



A Way Back To Then

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Snarky yet good-hearted Robbie DeCaro made his first appearance in the pages of Tales from Foster High: End of the Innocence, years after the loss of his first and only love. A New York transplant, Robbie now decides that his work is done in the town of Foster, and the time has come for him to leave Texas.

Returning to his childhood home on Long Island, Robbie reunites with his family members. Each using their own unique methods, they try in vain to help Robbie reset to a life he knew before he left it all for the fairy-tale love he found, then tragically lost.

As he remembers some of the darkest moments from his past, Robbie wonders if he'll ever find the "after" in "happily ever after."

A Way Back To Then Details

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From Reader Review A Way Back To Then for online ebook

Deeze says

I was so looking forward to Robbies story, and it lived up to all my hopes.

From the last book I knew Robbie was going to surprise me and he did. He is nothing like I thought him to be from previous books. He is much deeper.

While I certainly needed my tissues in certain parts, this was not the tear fest I was expecting. Instead I got a sweet story of 2 guys coming together despite a rocky start. There was plenty of humour to equal out the sadder parts.

Robbies family added a little extra kick, especially his uncle. I hope one day he can tell his own story.

Even though this is told by a different author, it fits in the same mold as the rest of the stories.

As for that ending, all I can say is I'm glad I have the next books lined up ready.

ETA

Can't add anything more. Tears and laughter. Not sure why I only gave it 4 stars the first time but it deserves the full 5

Christy says

4.5 Stars ~ I remember thinking when I first saw this book on the coming soon shelves of Dreamspinner Press, "What the hell?" I mean, 'Tales from Foster High' is a much loved series of mine, and I'm mad, crazy about its author, John Goode. So, who was this interloper, Robert Halliwell, and why was he writing Robbie's story? I'd loved Robbie from the first moment I met him, how was this author going to understand him? Well, trust me my friends, Mr. Halliwell did a phenomenal job, and I owe him an apology for not believing in him right from the start.

"Whether it's four decades or two years, you never feel like it was ever enough."

I sat on the arm of the sofa next to him. "There's a piece of my heart that still cries every day." I looked up at the faded coffered ceiling. "I can't be shattered again." I turned my head to hide my tears."

The last I'd seen of Robbie, he was driving away from Kyle after graduation, and leaving Foster, Texas, forever. The sad, angry, bitter man I'd first met had opened his heart, just a wee bit, to two high school kids, and now he was heading home to his people, to try to find his own happy ever after. 'A Way Back to Then' is written all from Robbie's point of view, instead of the alternating points in the Foster High series. This was a relief, actually, because I learned so much more about Robbie - his childhood, his growing up gay, his family, his life in Foster, his thoughts and dreams - than I ever would have otherwise.

"You're terrified of letting anyone back in." He poked me right in the chest. "You've built a wall up, dug a moat, and hired an army to be on watch at all times to make sure you don't get hurt again."

If you know me, then you'll know that a lot of this story hit way too close to home. I loved seeing Robbie finally learn to accept (or, at the very least, begin to) that he can't keep people at arm's length so he can protect himself from ever getting hurt. Life is painful, and it can suck, in a really big way. Robbie already knew this, but what he starts to learn is that sometimes life can give you another, different happy ever after.

A wonderful addition to a series I love, and the author left me with a bit of a cliff-hanger, so I'll need to get cracking on the next book fairly quickly. Thank you, Robert, I enjoyed every moment.

NOTE: This book was provided by Dreamspinner Press for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews

Elsbeth says

BR, June 5th (release-day) with Paul, Sonia, Julie and Momo

4,25 stars

First of all, I want to compliment the author Robert Halliwell for doing such a good job in portraying the voice of Robbie. The Robbie, John Goode introduced and made us love in the Tales of Foster High series.

Robbie was just as I imagined him to be and I loved reading more about him..

I hurt for him for losing Riley the way he did. How do you come back from experiencing something like that..

So, in the last installment of Foster High, Robbie returns home to Long Island/New York. With the help of his family he tries to make something of his future again..

I absolutely adored Robbie's family. His mom, sister and his uncle were such loving people and were determined to help Robbie get on his feet again!!

And then he met Sebastian... Sebastian which I thought was a perfect match for Robbie. Sebastian was very different than Riley but Robbie had changed also, so it made sense for me that Sebastian was "the guy" for Robbie.

Robbie

Sebastian

My favorite quote that teared me up also!!

"Riley was the prince on the white horse whom I needed to get me out of the life I was in years ago. While Foster wasn't a shiny castle, I didn't want anything else. We rarely argued and he gave me

anything I wanted, whether material or not. There wasn't much I wanted, but I was happy to know the offer was always there.

Then he left me.

I had nothing.

The castle was empty and the glass slipper had shattered into a thousand pieces.

After some time, I tidied up the castle and fixed that damn shoe all by myself. Except I never put it back on, but instead locked it in the highest tower to prevent it from being broken ever again.

When I moved back here to the provincial town I grew up in, I didn't want anything to do with anyone except my family, and I certainly didn't want to find love.

Especially with the guy who looked like he should be delivering ice to the local royalty.

Sebastian is exactly what I need.

He's a big teddy bear with a body like a guardian of the galaxy. He has never disrespected me and has never taken any of my bullshit either.

Sebastian has never been jealous or uncomfortable if my sister or mother mention Riley during a conversation.

He knows I had a life before him, and he knows what Riley meant to us all.

He has never made any attempt to make us think that he's better than Riley or that he's here to fill the holes in our hearts.

He's Sebastian and he's different. He isn't here to impress anyone and that's what makes him so impressive.

Robbie deserved his *Happily Ever After* and I'm happy he will get it!! I do hope though to see more of Robbie and Sebastian in the following installments!!

Marcie says

******4.5 STARS******

Robbie has finally decided it was time to leave Foster and move back home to Long Island with his family. And if you lived Robbie you'll love his mom, sister, and uncle just as much. Moving back home didn't magically or instantly make things better. But the families support sets him on the path that will give him the happily ever after he so deserves.

Emotional, funny, and so good! If Mr. Halliwell decides to give this writing thing another go, consider it already on my kindle.

Mel says

My favourite character from Tales From Foster High after Kyle is probably Robbie. I think I really even like him better than Brad. Maybe. Ah well, I don't have to decide, do I?

I'm assuming you've read the last books in the series, so I won't make a spoiler out of former events.

My life ended up becoming one big fractured fairy tale. I'd just recently picked up the last piece in order to start Krazy Gluing it all back together.

Disney never makes movies about those kinda stories.

Over the last books Robbie stole my heart. This broken guy who lived through the worst that life can throw at you, the death of your other half, and under the worst circumstances, too. To read about him and Riley in the last books was the hardest for me.

On the note that '151 Days' ended, though, I thought for the first time that I would be able to handle to read Robbie's story, because who he and Riley were is precious. I decided to want to know more about them, although my heart was already broken.

I wanted to see a happy ending for Robbie so very bad. I wanted so bad for him to move on, to still love Riley, but to open his heart again for someone else. I needed him to be whole again.

Moving on to 'A Way Back to Then', I found the balance between scenes from the past and the present to be perfect. It was just the right amount of former events and feelings to understand the misery and struggle that Robbie was going through, without living only in the past and mourning Riley.

It's understandingly hard for Robbie to come out of his hiding hole again. He wants to, but he really has no idea how. So, it's kinda good he has some meddling family members who nudge him into the right direction :D

So, I really loved the first half of the book. The pacing was wonderful and Robbie's snark is just plain out hilarious:

**"Nice?" I said. "That translates to 'scary troll who eats kitty litter' in my book, Nicki."
She sighed. "He's not scary, nor does he like pussy of any variety."**

I liked the book, but I didn't love it. There are things that didn't work for me so well.

1.) Robbie in the past and Robbie in the now

I have difficulties merging those two into one person. It's weird because they should be one, but somehow aren't. It's actually addressed in the book that the Robbie we saw in Foster was living an act, and I find the reason given plausible and satisfying. But that's the Robbie I got to know, the Robbie I first met.

It's a bit hard to really put my finger on it, it's more of a feeling, but to give some examples, Robbie in the

present isn't fashionable at all, and his whole persona is less out there. In Foster—he says it himself—he was acting gayer. He can still be a bitch, but I think he's less diva, he's less everything. Again, it's explained, but he's just different and... yeah.

2.) Robbie and Sebastian

(Sorry, this'll be full of spoilers)

What an awful first date. Both Robbie and Sebastian behave like judgemental bitches and self-righteous pricks. Okay, that's fine. That can happen.

What I have so much difficulties wrapping my head around is how things evolve from there. And I think this is just because I am totally different than they are. I don't think this couldn't happen, it's just that I am living on a different planet or something.

They fight, first verbally and then Robbie even punches Sebastian in the nuts, and what happens next is just so alien to me, I can't even. Sebastian kisses Robbie, they have sex and Sebastian spends the night.

What astonishes me just as much is that the next morning, when Sebastian finds a picture of Robbie and Riley, Robbie tells him everything. He gets it all out, the worst moment of his life, telling it to this stranger he just met. I mean, he spent so much time locking this part of him away, that I can't believe he would tell Sebastian everything after, well... nothing. A one-night stand.

Don't get the assumption, I'm somehow on Robbie's uncle's side. Far from it. I just can't see it, I can't believe it.

I'm very happy that Robbie found a way to move on. It's just not the way I'd pictured it. Why the rush? All in all, we are only shown one week, two meetings. That wasn't enough for me.

Although I'm not a fan of these two things, I still liked reading the book. It was funny, emotional, and easy to read. It just flowed and I was always surprised at my fast progress.

I'm very much looking forward to the next books that are coming out very soon. And I'm quite curious about what we'll see about Robbie and Sebastian in the future, too.

Cristina T. says

Dear Robbie (Halliwell),

*I have to be honest with you. I had high expectations of this book, because I adored Robbie in 'Tales from Foster High', and I was really excited about reading more of his story. Now, I know expectations are dangerous, because sometimes you get disappointed as a reader with a book that doesn't meet them. But I can honestly say that you, m'dear, have exceeded my expectations by far! You are a **fantastic** writer, and I truly hope you publish more books in the future! Please tell me there's more in store for Robbie, too... Also, I don't know what kind of magic you worked, but 'A Way Back To Then' does not feel detached from the rest of the series. It fits like a missing piece of the puzzle. And by that, I mean that you portrayed the character of Robbie perfectly. Seriously, thank you **so much** for writing this! In-fucking-credible job!*

*Yours truly,
Cristina T.*

Warning: Spoilery and chaotic review!

First of all, let me introduce the MCs, who are perfect, and chosen by Robbie (Halliwell) himself... ;-)

Robbie is back in Long Island, because he needs to try to pierce his life back together and he's sick of Texas. Gone is the flamboyant man, his theatrics are turned down to a minimum, the façade left behind. He later explains his Foster behavior to Sebastian...

"I was the token gay character on the CW's *Tales from Foster*. The shop became my stage and I put on a Tony-award-winning performance every chance I got. I wasn't the butchest fag on the block to begin with, but when I had a new audience to impress, I turned it up three degrees gayer."

You know what shattered my heart like the proverbial glass slipper Robbie talks about? His past with Riley, and how unfair it was for him to lose him like that and to have to deal with the trauma after. I just felt the need to wrap Robbie in a blanket and cuddle him forever.

Riley was the prince on the white horse whom I needed to get me out of the life I was in years ago. While Foster wasn't a shiny castle, I didn't want anything else. We rarely argued and he gave me anything I wanted, whether material or not. There wasn't much I wanted, but I was happy to know the offer was always there.

Then he left me.

I had nothing.

The castle was empty and the glass slipper had shattered into a thousand pieces.

After some time, I tidied up the castle and fixed that damn shoe all by myself. Except I never put it back on, but instead locked it in the highest tower to prevent it from being broken ever again.

Then **Sebastian** swoops in, and he helps Robbie cradle that shoe like it's the most precious thing in the world. He cherishes Robbie, and he puts his cards on the table, letting Robbie know how he feels.

"I'm too old to play chicken with someone I like anymore. I'm tired of those kind of games. I like you, I want you to know it, so fuck it. And how many other times will I be able to tell people a first date began with dinner and someone punching me in the 'nads?"
he added.

See, I thought Riley was the perfect match for Robbie, and after what happened to him—to *them*—I didn't think anyone would break past the thorns in front of Robbie's castle again... But then I came to accept that Riley wouldn't come back, and I started to warm up to Seb. I mean, seeing Sebastian through Robbie's eyes, I judged him at first, too. But that all stopped when I saw his heart of gold and how smart he really was. He was exactly what Robbie needed at that point in his life, someone to help him move on and heal.

Sebastian is exactly what I need. He's a big teddy bear with a body like a guardian of the galaxy. He has never disrespected me and has never taken any of my bullshit either.

Anyway. I could ramble on and on about how awesome this book is, but I feel like this review is getting too long—if you've read this far, congrats and thanks, haha. I just want to say two more things...

#1 – I loved Robbie's family!!! They're all cray-cray, hilarious and very supportive. Mama Rose was great, and I liked James *a lot*—save for that one time where he was a raging bitch and I wanted to slap some sense into him!

#2 – Sean is the most annoying and awful human being ever! I hated him with a passion, but was very pleased when Robbie called him a fungus! *snickers*

I am happy Robbie got his happy ending, after all, despite his trek through hell.

P.S. Shout-out to **John Goode**, who created the incredible Foster High world, and who had the brilliant idea to ask Robbie to write this book! *Thank you, John!!! :)*

R * A Reader Obsessed * says

Robbie DeCaro has been through so much, and he definitely hides behind a false bravado and a severely dangerous, sharp wit. This was his story about healing, about acknowledging one's fears, and despite them, finding the strength to return to the land of the living. My emotions were constantly being tossed around to extreme highs and touching lows. It was comedy central meets depressing gravity. I loved Robbie's brilliant inner, judgmental bitch, Sebastian's astounding tolerance and patience, and of course the DeCaro clan who was so over the top hilarious in showing their love.

Still just as poignant, just as affecting as all the other characters' stories, Halliwell seamlessly bridges this book with Goode's wonderful Tales of Foster High series. Though overflowing with snark, sass, and humor, there was no shirking of the emotional fallout that is standard in every story I've read thus far. A fabulous segue from the usual levity. Bravo.

Thanks to Meags for keeping me on track, or else this would have been another victim floating aimlessly in my never ending TBR pile!

Kyle says

Quite a pleasant surprise!

This book, the seventh in the Tales of Foster High series, breaks away from the two main characters, Kyle and Brad, and tells the story of Robbie DeCaro's return home to New York. If you recall from book six, 151

Days, Robbie is the second-hand store owner that befriends Kyle and Brad. When they move off to college he sell his store and returns to New York.

I had never really related to Robbie as a character in any off the Tales from Foster High and when I started this book I really didn't expect to enjoy it all that much. I didn't love it but I did enjoy reading it. There were plenty of laughs. Some drama but it never took it's self too seriously. It's not a long book but worth the quick read.

Sonia ~Ruber's fiancé in Crystal Court universe~ says

4.5 stars

***spoilerish, so be warned* - AWESOME BR with Paul, Momo, Elsbeth, Julie and Nathan :D**

I would like to start my review by expressing my admiration for real life Robbie (Halliwell).

Why you ask? Well, we all know writing is not easy (you will be able to see how not easy it is by reading my review *snickers*). So, to not only write a **truly wonderful book**, but to write a book about a character introduced by **another awesome author** - John Goode (of which you are a huge fan. Really, Robbie, that took a lot of courage and dedication!!) and **be able to do that character justice?** Well... Let me tell you... That's A HUGE FREAKING DEAL!

And Robbie Halliwell did all these things! And he did them splendidly! I enjoyed "A way back to then" so, so much!

It's not secret I adored Robbie when we first met him, even when he was a massive bitch (or maybe especially then)! So although I was really excited to read more about him, at the same time I was nervous that maybe Robbie written by Robbie will not be who we met and I would be disappointed...

Needless to say that didn't happen. **Instead I fell more in love with him! Robbie was exactly how I remember him to be, but more. He was hilarious, snarky, clever and a big meany at times, but boy oh boy do I adore him!** He was also fragile, a broken man trying to pick up the pieces of a once fairytale life.

"Riley was the prince on the white horse whom I needed to get me out of the life I was in years ago. While Foster wasn't a shiny castle, I didn't want anything else."[...]Then he left me. I had nothing. The castle was empty and the glass slipper had shattered into a thousand pieces.

God! It killed me to read Robbie and Riley's ending in the previous Foster High books, and I honestly considered skipping that part here, but then I thought if Robbie (and John for that matter) were able to write it then I better get my ass in gear and read it! (I'm honestly crying even now, just thinking about it). It was a terrible ending to an other wise beautiful love story, it was such a pleasure to read about how they met
happy sigh

"The nerd in question asked about Orion's Belt. Bam! I awoke instantly. Not that I gave a shit

about Orion's Belt, shoes, or any other accessory, but I was interested by the deep, sexy drawl I'd just heard come out of my classmate's mouth. [...] "Scuse me," he said. "Mind if I sit here?" I counted to three and raised my head slowly to make sure I wasn't dreaming. I turned to look up at the boy with the Property of Foster High Athletic Department sweatshirt on and shook my head. [...] "Name's Riley," I heard in a muffled tone. "

So although I knew it was hopeless, I was so in love with the idea of Robbie and Riley, that I couldn't imagine what could top that. And you know what? **Robbie Halliwell is one clever man!** Because if he would have created some epic love story for Robbie, with a larger than life new man that outshines all the Riley was and represented I would have been so pissed! So it was genius to bring in Sebastian! Oh, I disliked him big time at first, because we saw him through Robbie judging eyes; so stuff that appeared to be one way (like Sebastian checking himself out in the window of a restaurant *yuck!* was him actually adjusting his contacts) were in fact misinterpretations made by our pig-headed MC :P And that was also genius! **I see what you did there, Robbie Halliwell!** But Sebastian charmed me, he was refreshing and I liked that he called Robbie on his bullshit. His reaction when hearing about Riley was beautiful and the way he pursues Robbie and makes him take a chance on them was awesome!!

"What do you want me to tell you, Rob?" he asked, taking half a step away from me. "Do you want me to tell you that I've been going nuts thinking about the past week and not talking to you? Is that it? Do you want me to tell you that your sister got so sick of me asking about you that she finally relented and told me where you were going to be?"

So I believe Sebastian was exactly what Robbie needed to move on with his life.

"Sebastian is exactly what I need. He's a big teddy bear with a body like a guardian of the galaxy. He has never disrespected me and has never taken any of my bullshit either. He never judges my little OCD moments, but he has helped me overcome some of them. "

So, I am more than pleased with how this all turned out. Thank you for making that happen, Robbie!
**giggles* it's so amusing trying to differentiate between Robbie and RL Robbie.*

We also meet Robbie's mom and uncle, who are freaking crazy!!! But so funny and lovable. Trust me, just go read the book, you'll pee your pants laughing so hard.

"From my bedroom I could see the front door perfectly. It opened and my mother and uncle stood just outside. One of them was holding a golf club and the other a salami. I'll let you guess who held what."

There's also Sean, who we don't like! I said we don't lie Sean! Remember that, it's important! Ughh!! Wish I could have put my boot through his face :D

The only thing that that bothered me a bit (since I am not a fan of the insta-love or love at-first-sight *yuck!* tropes) was how fast Robbie and Sebastian got together, but that was so beautifully explained that I got over it really fast :D

" No, I don't have a warped reality of love at first sight or some bullshit like that. I really do

love Sebastian and for some stupid reason he loves me back. I mean, he's big and doofy and sexy as hell while I'm just... me. But I guess that does it for him. You're not supposed to know how love works, because if we did, there wouldn't be so many cat ladies in the world. "

So I hope my review makes some kind of sense, but if it doesn't just remember this: I loved the book and you should go read it! Now! Go! Stop looking at me!

Bye!

BWT (Belen) says

4.5 Stars

Wow. Just...Wow. Brilliantly done. Robert Halliwell takes the story of Robbie which John Goode started, and continues it in a similar snarky, sarcastic, witty way, but also in a way that absolutely blew. me. away.

As a HUGE fan of the series I was a bit worried that someone else was writing one of the books. I'm so happy to say I wasn't disappointed with this installment. **I was actually over the moon happy with the final product.**

Robbie has long been my least favorite character...truthfully? His bitchiness and personality has been one that grated on me at every turn. But that opinion's undergone a complete 180 with this story.

Bravo, sir. Brilliant.

RECOMMENDED!

This review has been cross-posted at Reviews by Jessewave.

Meags says

4 Stars

So good! Another great addition to the Tales from Foster High series.

As a huge fan of Robbie DeCaro, I was chomping at the bit to get my hands on this baby! Since his first appearance in the series, I've always had a major soft spot for Robbie's character. It didn't matter whether he was being a grade A bitch, if he was making me laugh hysterically with his snark, or whether he was breaking my heart with his devastating tears--every on page moment Robbie had, his character stole the show. So no surprises that I was eager to read his very own story, and thankfully, I was not disappointed!

I really enjoyed the fact that this story was set away from Foster. I've always considered the town of Foster

to be its very own, majorly imposing character within this series. A character that has left me emotionally drained over my recent 6 book marathon (yes, I was slow on the uptake, but I quickly learnt the error of my ways). So, yeah, it was great getting a reprieve from all the Foster madness for a while. That's not to say this story was without emotion, because there were plenty of tears from my end—I seriously think John and Robert are two genius bastards who just love making us ugly cry, and weirdly I'm okay with that.

I liked a lot of aspects of this story. I loved Robbie's family, I **LOVED** all the pop culture references (view spoiler)

Plus, those chapter title mash-ups where the *fricken bomb* .

Robbie and Sebastian's romance was fantastic; I appreciated how not-perfect all of Robbie's initial interactions with Sebastian were (reality, bitches!). And, most importantly, I adored getting to know Robbie's character even more. He truly is a book character favourite of mine.

Before I fade away into the GR mist, I have to give praise to Robert Halliwell for writing this story for us (and John). I'd imagine jumping in to write a story within an already well established series would be scary as fuck, especially when said story is about you (or based on you, to a degree), but damned if Robert didn't smash it out of the park!

„•*°*~Gwendolyn~°**★°**★ says

A 4 Star Heartfelt Journey!

Robbie's Journey, *le sigh*...

Seat belts on, cuz, "Bitch-mode unlock" <---Fav!

Ooh my gosh, what a ride! It could have used a bit of smexy/steam but....I adored this read.

I loved taking Robbie's, occasional detour's in his little lime green bug, it made for a fun and smooth ride. But, gosh there were so many other **reason's why this ride was so delightful.**

REASON# 1 This book pick's up beautifully from book #6 of the Tales of Foster high.

REASON # 2 The execution was one of the smoothest I have EVER read.

REASON # 3 The pace was excellent.

REASON # 4 The writing style-sweet light and fun!

REASON # 5. The voice, flamboyant slang.

REASON # 6 The storyline, heartfelt..

REASON # 7 The drama queen'ish attitude.

REASON # 8 The fairytale like romance...diva style.

REASON # 9 The insta-love/hate romance, with chemistry.

REASON #10 Chapter 3, it was unbelievable, unrealistic, and funny.

The only thing I did not like were the black out scenes. Not my thing.

Can this book standalone. YES!

It is because, there are flashbacks and the flashbacks will allow you to read this as a standalone. But, I'm glad I read the whole series and grateful I have another book waiting.

P.S.

Robert Halliwell you had me at the first sentence..and kept me till the last word....wow, you are gifted. You gave me a Rock solid 4 Star Heartfelt Journey. *Thank You!* " I only wish this had some smexy scenes.

? Todd says

~

"Bitch mode unlocked." That's my favorite line from this entire book. :)

The line is not only telling as far as the type of dialogue delivered by **Robbie, the quirky, bitter and devastated Foster transplant**, but also of the general tone of book 7 of the "Tales of Foster High" series.

Robbie is a bit of a **self-proclaimed cunt**. But it's always best to know and embrace yourself, right? Well, he does and he isn't very good sugar coating anything, so he really doesn't try to. **Ever.**

Book 7, "**The Way Back to Then**", is Robbie's tale and chronicles a lot of back story from Robbie growing up, attending college, meeting Riley and all that follows.

If you enjoy books that help fill in why characters in a series behave the way that they have in previous books, then this is definitely a book for you.

When Kyle and Brad leave Foster for college in California, Robbie decides that **his work in Foster is 'D.O.N.E.'** and he needs to get the hell out of Dodge, finally able to leave without feeling like Foster has beaten him.

So he packs his bags and moves back to Long Island with his family. But Robbie's mind is still firmly planted in the past, with Riley, so he isn't really moving forward with his life.

That doesn't last long, though, as he runs into an old 'friend', then is set up on a disastrous blind date by his sister. From that point on, Robbie begins to actually **heal** and entertain thoughts of moving on with his life.

The book is **very bitter and jaded**, which I normally *hate* with a passion hotter than three suns, but the story is tinged with **a ton of humor**, so the book did still work for me and **I highly recommend this entertaining read about moving on and finding your way back to yourself and happiness.**

The book was **well-written and well-paced**, plus the almost instant **connection between Robbie and Sebastian actually felt real**, which I truly enjoyed.

Ex LA model, **Sebastian**. Hot, huh?

Considering how smokin' Sebastian was, I was slightly peeved that ***all* of the sex was off-page**. That *would/could/should* have been steamy, but alas... *sigh*

One thing that still perplexes me about book 7 of the series is exactly why it was penned by **Robert Halliwell**, instead of John Goode, so if anyone has an answer to that question, please let me know.

Also, the story ends with **an emergency back in Texas**, where Robbie is poised to hop on the next plane back, which started to piss me off, due to the wait for book 8.

However, I checked and book 8 is to be released only a **few weeks after** this book comes out, so *whew* on that count. I'm not a big fan of 'the wait.' :)

This read was **a solid 4.25 *tagged-squarely-in-the-junk* stars** for me, so read it now, if you're all caught up on the previous books.

**** My ARC copy of the book was provided by the publisher in exchange for a fair, unbiased review.**

Elsa Bravante says

Este libro pertenece al mundo de Tales from Foster High, pero no está escrito por John Goode (el autor) y no aparecen nuestros chicos, Kyle y Brad. En esta ocasión el protagonista es Robbie, al que hemos conocido a lo largo de los seis libros anteriores, que ha tenido un papel importante en la evolución de Kyle como persona, que nos ha divertido, y que nos ha emocionado cuando hemos sabido cómo perdió a su pareja a manos de un grupo de muchachos homófobos. En A Way Back To Then no encontramos una historia de amor al uso como las que solemos leer en este mundo del MM, más que un libro romántico es un libro sobre Robbie, sobre cómo intenta superar su dolor, sobre cómo intenta dar un paso hacia delante y seguir con su vida a pesar de perder a su compañero. Y en ese viaje de vuelta a la vida cuenta con una familia loca y divertida como el y con Sebastian, al que conocerá y resultará ser nada como el imaginó y todo lo que el necesitaba.

El libro no ha puesto mi mundo patas arriba como ha ocurrido con otros de la misma serie, pero me ha gustado, ha habido momentos que me han emocionado y momentos en los que me he reído a carcajadas. Creo que es imprescindible para todo aquel que como yo ama la serie de Tales from Foster High.

Tess says

I read this out of order, but it didn't matter. After book #6, when everything seemed to be going well for everyone else, I was desperate for Robbie to get his HEA. I totally missed this book because of the different author(?), so went straight to When I Grow Up. One of the best parts of that one was meeting Sebastian and so I was very excited to read the story of how he and Robbie met (once I figured out which book it was). And ... it was so worth -- I adored Sebastian and I really adored Sebastian and Robbie together. I loved how they met and all the ups and downs of their first date. This was sweet and funny with a little tenderness.
