on my skin. “I knew I was fucked from that first kiss at seven.”

Towards the end of the summer, Bailey realizes that she is in love with Dylan also. At times, Dylan gets distant, and other times, insanely jealous. While they are staying with his brother, things between them change. Dylan has been hiding something. One secret changes everything.

We were in over our heads, I knew that, he felt it, he believed it still, here we were, living in moments, loving dangerously.

That summer changed both of their lives. But summer doesn’t last forever.

“Keep our memories what they are, ours.”

There were parts of this book, towards the end that had me in tears. It was such a beautiful, but at times, heartbreaking story. I loved this book. LOVED IT! Bailey and Dylan’s journey was emotional, passionate, loving and amazing. READ THIS ONE!!!

He gave me a piece of forever that summer. I had a taste of what it was like. To love, to feel, to live. I had it.

“It was you. And if there was one thing that kept me going, it was waiting for you.”

Jamie says

5 Heart Clenching Stars... ♥♥♥♥♥

I loved this story.. let me be honest and say that before the last 25% of this book I was sitting on a solid 4 stars.. I had gone through several chapters where I felt like the book was settling down to much and I kept waiting on that "click" to happen. Don't get me wrong, the first half was really good and even the settled part was really good, but it was'nt 5 stars.. Then, that moment happened where my heart seized up and I just knew that I had taken that turn in this story and it was full out heart racing from that moment on... once that click happend, and my heart starting squeezing , eyes started watering, I started getting frustrated and and sad and .. just all these feelings from all these "moments" that were happening and I could'nt swipe my Kindle pages fast enough. The last 25% pushed this book right on to 5 stars for me.. and that last 5%.. Damn..... just

damn..

Bailey and Dylan met when they were 3 years old.. lived across from each other.. best friends growing up together, shared their first kiss with each other when they were 7.. they were everything to each other

Tragedy strikes Dylan when he is 10 years old and he's never the same.. he starts rebelling and getting into trouble.. setting mail boxes on fire, causing riots at school, and getting into all kinds of trouble. Including alcohol and drugs. He and Bailey still go to school together, but Bailey's stuck up parents refuse to let her have anything to do with him. She lives in a glass house and lives by their rules. Before long she's dressing how they say, dating who they say, eating what they say.. she has no life of her own.. while Dillon is on the other side living his life to the extreme. She's now the highschool cheerleader dating the football player and he's the tattooed rock stoner that no body messes with. They settle for glances in the hallways, brushes with each other both of them looking at each other and still seeing each other deep down. But they are so different now...

Until graduation day when everything changes.. Bailey is sick of living in her shell and doing what everyone expects and what her parents tell her to do.. She's the class valedictorian and when she stands up in front of everyone to give her speech.. she see's the boyfriend she's had for 4 years that means nothing to her, a bitch liar for a best friends, parents that want to control her.. and then, in the back row.. she see's Dylan. Looking like he couldn't give a fuck about being there to get his diploma and he doesn't. He's just looking around like he'd rather be anywhere else. This is Bailey's moment... and boy does she deliver--- giving one good fuck off speech to everyone in attendance.

Both Dylan and Bailey end up getting in fights with their families out in parking lot and all hell breaks loose.. Dylan and Bailey are just staring at each other both answering unanswered questions with one look.. he nods to his car and she hops in... they take off --- Cross Country Baby!!

And then that's when the real story begins....

Love..

Passion....

Happiness....

Then heartache, anger, and complete sadness... my heart was breaking

Dylan and Bailey's journey over the summer is a filled with everything Bailey wants to do that she's never experienced and Dylan is the one that brings her to life.. but he's also then one that can totally destroy her. However, she has always had her fist around his heart although she never knew it and she can hurt him just as badly.

Can they heal and love each other they way that each of them need or will secrets and jealousy become too much for them to endure...

Loved this story so much.. it really knocked me around but I sure enjoyed it...

Bailey and Dylan were beautiful and their story is love...

Lucia says

EDIT 24/9/2013

Due to recent development of the events considering this author, plagiarism and the fact that book has been pulled from Amazon, I decided to erase my rating!

Lisa Jayne says

I'm completely, over my head, 100%, can't stop thinking about it, in LOVE with this book!

A journey of two young people trying to find themselves, and instead finding each other.

Waiting for you is a beautiful, moving, thought provoking read, I loved every page. I felt like a giddy teenager reading this book, the author has done an amazing job of making the reader feel a part of every kiss, conversation, drama and emotion. Parts of the book were almost poetic, hats off to Shey Stahl her writing is an emotional/love junkies addiction fix.

I loved the relationship between Bailey Gray and Dylan Wade, both characters were utterly loveable and likeable. Their love story is a readers dream - Sometimes toxic, dangerous and heart wrenching sometimes beautiful, forever and enduring.

This story is sweet, understated, utterly swoontastic, sexy and an absolute gorgeous read. I was truly swept up in the authors story, I urge anyone who loves a tale of young love to read this.

I won't forget about this book, my heart is still going long after the last kindle click. *sigh*

"we had always loved each other from opposite sides of our own storms."

5 stars and a heart filled with a forever kind of love.

Amanda (Good Choice Reading) says

1.5 stars

This book deserves some sort of award....for having the most misleading cover and blurb in the history of covers and blurbs. It is nothing like it appears to be, and if you're looking for a sweet, fun road trip book, look elsewhere, because this is NOT it.

This is a story about two spoiled, self-righteous kids who hate their lives, despite the fact that even with their demons, they still have it better than a hell of a lot of teens these days. They channel all of this hatred into their love, and then into destroying each other. It was sad, sure, but mostly I just couldn't stand either of them.

I really hate to give this book such a low rating, because I've read much worse (I'm looking at you, Fifty Shades), and I actually enjoyed the beginning despite my distaste for the characters. But there were so many problems, and it disappointed me so much, that I can't find it in myself to look for any other positive things to say.

-There are a lot of grammar and punctuation errors that were impossible for me to ignore.

-He calls her "brown eyes" so. many. times. Sometimes multiple times on the same page. It was annoying.

-(view spoiler)

-(view spoiler)

-(view spoiler)

-(view spoiler)

I probably could have appreciated Waiting for You if it had been done a bit differently, because I realize that relationships like this do exist, and they deserve a story. My problem is when you wrap it up in a pretty package and make it seem like something it's not. Maybe it's to garner sales, or maybe to someone else, this cover and blurb seem appropriate. To me, they belong to something else. To me, they're glorifying it.

Evey says

Wanna know why this and other Stahl's books were removed from Amazon? Simply, she's been accused of plagiarism. Apparently, this book has been based on Twilight fanfics and her newest book, "For the Summer", was based on the fanfic "Dusty".

Well done, Stahl, well done *insert sarcastic bomb here*

I wouldn't have read this book after the bad reviews I read about it but... Really? Stealing from fanfics? Even, from popular fanfics? Like nobody is gonna notice anyways, huh? Jesus Christ.

Wanna know more about it? Check this and this

A. Bookzilla. says

These two people are poison for each other. And the worst part is, they weren't, they just turned ugly somewhere along the way.

But let me start from the beginning.

For the first 50-60% of this book it was amazing. A very sweet love story about a rebel boy and a good girl that's finally gotten out of her cage. It was right up there with some of my favorite reads. Yeah, Bailey annoyed me a bit, but it was nothing I couldn't get over. I loved Dylan, I *loved* him.

I was willing to ignore numerous, and I mean *numerous* spelling, grammar and punctuation mistakes*. I was willing to ignore that in the majority, it was a smutty book. I was willing to ignore that on every single page someone was cussing, the F-bomb being dropped like it's just another word. I was willing to ignore how distracting it was that the author would switch from present to past tense back to present, all within the same sentence. The sudden switch to Dylan's POV after four chapters and then it's back to Bailey again until almost two thirds through when you get to be in Dylan's head again.

Actually, now that I'm listing all of this, I probably wouldn't have ignored it. I'm going over my notes and... yeah. But that's not the point. The story was beautiful and had so much potential, and I really enjoyed it. I enjoyed the writing that I think could have been amazing after some polishing&nipping&tucking (and the book is \$2.99. I've just read an impeccable \$0.99 book before this one). There was great chemistry between Dylan and Bailey that made me really think that these two were *it* for each other.

And for those 60%, I would have given it a good rating and a stellar review. Now, I feel like I'm being generous. The only thing worse than a bad book is a good book ruined by... I don't even know what that was.

Bailey gets a personality transplant and starts being a true I-made-him-do-it victim. Dylan turns downright psychotic. The breaking-down-doors-beating-up-guys-that-look-at-her-get-a-restraining-order kind of psychotic. I kept waiting for their "dangerous love" to become a real abusive relationship. And *that* I can't ignore.

He says so many hurtful things to her. And she just lets him. I was... stunned at this turn of events. What was his problem, really? There's a difference between being possessive and being just plain crazy. The guy is obsessed with her to the point that he can't stand anyone *talking* to her. Do girls really like this? I'm a girl, and I would have probably ran as far away as I could from that psycho. Seriously, he breaks down doors, "punishes" her by making her give him a blowjob (no, she actually says he forced her head down, and she was crying after she was done. Seriously.) He turns really vindictive at times. No love is worth this shit. She, on the other hand... she says things like "I know how he will react when he sees this, so I stay away from Nate." (I'm paraphrasing here. But you get the point.)

He could fuck you up with one look. I'd been on the receiving end of that look before.

When you come to a realization like this about your boyfriend... that's a red flag. Because god knows what he will fuck you up with tomorrow.

So much drama! SO. MUCH. DRAMA. THAT. COULD. HAVE. BEEN. AVOIDED. I'm guessing the author wanted angst? You had angst while it was still a sweet story! Why do that to them? I couldn't even root for them in the end because I was thinking "good riddance". I actually laughed hysterically in the end because... here we go again. These two are not healthy for each other.

And then, of course, the book was just way too long for the story it told. It was mostly too long because Bailey would go on, and on, and on, about some epiphanies of hers, or reflecting on things that absolutely make no sense in that given moment, it was like the author just wanted to throw some mature wisdom to fill out the pages. I found myself skimming these parts. And I would have ignored it all.

For me, this book was a major letdown. Not because I expected something amazing and then didn't get it, but because I had gotten something amazing and then it was taken away from me. I actually mourned Dylan for the remainder of this book.

Still, I see what all the hype is about. It's a very intense love story, and I get why people love it. I just wish the author didn't give the term "character development" a whole new meaning while writing it.

I am sorry. Some things I'm just not good enough at ignoring.

* If there is one thing that screws up with my reading a book, it's improper use of punctuation. Also, *punctuation in direct speech*. For the love of everything, please, please get it right. This is elementary school stuff.

Leah says

[Simon Cowell voice] It's a no from me.

Farah *Professor Dean's Beauty* says

“I believe that people come into your life and then some go. I also think there's a purpose as to why they were in your life at all. Each one takes a piece of you when they go. Some leave pieces of themselves with you. Sometimes it's wisdom, or maybe, it's a lesson.”

"What would you do for a piece of forever? What would you do to love more, feel more, and live more?"

What happens when you living your life but you don't feel alive? A feeling of numbness takes over you, tired of being mundane....? You will get to a point where you want to let it go.. To be Yourself!

And this is exactly what happened to Bailey...

For her whole life Bailey did what her parents expected of her, the perfect daughter, the perfect innocent virgin with the perfect grades. On the day of her graduation, Bailey decides for once in her life she wants to

be herself.. She tells everyone at her graduation about her Not-So-Perfect life.

When she walks out of her school with her father screaming at her and her boyfriend and friends running after her demanding to know what's wrong with her.

.. She sees him. Her childhood friend Dylan arguing with his father whose about to hit him... She screams for him not to and in that moment something happens.

"Instead, I saw us playing as kids. I saw us making mud pies, getting dirty, swimming at Black Lake and my first kiss on the train tracks with him and the taste of his watermelon gum. I saw us the way we should have been when nothing else mattered but a dirt road that led to nowhere."

"In that moment, we were two kids looking for an escape. Two kids wanting that unpredictable sunrise."

Bailey and Dylan leave on a journey... A journey to no where...A journey of lost friendship, to loose themselves but find themselves at the same time...

Somewhere along that journey...

They find their lost friendship.. They make memories...

Make memories...experience the best things in life

“Be alive, be wide awake, be anything but boring.”

I loved the fact that Dylan didn't take advantage of Bailey. He was so sweet in a bad boy kind of way. He could have taken her innocence but he respected her too much.. I guess that happens when you love someone since you 7 years old. He wants her to feel for him as he does for her before anything happens.

They laugh, they dance in the rain, get drunk, go clubbing, watch the stars... They experience true happiness.. Contentment...

Friendship turns into love and love which starts with friendship will last forever... Simple glances and friendly gestures turn into innocent touches then some not so innocent touches...

Dylan makes Bailey feel..

Deep secrets come out...

"Tell me a secret Dylan, something you've never told anyone else," I said keeping my eyes on the stars. He don't say anything, his breathing light, body relaxed. Sighing, his breath tickling my skin when he whispered in my ear, "I love you."

They fall madly in love...

As life has a way of crashing down the dream... Bailey finds out something about Dylan.. Secrets which can destroy them.

She has to let Dylan go and walk away...

"I had a desire inside of me, something dark and unpredictable. The problem was that I forgot about me that summer."

"There was a reason why I got in the car that day. And there was a reason why he asked me to come."

"But there was a reason why I left too."

"When I looked back at him, it was harder than I thought it would be."

"Dylan once asked me if I was the same person when others weren't looking as I was when they were. I didn't know who I was when they were looking."

"Every memory I had that was about me, was tied to Dylan in some way. He knew me and it was the only way he let me walk away from him that afternoon"

"The thing was, you experience life and you're forced to deal with it. Like it or not, it happened and you deal with it"

"That's the deal"

After she walks away from Dylan, she doesn't go home.. She doesn't want to go home, the lies had caused too much damage..

"I could tell you a story about love but you'll never fully understand what we felt that summer because you weren't there experiencing our moments and living it with us. Maybe you see it now. Maybe you don't. Maybe I lost you in the middle, I lost myself a few times."

(view spoiler)

♥ Sarah says

“It was a summer of tears, laughter, colors that bled lies and denied the truth. It was the kind of love that knew no bounds, tangled emotions that were strong.”

“Dylan wasn’t a rebound or distraction. No. He couldn’t be. Not Dylan. Like I said, you don’t just fall for someone like Dylan Wade. You bleed for someone like Dylan Wade.”

“You didn’t just randomly show up here. It was fate. You once asked me if I was in the right place at the right time what I would do. This is me, in the right place at the right time.”

“To me, love was like the colors of the sun bleeding and spilling over to the best parts of you and him together and highlighting what needed to be. Love doesn’t necessarily mean anything. It’s a word, a phrase given to someone that bleeds the same colors you bleed, feels those same lines.”

“Some say a sunset can be too beautiful for words. I’d agree with that. There are a lot of things too beautiful for words for me. To me, it was the earth’s way of saving the best for last.”

“Sometimes I feel like we’re pulling a rope but neither one of us are pulling the rope at the same time. Sometimes I think that loving someone is doing what’s right. Loving like there’s nothing else. Feeling and believing there’s nothing else.”

“Tell me a secret Dylan, something you’ve never told anyone else.”
Sighing, his breath tickled my skin when he whispered in my ear, “I love you.”

“I’m just a guy. Deep down, I was still a boy. A boy with a broken fucking heart who missed cold toes, freckles and tangled ginger locks. That’s my deal.”

**

Brown eyes.

Guitar.

Whiskey.

Flannels.

Ripped jean shorts.

“This was love. Fucking blinding soul type shit.”

**

So I've been complaining a lot lately, about the played out clichés and tropes in YA/NA novels. You know those predictable stories where the bad boy jerk meets the virginal, sweet, and innocent heroine? Then, they make passionate love to each other, and BAM. It's all consuming, soul sucking, gut wrenching, I-can't-breathe-without-you, *love*. Puh-lease.

Not to mention, the guy probably looks like a CK model, with tats and a “classic” car, or motorcycle. And sometimes those kinds of stories make me want to puke, and roll my eyes up to heaven. But other times, you realize *why* that formula has *become* so cliché. Because, when done right, your knees go weak, you have trouble breathing, and you just know – it's gonna be good. That basically sums up my experience with this story...

Basically, Bailey is the miss goody-two-shoed, Valedictorian. Dylan is the rebel from the wrong side of the tracks. They used to be childhood friends, until his mom died when he was 10. Since then, he started acting out, and was labeled the “bad” boy. Naturally, Bailey & Dylan went their separate ways. Until graduation, when Bailey basically runs away with her childhood buddy, and first kiss.

Usually, I would stray from this stereotypical construction of bad boy v. virgin cliché, but I REALLY REALLY REALLY LIKED Dylan. And, there were some extremely hot & steamy scenes...That. I. Loved.

*I highly recommend this for lovers of the NA/road trip genre; this book reminded me a TINY BIT of, The Edge of Never.

4.5 STARS
