



## The Last Song

*Nicholas Sparks*

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**The Last Song** Nicholas Sparks

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Seventeen-year-old Veronica 'Ronnie' Miller's life was turned upside-down when her parents divorced and her father moved from New York City to Wilmington, North Carolina. Three years later, she remains angry and alienated from her parents, especially her father . . . until her mother decides it would be in everyone's best interest if she spent the summer in Wilmington with him. Ronnie's father, a former concert pianist and teacher, is living a quiet life in the beach town, immersed in creating a work of art that will become the centerpiece of a local church.

The tale that unfolds is an unforgettable story about love in its myriad forms - first love, the love between parents and children - that demonstrates, as only a Nicholas Sparks novel can, the many ways that deeply felt relationships can break our hearts . . . and heal them.

## The Last Song Details

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Author : Nicholas Sparks

Format : Hardcover 390 pages

Genre : Romance, Fiction, Womens Fiction, Chick Lit, Young Adult, Contemporary

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## From Reader Review The Last Song for online ebook

### Jennifer Wardrip says

Reviewed by Jaglvr for TeensReadToo.com

Veronica "Ronnie" Miller won't be eighteen until the end of the summer, so she has to follow her mom's rules and is off with her younger brother, Jonah, to spend the summer with her dad in a North Carolina beach town. Ronnie hasn't talked to her dad in over three years. He left New York City and their family and moved back to his hometown. Ronnie is rebellious and having been arrested for shoplifting back home, a quiet summer in North Carolina might be the best thing for her. At least that's what her mother thinks.

Ronnie arrives with the intention of ignoring her dad. On her first night there she wanders the beach and meets a girl, Blaze, who seems okay. But Blaze is addicted to Marcus, and Marcus is bad news. And Marcus is interested in Ronnie. Ronnie can tell Marcus is trouble and tries to avoid him. But the triangle will ultimately create problems.

On a brighter note, Jonah is totally content in North Carolina and with spending time with his father. He has no desire to return to New York City. Jonah has joined his father in creating a replacement stained glass window for a church that burned in town.

As the summer unfolds, Ronnie falls in love with a local boy, Will. She discovers the wonders of Loggerhead turtles. And she learns to trust her father all over again. As the summer comes to a close, more than one tragedy occurs, and Ronnie must face some hard truths in her life.

I have to admit that it's been a while since I truly loved one of Mr. Sparks' novels. Don't get me wrong, I do adore his work. But it's been ages since I sat down with one of his books and found myself with tears in my eyes. This was one of those rare stories. With about forty pages to go in the novel, I found myself with wet eyes and the sniffles.

THE LAST SONG is already in movie post production starring Miley Cyrus as the rebellious Ronnie. With the main character being a teenager, and with subplots of rebellion and first love, THE LAST SONG is a novel that will appeal to a wide audience: teens and adults alike. With the addition of Miley in the title role when the movie is released, THE LAST SONG will find even wider circulation.

As with all of Mr. Sparks' books, expect tears, joy, love, and ultimately redemption and forgiveness for many of the characters. The wonderful characters in THE LAST SONG will stay with you long after the final page is turned.

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### Aishu Rehman says

Don't hesitate reading any of Nicholas Sparks books if you are a hopeless romantic...

Ronnie - short for Veronica - is a troubled seventeen-year-old. Her parents divorced three years ago, and she hasn't spoken to, or seen her father since then. When she is forced to spend the summer with her dad in a small beach town in North Carolina, she is soon on the edge of 'out-of-control'. However, over the weeks of the summer, she experiences her first love, and discovers things that change not only her outlook on life, but also her very existence. Her transformation from a rebellious, angry teen-ager into a responsible, sensitive,

adult is heartwarming.

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### **Katie says**

I first read this book 8 or 9 years ago before the movie came out and I absolutely loved it (I also loved the movie and it is a fairly good adaptation but the book is better. The book is almost always better). I am glad to say that years later, my opinion on the book hasn't changed and I loved it just as much this time around.

When I was younger, I used to love all of Nicholas Sparks's books. It was around when this one came out that my feelings towards his books started to change. I read this one, Dear John, and The Lucky One all around the same time (and I do like all of them, but this one is my favorite of the three) and maybe it was because I was a little older than when I started reading his books, but I started noticing a pattern in all of his stories that made them slightly less enjoyable as I continued to read. (view spoiler) Because of that, I haven't read any of his books in years, but I am so glad I reread this book.

In this book, Ronnie has just graduated high school in NYC and she and her 10 year old brother are being sent to live with their dad in Wilmington, North Carolina for the summer. Ronnie hasn't spoken to her dad in the 3 years since her parents divorced, and she doesn't want to be anywhere near him or in North Carolina. Throughout the novel, we see how Ronnie's relationship with her dad changes by her being forced to spend the summer there, as well as seeing her fall in love for the first time.

Nicholas Sparks's books aren't for everyone, and I get that. But I think this is one of his strongest works (that I've read) and I particularly love seeing Ronnie's growth throughout the book. Also, I am basically in love with Will, lol. I highly recommend this book if you enjoy contemporary stories, with both strong family elements and first loves.

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### **Joyzi says**

(Is it just me or Milers really look stoned here\*kidding\*)

**Amazing book, it's kind of emotional and depressing in the end but still it has a happy ending. Ronnie was like a character that I can personally relate to and the dialogues are just humorous. It's kinda like predictable but all in all it's really meaningful and highly recommended to all Sparks fans.**

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### **mary says**

Αν και μ?χρι τ?ρα δεν ε?χα διαβ?σει καν?να βιβλ?ο του Nicholas Sparks, ?μουν ?δη μεγ?λη θαυμ?στρια του καθ?ς ?χω δει ?λες τις ταιν?ες που βασ?ζονται στα βιβλ?α του και τις ?χω αγαπ?σει σχεδ?ν ?λες, μ?λιστα μια απ? αυτ?ς ε?ναι η πιο αγαπημ?νη μου ταιν?α(το a walk to remember).Το τελευτα?ο τραγο?δι ε? αρχ?ς μου ε?χε αρ?σει σαν ιστορ?α οπ?τε ?μουν σ?γουρη πως θα λατρ?ψω και το βιβλ?ο ?πως και ?γινε.

Η δεκαεφτ?χρονη Ρ?νι ε?ναι αναγκασμ?νη μαζ? με τον μικρ?τερο αδερφ? της τον Τζ?να, να περ?σει το καλοκα?ρι στο σπ?τι του πατ?ρα της με τον οπο?ο ?χουν να μιλ?σουν εδ? και τρ?α

χρ?νια, απ? τ?τε που οι γονε?ς της π?ραν διαζ?γιο.Αν και το καλοκα?ρι της προμην?εται εντελ?ς βαρετ?, τα π?ντα θα ανατραπο?ν ?ταν θα γνωρ?σει τον γοητευτικ? Γου?λ.Η αρχικ? αντιπ?θεια που αισθ?νεται για εκε?νον σ?ντομα θα μετατραπε? σε ?να μεγ?λο ?ρωτα που θα την κ?νει να δει τα π?ντα εντελ?ς διαφορετικ?.Παρ?λληλα θα ?ρθει πιο κοντ? με τον πατ?ρα της και η Ρ?νι σ?ντομα θα συνειδητοποι?σει π?σο σημαντικ? ε?ναι να ανο?γεις την καρδι? σου και να βρ?σκεις τη δ?ναμη να συγχωρε?ς.

Ε?ναι γνωστ? π?ως ο Nicholas Sparks ε?ναι μ?στερ του ρομ?τζου οπ?τε δεν περι?μενα τ?ποτε λιγ?τερο απ? αυτ?ν, και παρ?λο που μερικ?ς φορ?ς το παρακ?νει ξ?ρει π?ς να φτι?χνει μια ?μορφη και αληθιν? ρομαντικ? ιστορ?α.Η Ρ?νι ε?ναι ?νας απ? τους χαρακτ?ρες που αγαπ? ιδια?τερα γιατ? ε?ναι αρκετ? δυναμικ? και θαραλλ?α σε σχ?ση με τις υπ?λοιπες ηρω?δες του συγγραφ?α.Μερικ?ς φορ?ς γ?νεται κυνικ? και ξεροκ?φαλη αλλ? δεν μπορε? με τ?ποτα να αποβ?λλει την συναισθηματικ?τητα που την διακατ?χει.Δεν ξ?ρω μ?λλον μου αρ?σει επειδ? μου θυμ?ζει εμ?να.Ο Γου?λ απ? την ?λλη ?σως φαντ?ζει υπερβολικ? τ?λειος αλλ? ο συγγραφ?ας καταφ?ρνει και σε αυτ?ν το χαρακτ?ρα να προσδ?σει β?θος και να τον κ?νει συμπαθ? ?χι μ?νο λ?γω της εξωτερικ?ς του εμφ?νισης αλλ? και της ψυχ?ς του.

Ο λ?γος που το τελευτα?ο τραγο?δι ?χει μια τ?σο ξεχωριστ? θ?ση στην καρδι? μου ε?ναι το γεγον?ς ?τι σε σχ?ση με τις υπ?λοιπες ιστορ?ες του Nicholas Sparks δεν επικεντρ?νεται απλ? στο ρομαντικ? κομμ?τι αλλ? και στις οικογενειακ?ς σχ?σης και συγκεκριμ?νη στη σχ?ση πατ?ρα και κ?ρης.Η σχ?ση της Ρ?νι και του Στηβ ε?ναι ιδια?τερα τεταμ?νη στην αρχ? στην πορε?α ?μως εξελ?σσεται σε κ?τι πολ? δυνατ? και ?μορφο.π?ως π?ντα ο Sparks ξ?ρει να δημιουργε? ?να δραματικ? φιν?λε γεμ?το συγκ?νηση και π?νο αλλ? και ελπ?δα και αισιοδοξ?α.

?σως να ε?χα απολα?σει ακ?μη περισσ?τερο το συγκεκριμ?νο βιβλ?ο, αν δεν ε?χα ?δη δει ?να εκατομμ?ριο φορ?ς την ταιν?α, δεν σημα?νει ?μως σε καμ?α περι?πτωση ?τι δεν ε?ναι ?να πολ? ?μορφο και συγκινητικ? βιβλ?ο.Ο Sparks π?ντα ξ?ρει μ?σα απ? τις ιστορ?ες του να περν? σπουδα?α μην?ματα για την οικογ?νεια, την αγ?πη, τον ?ρωτα και την ελπ?δα.Ξ?ρω ?τι πολλο? βρ?σκουν γλυκαν?λατα τα βιβλ?α του καθ?ς θεωρο?ν ?τι περιγρ?φει πρ?γματα που δεν συμβα?νουν στην πραγματικ?τητα ?μως νομ?ζω π?ως αυτ? η ?ποψη ε?ναι λ?θος. Δημιουργε? αληθιν?ς και ανθρ?πινες ιστορ?ες που απλ? οι ?νθρωποι τις βρ?σκουν αν?ητες γιατ? φοβο?νται ? δεν μπορο?ν να βι?σουν τ?σο δυνατ? συναισθ?ματα.Εγ? π?ντως θα δηλ?νω π?ντα πολ? μεγ?λη θαυμ?στρια των υπ?ροχων δημιουργημ?των μου γιατ? με βοηθο?ν να ελπ?ζω και ονειρε?ομαι!

## Ahmad Sharabiani says

The last song, Nicholas Sparks

The Last Song is a 2009 novel by American author Nicholas Sparks. The Last Song is Sparks' fourteenth published novel (fifteenth published book), and was written specifically as the basis for the film adaptation by the same name. It was released on September 1, 2009 by Grand Central Publishing. The story revolves around the summer of Ronnie (Veronica) Miller's seventeenth year, during which she is sent to stay with her estranged father. Through their shared love of music, the duo reconnect.

17-year-old Veronica "Ronnie" Miller is a troubled teenager who is wanting to live her own life and is trying her very best to ignore her divorced parents: Kim, her mother with whom she lives in New York, and Steve, her father who lives in his hometown of Wrightsville Beach, NC. Her mother decides that it would be in everyone's best interest if Ronnie and her 10-year-old brother, Jonah, spent the summer in Wrightsville

Beach with Steve. Jonah is excited, while Ronnie can only wonder why her parents hate her so much as to send her there for the summer. ...

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### Sharon says

After her parents divorced, seventeen year old Veronica "Ronnie" Miller felt as if her world was crumbling around her, especially when her father decides to move from New York City to Wilmington, North Carolina.

Three years on and still Ronnie is angry and has a bad attitude especially towards her mother. In fact Ronnie is becoming a handful to say the least. Ronnie's mother decides the best thing is for her daughter is to spend the summer with her father. Ronnie's father is a former concert pianist and teacher who now lives a quiet life, but that may all change once Ronnie arrives. Could this be exactly what Ronnie needs or could it make things worse?

An enjoyable story which I'm sure will be enjoyed by Nicholas Sparks fans and those alike.

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### Jennie Smith says

I have always enjoyed Sparks' books but we all know that we can only read his books at certain times (at least for me) because we CRY! I have heard about this one because I don't live too terribly far from where it is filmed (my great pal Kathryn lives super close!!) and it was taunting me at Target last week. I bought it on Thursday, picked it up on Friday night to start reading it, went to bed reading it, picked it back up on Saturday and finished it!

This is probably my favorite out of all of his books. I have read almost all of them and so far, this one takes the cake. Ronnie is such a relatable character to me on many levels and the whole first love/coming of age story is something that we have all experienced. I fell in love with the characters, cried when they cried (of course), got mad when they did stupid things, and was rooting for Ronnie the entire time. Throughout the novel, you see Ronnie's complete transformation and realization as to who she is as defined by herself and not by those she surrounds herself with. So often we tend to adapt to those around us and do our best to fit it at any cost (emotionally, physically, etc.) and for the past few years that is what Ronnie has done. It is not until she is forced to come see her dad that she finds out who she is and what is truly important in life.

This is Sparks' longest novel and he couldn't have done any better with it in my opinion. I highly recommend it to teens and adults alike and will definitely be going to see the movie at the end of March.

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## valee says

OMG!!! Seriously, **this book was amazing**. I never thought I would love it the way I did, I mean, I knew I would like it, but not that I would be this crazy about it.

### **My problem with other Sparks novels:**

His beginnings are always very slow , so until now I never gave more than 4 stars to any of his books. But that was not the case at all with this one.I loved every page of it. I never was dissatisfied at all, actually I couldn't stop thinking about the book. If you liked A Walk to Remember and The Notebook, you will love this one because it has the same style, while most Sparks' other books are of a different sort.

### **The characters:**

Were should I start? Ronnie was a great character.To watch her grow through the whole book was great, I loved to see how she went from a confused and rebel teenager to a mature full-grown young woman. She managed to end up satisfied with her life and proud for what she accomplished.

Jonah, her younger brother, was the sweetest kid ever. I couldn't get enough of him. Every time he said 'awesooome' I just wanted to hug him forever,LOL.

And Will... well, he is the perfect Hero, the kind and loving boyfriend, perfect for the heroine in every way. I completely adored him. Every time he appeared and said something I melted. My heart was lost from page one.

And Steve, Oh, Steve. I completely adored him since page 1. I couldn't have asked for a better father figure for the kids. He was so patient and everything Ronnie needed. I was so happy to see how he finally managed to get in good terms with his children again. But the best thing about this book was the process, to see how both of them started trusting and caring for their father once again.

### **The book:**

I just loved how everything developed. Everything connected just right at the end. And what an ending. I love books with a HEA. Although this one will make you burst into tears like a cry-baby, SO BE READY and have some tissues at hand. Seriously, I spent the last 100 pages crying and crying and CRYING. I'm not kidding with the tissues, you will really NEED them. This book was so heartbreaking at times that I felt my heart breaking into a million pieces. It touched me in ways I never thought a book could. I just loved this read and would strongly recommend it. =)

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## Laz says

“Sometimes you have to be apart from people you love, but that doesn't make you love them any less. Sometimes you love them more.”

Astonishing good. It's my first Nicholas Sparks novel and I don't intend it to be my last after reading this. I like the way he writes and the way he depicts life in the most real way possible. This book had something true to it, well, it must have been the characters who had a vibe of realness in them that most books lack sometimes.

Ronnie is a seventeen-year-old girl who's definitely have some issues with her parents. It all began three years ago when her parents got divorced and she never talked to her father ever again. This summer though she and her little brother have to spend her summer with their father in the little town where he lives. Ronnie

starts mending her relationship with her father slowly and steadily while in the meantime she makes enemies and friends and most importantly falls in love with one of those guys she never liked or felt attracted to, but Will is the exception.

Will is the only person in the world that can actually put up with Ronnie and her peculiar self she is most widely know for. He chases her and not for one minute does he give up on her until she's his. And they fall in love, they spend their summer together, always together, doing things together like watching over the turtle nest outside Ronnie's house because a raccoon has been seen lurking around. They kiss and they talk and they learn about each other. It's so beautiful. And so real. Which is why I loved it so much.

I've certainly watched my share of romantic movies based on Mr. Spark's novels but I've never quite liked them that much that I would grab the book and read it but maybe it's just that the movies lack what his books have, that magic and realness because the movies seem somehow shallow..

Well, okay, read this because it's heartbreaking and heartmending and it explores lots of things about the parent-kid relationship. That's about it. Thanks for reading!

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### **Jenny says**

JIMINY CRAP!!!!!!!!!! THIS BOOK WAS SO FREAKING GOOD.

And those were understatements. EVERY SINGLE PERSON WHO KNOWS HOW TO READ MUST READ THIS!!! Geezz. I cried a lot.

Half way through the book, I decided I would download the osp for the movie. And while reading, I was listening to the song over and over again. It didn't bother me. It actually made me appreciate the book more.

A long time a go, after reading The Choice, I swore to myself I will never read a Nicholas Sparks's book again until my friend told me this was good. I borrowed and put MAGYK aside to read this.

And I will never regret it.

I told you, half way till end, I was listening to Miley Cyrus sing 'When I look at you'. I don't even like her but the song was great. I remembered going inside my room when I reached chapter 30 because I knew something will happen and will bring me to tears. Then I read Chapter 31. I cried so so much. And when i finished crying, I'll hear the chorus of the song, and read more touching scenes and I will cry again. I repeated that process over and over and over again. It's just so sad that this book isn't mine..haha I didn't cry over a book ever that way. Well, I cried when I read New Moon when Edward left Bella but this was different. It's so touching and I felt my world falling apart as I read. Its simply beautiful. I love it. I love the characters especially Ronnie's brother. He's so funny and adorable. I wouldn't miss watching this film.

Please. Read this. Not reading this would be like never having to taste chocolate. Or never having to see colors. This book is brilliant.

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### **Councillor says**

When you look at modern Women's Fiction (or Chick Lit, as it is called for whatever reason), Nicholas Sparks is one of the few names you cannot turn away from that easily. He has written more novels than many other authors, most of them have become quite popular, and if you take a look at his Goodreads page, you might realize that thirteen of his novels have more than 100,000 ratings. There was only one author who I discovered to have more novels than Sparks with such an achievement on Goodreads.

It's easy to figure out why people like this novel, and I understand and value all of the raving opinions. The concept is pretty interesting, too. A teenage-girl one step before entering adulthood trying to deal with life and the obstacles thrown at her, her dysfunctional family trying to hold together what hasn't already been shattered, and this gorgeous boy from neighborhood who is so sweet and courteous and attentive that it seems like Nicholas Sparks wants *you* as a reader to fall in love with him as well. And that's already the problem: I just don't buy it. People can be as beautiful as possible, but it's impossible to judge whether the soul behind that beauty is just as beautiful ... or maybe ugly. However, Sparks defined Will, the protagonist's love-interest, as sweet and beautiful and successful and ... did I mention beautiful? Throw in the facts that Will rescues endangered animal species, has a lot of friends and experience and is one of the best athletes in his town. Let's summarize: He is the perfect guy.

It seems like Nicholas Sparks wants to handle every stereotype available out there. He introduces the cruel, mean antagonist who finds pleasure in making life difficult for others, terrorizing them and treating women like shit. Guess the purpose of this? To make the perfect guy shine even brighter, of course. Nobody is as perfect as Will Blakelee, but Sparks seems to want his reader to believe just that. But allow me to question one thing: If Will had had the same character, but another appearance, not the Liam Hemsworth kind, but a not-so-attractive guy ... would the movie have been that successful then?

I guess not.

Don't get me wrong, I have *nothing* against romance novels. I liked Ronnie, the female protagonist, and the story of her family, I adored her little brother Jonah, and the writing was not as bad as I initially feared. But I do have something against novels defining love by how good-looking people are.

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## Carolina Stroschein says

### • "Primero tienes que aprender perdonarte a ti misma" •

Siguiendo su estilo romántico y dramático que tanto lo caracterizan, Nicholas Sparks nos vuelve a emocionar con "La última canción", una novela de amor y de perdón.

Todo comienza en las vacaciones de verano, cuando una adolescente de 17 años rebelde y hostil se ve obligada a pasar el verano en un pueblo de Carolina del Norte con su papá y su hermano menor. Ronnie, que no se habla con su padre desde que se divorció de su madre, no puede esperar a ser mayor de edad y poder tomar sus propias decisiones. Así, decide ignorar a su padre, un profesor de piano que desde chica le inculcó el amor por la música.

Lo que comienza como un verano intolerablemente eterno, pronto se torna en un punto de inflexión para Ronnie, al conocer a Will, un atractivo jugador de vóleybol y voluntario en el acuario, y enamorarse por primera vez de un chico. Así, comenzamos a ver poco a poco la gran evolución de Ronnie a lo largo de la novela, al tener que aceptar que, a veces, las cosas no son nada simples y que las personas suelen equivocarse.

Sin embargo, me arriesgaría a decir que el primer amor no es la temática central de la novela, sino un método de distracción que utiliza el autor para hacer que el lector se encariñe con los personajes y se vaya metiendo dulcemente en la historia. Con todo, a medida que el verano se va acercando a su final, un triste giro de los acontecimientos toma a Ronnie desprevenida y la acercará a su padre, lo que la hará redescubrir la

importancia del amor entre un padre y sus hijos. Como consecuencia, y en alusión al título de la novela, ambos compartirán una vez más su amor por la música para componer juntos la última canción.

"La última canción" es una novela preciosa que logra emocionar al lector hasta las risas y hasta las lágrimas.

### Una frase:

–Tienes que aprender a perdonar.

Ronnie cruzó los brazos.

–Ya he perdonado a Will. Le he dejado mensajes...

Incluso antes de que pudiera hablar su padre empezó a sacudir la cabeza.

–No estoy hablando de Will. Primero tienes que aprender a perdonarte a ti misma.

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### Nikoleta says

¿να πολ? γλυκ?, τρυφερ? και πολυυυυυυυ συγκινητικ? βιβλ?ο. Ε?ναι απλ? αφηγηματικ? και πολ? ευκολοδι?βαστο. Τα κεφ?λαια αν και σε τριτοπρ?σωπη αφ?γηση, χωρ?ζονται αν? ?ρωα, με την οπτικ? γων?α του καθ?να κ?θε φορ?, με μια μικρ? προτ?μηση στην Ρονι.

Το δι?βασα πολ? ευχ?ριστα, αλλ? σε ?να σημει?ο προς το τ?λος μου το χ?λασε, (εσε?ς που το διαβ?σατε ξ?ρετε σε τι αναφ?ρομαι, εσε?ς που θα το διαβ?σετε θα καταλ?βετε) θεωρ? ?τι το τρ?βηξε οοοσο μπορο?σε για να βγ?λει συγκ?νηση. Δεν ?ταν αν?γκη! Εκε? ψυχοπλακ?θηκα! Φυσικ? ?λο εκε?νο το κομμ?τι δεν το δι?βασα. Αφο? παρακ?λεσα για ?λεος, το π?ρασα κ π?γα παρακ?τω!!! Δεν μπορ? να κλα?ω στα βιβλ?α βρε παιδι?, με πι?νει η καρδι? μου! Στο σ?νολο του π?ντως αρκετ? καλ?! 3,5/5 αστερ?κια

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### Bree T says

I finished The Last Song and have sufficiently recovered from the thumping toothache it gave me from being so saccharine and sweet. Even after finishing it and mulling it over a bit, I'm still not entirely sure I liked it. I think I'm leaning very much towards no.

Veronica "Ronnie" Miller is 17 and going through 'that' stage. She's disrespectful to her mother, she goes out partying and clubbing in New York where she lives and she's also had a slight run in with the law due to some shoplifting. And she's less than thrilled when her mother packs her and her brother Jonah off to spend the summer in Nowhere, North Carolina with their dad. Their dad left three years ago and Ronnie hasn't spoken to him since. And she's definitely not interested in spending 3 months with him.

Ronnie is all types of attitude from the get-go. She meets a girl named Blaze at the local sort of carnival/fair on her first night and takes off with her and three older, trouble-written-all-over-them boys up the beach. She takes off the next morning refusing to tell her father where she was going and stays out until 2am. To be honest, if I'd have read this book when I was 17 and fighting for my own adult independence and freedom, I might have empathized with Ronnie a little. But quite frankly, she just struck me as a brat who needed a bit

of a kick up the wazoo.

Essentially, *The Last Song* is a coming of age story about Ronnie growing some self-awareness and some self-respect but it's done so fakely that I could just not get into it. Apart from the whole ridiculous storyline with Blaze and her semi-boyfriend Marcus, there's Will Blakelee thrown into the mix. Will is rich. Will is handsome. Will becomes enamored with Ronnie and the purple streaks in her hair and her black nailpolish from the first moment he collides with her on Ronnie's first night in town. They have several misunderstandings but it turns out that they like each other. They both think the other is different. They date. They fall in love! Oh no, Will's rich and snobby mother doesn't approve! Oh no, Marcus is lurking around causing trouble!

So many things happen in this book that just seem entirely unnecessary. The whole shoplifting thing with Blaze. The whole Marcus wrecking Will's sisters wedding thing. And then of course, there is the Reveal That Changes Ronnie Completely. It's such a trite, clichéd ending whereby girl learns the error of her selfish teenage ways and ascends the throne into adulthood over the course of about the last third of the summer. I usually like happy endings, and even though this one is kind of two parts sad with one part perfection, I was still extremely dissatisfied. This story was just so full of nauseating moments that I just couldn't really enjoy it. Even when Nicholas Sparks tries to make rebellious, evil characters, it doesn't quite ring true. They don't seem all that fleshed out – more like what he thinks antagonists should be. Even Ronnie at her wildest was pretty tame for a teenager. She went to all sorts of clubs in New York City and never even had a drink.

There was also far too much religion in the latter part of this book for me to stomach. Sparks seems quite religious, God and religion was a bit of a theme in *Dear John* too, but it was much more prevalent in this book. All the praying and the God's way and God's will at the end got a bit much for me personally. Some people might really identify with that but I find heavy handed religion pretty off putting in novels.

I hear a lot of criticism about Sparks about his novels being pretty cookie-cutter. After *Dear John* I thought that if they were all like that, it'd be quite possible those critics were right. But *The Last Song* stepped it up to a whole new level! This book is no different from a thousand teenage romance stories out there. I think that might do me for Nicholas Sparks – for the foreseeable future anyway.

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### **[Shai] The Bibliophage says**

I wasn't able to fully appreciate this book the first time I've read it. I thought I should give this novel a chance, thus I read this again to see if I will like this more on the second time. I didn't like it, but rather I love it! I could see myself on Ronnie's shoes at family matters only. And how I wish that I have someone like Will in my life too just like Ronnie. **hahaha!**

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### **The Translation Abbey says**

**"La vida era como una canción.**

**En el comienzo, hay misterio, al final, hay una confirmación, pero es en el medio donde todas las emociones se asientan para hacer que todo valga la pena".**

¡¡Amé, amé, AMÉ este libro!!

Sin embargo... ¡a leer con Kleenex!

Los que vieron la peli, ya están prevenidos de que se puede terminar así:

...o así...

o, como en mi caso, así:

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### **Aisyah (´• ? •?) ? says**

This is my fav nick sparks book ever! Which is saying something because his other book, A Walk to Remember is heartwrenchingly beautiful and made me bawl like a baby!

One of the main reasons why I adore this book is the writing, I love how the characters interact with each other and everyone has their sassy pants on. I had fun reading this book :D

I've been fangirling during the cute moments between Ronnie and Will. They banter and kid around with each other a lot, but you could also sense the connection and chemistry between the two of them.

Their relationship feels real, it relies on mutual respect and trust which I really like because it doesn't promote any elements of the infamous insta-love theme \*shudders\*. They were frenemies at first but of course the love between them develops into something much deeper...

This book has multiple POVs, each person has their own voice/writing style, my favorites are of course, Ronnie and Will's. I've read a couple of books where everyone sounds the same, thankfully this wasn't the case. What makes this book different is that we also get POV from the antagonists, which brings a different angle, and also better understanding of events that happened in the book. Although I kinda feel guilty for skipping some of the parts from Ronnie's dad cause it's boring (sorry). Beware though, this book made me cry like a whole lot due to unexpected feels. So make sure there are tissues near you, just in case.

P.S Nick Sparks wrote this book especially for Miley. She's awesome :)

Update 2/2/17

I wrote this review back in 2013 but I just wanna add this here because I'm a big fan of Miley (seriously her song, Adore You remains my favorite of hers) and I was struck with a wave of nostalgia when I saw it on Instagram because it's just like that moment in the car when they sang together, but only now it's Miley and Liam <3

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### **Chelsey the crazy cat lady says**

Loved this book. It was different to the movie and went into more detail. I loved the ending better than the movie, after such a sad thing that happened I was glad Ronnie and Will get back together.

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### **Arlene says**

I've read a few Sparks books and for the most part, I've really enjoyed them from beginning to end. However, **The Last Song** took me quite a while to get into, and I was very close to throwing in the towel and giving up.

To be honest, I realized I went into reading it with a bad attitude. *\*is ashamed\** I'll explain my resistance... two words... one person... Miley Cyrus. Not a huge fan of hers, so when I started this book, her image and voice resonated in my brain and it matched perfectly with Ronnie's (short for Veronica) character. Coupled with the fact that her attitude at the beginning of the novel was a huge turn-off, I was close to calling it quits... UNTIL something happened on page 127... Ronnie saved the sea turtles... oh sweet nibblets, she had to go and save the sea turtles and my attitude soften and I plowed through the rest of the book in a few short hours.

Seventeen year old Ronnie Miller's life was turned upside down when her parents divorced and her father moved away from New York to North Carolina. After three years of anger and alienation from her father, she is forced to spend the summer in Wilmington with her dad, a former concert pianist and teacher. During this summer of growth, revelation and maturity, Ronnie is faced with the possibility of mending her differences and coming to terms with her new reality.

Overall, I feel this book isn't one of Sparks strongest examples of his writing abilities, but it's signature of his style to pull at your heart strings. I think what won me over was the main character's demonstration of personal growth, maturity and compassion, but it took me a while to get there. Good book with a slow start but strong ending. I'm glad I didn't give up because I ended up really liking it.

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