



# Everything Beautiful Is Not Ruined

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***Wild* meets *The Breakfast Club* in this story of a girl who must survive an extreme wilderness experience to prove to her mother that she has the strength to pursue her dreams.**

## ***Then***

Ingrid traveled all over Europe with her opera star mother, Margot-Sophia. Life was beautiful and bright, and every day soared with music.

## ***Now***

Ingrid is on a summertime wilderness survival trek for at-risk teens: addicts, runaways, and her. She's fighting to survive crushing humiliations, physical challenges that push her to her limits, and mind games that threaten to break her.

## ***Then***

When the curtain fell on Margot-Sophia's singing career, they buried the past and settled into a small, painfully normal life. But Ingrid longed to let the music soar again. She wanted it so much that, for a while, nothing else mattered.

## ***Now***

Ingrid is never going to make it through this summer if she can't figure out why she's here . . . and why the music really stopped.

## **Everything Beautiful Is Not Ruined Details**

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# From Reader Review Everything Beautiful Is Not Ruined for online ebook

## Clarabel says

Suivre le parcours de cette héroïne dans son trek infernal a été sincèrement stimulant. J'ai souvent souri, beaucoup compati, malgré moi gloussé et halluciné à la lecture de son apprentissage, mais c'est raconté à la fois avec fraîcheur, humour et ironie. Il faut lire toutes les lettres que la jeune fille adresse rageusement à sa mère, sa montagne de reproches tournés en dérision, sa sensation de subir un rite initiatique auquel elle n'était pas préparée (et on la comprend, imaginez vous balader avec vos papiers WC usagés pour protéger l'environnement... eh ouais !). Un roman qui cache aussi une bonne couche d'émotions ! Top.

<http://blogclarabel.canalblog.com/arc...>

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## Elise (TheBookishActress) says

well apparently this has an opera-singer as a mother I feel represented

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## Julia Sapphire says

### TW: Suicide, Depression and Sexual Assault

*“My demon is you. My best and worst is about you: how I need you and fear for you, how I fear for myself if I lose you, how I have let myself be defined by you.”*

This was such a good read. This book is about a girl named Ingrid who wants to attend a very acclaimed music school and her mother does not want her to go. Ingrid's mother's career went down the drain after her losing her voice and her passion as an opera singer. She is in a bad state of mind and believes that a career in music is not stable and does not want her daughter to be heart-broken as she was. They come to a deal, if Ingrid attends this outdoor wilderness survival camp and gets through it, she can attend her dream music school. We follow Ingrid writing to her mother at this camp and her experiences there, as well as her past and her growing up.

This book is a coming of age story, it's about what it's like to lose your passion, and it's about what it's like to not be allowed to pursue your passion. The writing was interesting and engaging along with the overall plot. I did find the main character annoying and juvenile at the start of this book but she eventually grew on me. I think a lot of people would be able to relate and connect with this book and its subject matter.

I enjoyed the overall atmosphere of the book and found myself being totally enthralled in learning about Ingrid and her family's past. I think this book brings a lot of topics to light with a diverse and interesting set of characters.

I loved the concept of family relationships and the complications. It also shows the importance of family in one's life and how a family member can really affect you in a positive or negative way. I loved the

relationship with Ingrid and her Dad, it was absolutely touching and very important.

I had few issues with this book, one being that sometimes I was more interested in one time period over the other, which is bound to happen. Two is some jokes that rubbed me the wrong way, one of the characters makes a joke about sexual assault and they talk about it in a really light way. I think it sugarcoated the situation at times. Then again it brought awareness to making charges and the pros and cons of doing so, which I have never seen a book discuss before.

(view spoiler)

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### **Olivia (The Candid Cover) says**

Everything Beautiful is Not Ruined is a million times better than I was hoping it would be. This book is about a camping trip and has some backstory woven in throughout the story. The supporting characters are all so developed and have such complex stories. The main character is also smart, strong, and musically talented. This book does not disappoint.

This book is a story that focuses on a summer camping trip in the wilderness and has bits of intricate backstory woven in. I loved switching between the present and the past, where the story of Ingrid's mother and the events leading up to the trip are revealed. The theatrical and survival aspects made for a nice contrast and made the book so unique. I was definitely not prepared for the big reveal at the end and appreciated the element of surprise.

One of the most interesting aspects of Everything Beautiful is Not Ruined is the cast of character. While Ingrid is away at camp, she meets a group of teens who are each troubled in their own way. At first, I had some doubts about a lot of the characters, but after learning each of their stories, most of them grew on me. Each of the characters is quirky and there's definitely more to them than what meets the eye. The growing bond between them was entertaining to read, and I enjoyed watching them start to rely on each other.

Ingrid is a clever and insightful main character. I enjoyed her sarcastic voice and her hilarious letters to her mom. Ingrid really transforms on the camping trip, and it is really inspiring watching her grow stronger. She is so determined to follow her dream, despite the protests from her mom, which I really admired. Her character really makes the book emotional and entertaining.

Everything Beautiful is Not Ruined alternates between past and present as it tells the story of a camping trip. The supporting characters are all so interesting and unique in their own way. Ingrid is also a strong character who comes a long way from who she is at the beginning – or technically the end – to the present. I would strongly recommend this book!

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### **PinkAmy loves &#x1f495; books&#x1f4d6;, cats&#x1f63b; and naps&#x1f6cf; says**

When Ingrid's mother sends her to a wilderness camp for troubled teens, she has no idea the camp immerses kids in survival training. Ingrid and eight other teens will be pushed to their physical and emotional limits, and if they're lucky, learn something about themselves.

EVERYTHING BEAUTIFUL IS NOT RUINED far exceeded my expectations. Through Ingrid's narration of how she ended up in camp and how she's surviving survival camp, readers see her grow from a child enmeshed in her mother, then parentified by her mother, then held back when her mom feels threatened by Ingrid's success. Ingrid is sympathetic, though not always likable. She holds back from fellow campers.

Danielle Younge-Ullman did a great job capturing Ingrid's toughness and vulnerability and gave Ingrid a unique and engaging voice. I will look for other books by Younge-Ullman in the future.

Most of EVERYTHING BEAUTIFUL IS NOT RUINED is well researched, except for having boys and girls share tents. No way. No how. There are guidelines and in some states laws against this. The camp wouldn't be accredited with such a policy and would be shut down if it didn't. I don't think the misinformation added to the plot, so I'm not sure why it was included.

At times the plot dragged, but mostly moved at a slow, steady pace. I never saw the twisty ending coming.

Most readers of realistic fiction will enjoy EVERYTHING BEAUTIFUL IS NOT RUINED.

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### **Lindsay?SingerOfStories? says**

I LOVED this book. I know that not everyone who reads it will love it in the way that I did, mainly because this book hit my two main teenage/college hobbies: camping and singing. Not only that but Ingrid's journey and trials were told through her experiences in these activities, making her connections with the outdoors and with her life in music even stronger. If you're thinking about reading this book, let me give you a little bit of a synopsis:

Everything Beautiful Is Not Ruined is told from Ingrid's point of view, but through two different timelines: one as she is growing up with her opera star-gone wrong mother, and one in the present on a month long wilderness survival-turned disaster trek she wasn't quite expecting. Growing up, Ingrid and her mother lived a wonderful life, with *Margot-Sophia Lalange* performing in the spotlight of the great opera houses until she does exactly what she knows not to do--she over sings and does not take care of her voice thus resulting in vocal nodes and the end of her career. Ingrid's mother becomes bitter regarding music and theater, and the glamorous life ends. Ingrid struggles to fit in at school and she grows up taking care of her mother. Eventually, a role in the school play and (of course) a boy will change many things for both Ingrid and her mother.

5-star ratings are very difficult to earn from me, but I'm feeling generous today and I will round up a 4.6 rating on this one to a 5 for a few reasons. First of all, the wilderness survival camp is one for at-risk teens and while Ingrid didn't feel that she wasn't "at-risk" so she didn't need to be there, she still toughened up and took it like a champ. I think that a lot of her thought processes were exactly like mine would have been (I won't really give more information than that because it's part of the humor and charm [lol...sass?]) of Ingrid. Second, the way that passion for music and performing on stage is described. How you get up on stage and more or less don't always know if you did well or not. Or Margo-Sophia's phrases like "You did well last night but today you must be better. Always better." In some ways she often comes across as self-centered but her career and that state of mind was her entire life. It was her state of mind for years. It was hard to see her discourage Ingrid from pursuing music but she was completely horrified for her. The one thing I did NOT like was how Ingrid treated Isaac after the show and the incident with the other girl. I didn't think that blaming him so strongly was fair at all and I hated that. I thought that was the big chink in the book for me.

And the end, of course, is a cryfest and my biggest weakness in books. It could have been more played up but I think it was just the right amount considering the characters so I say it was very well done. Overall, wonderful book. It is one that I highly recommend.

--I was given a copy of this book by Xpresso Book Tours in exchange for an honest review--

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### **MeggieBree says**

Holy. S\*\*t. I would give this book 6 stars if I could.

Ingrid is the daughter of a very successful opera singer, and her childhood is spent being home-schooled by her beautiful diva of a mother and travelling around Europe. She didn't get a chance to make many friends, as they were always travelling, but she didn't feel like that was much of a loss as her and her mother were very close. As long as they had each other, why would they need anyone else? When tragedy strikes and her mother is unable to sing anymore, they travel back to her small town Ontario and try to start a "normal" life.

The story is told in alternating chapters - Ingrid's past, beginning from her childhood when her mother lost her voice, and Ingrid's present, participating in Peak Wilderness, a wilderness camp that was part of a deal between her and her mother. I don't want to say too much else as I don't want to ruin anything for anyone.

The characters were all amazing. They all had realistic flaws and were just lovely. The story - plot, structure, style - beautiful. I truly loved how she depicted depression, it was so heart-breakingly real.

I wish that I hadn't read this at work. I finished this book while sitting at my desk in the library, while around me 20 students wrote their provincial math exam in dead silence and I was desperately trying not to bawl my eyes out.

Everything Beautiful is Not Ruined is one of my all-time favourite books that I have gotten from NetGalley (thank you NetGalley), with bonus marks for being Canadian (#readthenorth)! I will definitely be purchasing this book for our school library, and will probably eventually try and pick up a copy for myself as well. Danielle Younge-Ullman will definitely be an author to watch for.

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### **Vishaka Rajan says**

I received this novel as an advanced copy from NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

There are many YA fiction novels out there that discuss how a teenager deals with problems in her life. Some of these stories are good and some of them don't really make the cut. I haven't read one of these tearjerker novels in a while and I wasn't really expecting this novel to be one. But after reading the first chapter, I knew exactly what it was all about. I continued to read... and I'm so glad I did, because this novel definitely blew me away!

I adored this novel. Truly, I did. From the synopsis to the actual writing to the characters, everything was flawless and perfect. I couldn't have asked for a better story!

I loved the different characters that we were introduced to, even though it was apparent that Ingrid was the star of the show. The descriptions of the other characters was given through Ingrid and I really liked how this was done, because it showed Ingrid as someone who is not self-absorbed and consumed by her own problems. Ingrid, while seeming to be quiet, is actually a firecracker who knows how to stand up for herself. She may have wanted to back down from the challenges she faced but she doesn't, and that made me love her character! The other characters from the camp were written very well and did a good job in terms of giving Ingrid the support and baseboard that she needed in order to "grow".

I really enjoyed the way this story was written. The chapters would flit from the past to the present and it was really interesting to read from both perspectives and see how they all matched up. The emotions that Ingrid felt in the past, and the pain she was carrying with her in the present were powerfully written; it made me want to go and hug her! The story never dragged, which was really great to see since I frequently find books in this genre are ... slow-paced.

Overall, this book is emotionally-packed. It will make you laugh out loud, and cry, and just ... FEEL so much! I loved Ingrid, I loved Margot-Sophia, I loved every character (except Peace, of course)! This novel was amazing in terms of its writing style, pacing, story line, and character development. I would recommend this to anyone looking for a good teen fiction that will make you emotional!

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### **Chelsea (chelseadolling reads) says**

You guys, this was so good. Like, SO GOOD.

Read it read it read it READ IT.

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### **Emmy Ruijven says**

Damn. Zoveel feels.

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### **Allie Lane says**

Honestly I would give this book 4.5 stars probably if that were an option.

This was one of the more gripping YA books I've read in a long time, not in that it was particularly intense or anything, but for whatever reason I could not put it down and finished it over the course of one day.

I really liked Ingrid as a protagonist and some of the elements of this story were super-refreshing. (Spoilers from here on)

I loved Andreas staying and choosing to stay and fighting for Ingrid and for her mom. It was so encouraging and beautiful and the relationship between Ingrid and Andreas is definitely my favourite of the whole book. I also enjoyed her dalliance with Tavik and the realism of him being just a fling and a friend when she needed it.

The thing that downgraded it from 5 stars to 4-4.5 for me was her return to Isaac at the end. I found him

boring at best and irritating at worst and Ingrid can do soooo much better and this book would have been stronger for more of an “I choose myself!” ending.

Also Margot-Sophia is the straight up worst but she’s supposed to be, so, I can’t find fault with that.

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## Lala Books and Lala says

This was excellent.

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## Zemira (Kylo Ren fangirl) Warner says

I've been a fan of Danielle Younge-Ullman since 2012, when I read *Falling Under* is still embedded onto my soul and I don't think I'll ever stop loving it. Last year she published her first new adult novel and this year, her first young adult novel.

Everything Beautiful Is Not Ruined is Ingrid's road to survival. She is at a wilderness camp where things could always get worse but nothing is bad as the life waiting for her in the real world. She might want to give up, sit and cry at times but her passion for what's ahead would save her in the end. Her struggle was genuine and she always felt like a real person, not a character.

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## Fatma says

love love love. so many emotions right now.

imma do this review Random Thoughts style:

? **If I had to sum up this book I would say it's all about Complicated Shit. I'm not kidding. The beauty of *Everything Beautiful is Not Ruined* is that you get to see Ingrid work through all her emotional and psychological turmoil throughout the book.** You go to hell and back with her as she tries to untangle her mess of emotions, and when she finally does, you're just so damn happy for her. I just really love Complicated Shit books, man. They're emotionally taxing, but they're 100% worth it. (If you liked *We Are the Ants*, then you might like this too. They're not particularly similar content-wise, but they're both YA contemporaries about, as aforementioned, Complicated Shit, and the process of sorting through it.)

? **Ingrid is a wonderful main character. She's caustic and self-aware and upfront and I love her for all those things.**

? I loved how Younge-Ullman explored Ingrid's—here's that word again—*complicated* relationship with her mom, who, by the way, was a really fascinating character (both fiercely loving yet aloof, distant yet unhesitatingly vocal). Like Marchetta's *Saving Francesca*, this book deals with how a mother's mental illness—depression in particular—takes its toll on her, her daughter, and their relationship.

? THAT ENDING THO. I may or may not have cried.

? **ok but the premise behind this book was VERY clever and well-executed. You go back and forth between Ingrid's time at this super intense camp and her past at home with her mom and at her school. And lemme tell you, these two plotlines complemented each other incredibly well: the former informs the latter and the latter informs the former. Together, they worked almost magically to breathe life into Ingrid's character and to explain why she made the decisions she made. Honestly, kudos to Younge-Ullman for pulling it all off, because she *did*.**



Definitely one of the best contemporaries that I've recently read. Highly recommend you give this one a try.

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### **Erin says**

Wow! This YA novel was so much more than what I was expecting. Beautiful writing, captivating characters, and tons of tough topics that were handled with the utmost respect. I know that I am not going into times of detail. Suffice it to say, this is a book that you don't leave on the shelf.

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