



Remember

Eileen Cook

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A thrilling tale about what a girl will do to get back a memory she lost...or remove what she wants to forget.

Harper is used to her family being hounded by protesters. Her father runs the company that trademarked the "Memtex" procedure to wipe away sad memories, and plenty of people think it shouldn't be legal. Then a new demonstrator crosses her path, Neil, who's as persistent as he is hot. Not that Harper's noticing, since she already has a boyfriend.

When Harper suffers a loss, she's shocked her father won't allow her to get the treatment, so she finds a way to get it without his approval. Soon afterward, she's plagued with strange symptoms, including hallucinations of a woman who is somehow both a stranger, yet incredibly familiar. Harper begins to wonder if she is delusional, or if these are somehow memories.

Together with Neil, who insists he has his own reasons for needing answers about the real dangers of Memtex, Harper begins her search for the truth. What she finds could uproot all she's ever believed about her life...

Remember Details

Date : Published February 24th 2015 by Simon Pulse

ISBN : 9781481416962

Author : Eileen Cook

Format : Hardcover 312 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Science Fiction, Mystery, Contemporary, Romance

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From Reader Review Remember for online ebook

Sara Tickanen says

This review was originally published on my blog, The Reality of Books. Check it out here: <https://therealityofbooks.wordpress.c...>

Remember, by Eileen Cook, begins in the middle of the horse jumping circuit with a young girl named Harper and her horse, Harry. Harry and Harper win many awards together, but then one morning she wakes up and Harry is gone. Harper immediately turns to her father, the head of a company called Neurotech that pioneered the “Memtex” procedure. “Memtex” is a drug that helps to soften painful memories for people to help them get past their grief. When Harper’s father refuses to allow her the treatment, she seeks it out without his approval. Afterwards, she begins to suffer from increasingly weird symptoms, including hallucinations that she worries might be memories. The pictures that appear to Harper after the procedure cause her to go on a journey with one of the people protesting her father’s company, Neil, to find out what of her life is true and what’s a lie.

This is a book that is largely driven by its unique and interesting plot. I like the science behind it, though I found myself wanting to know a little more about how specifically the memtex worked and what areas of the brain it had to target in order to banish memories. The storyline was wonderfully planned out, with piece after piece falling into place in a way that kept me rapidly turning the pages. The fast pace really worked for me, especially after Harper got the procedure. From that point on, the book really moves forward. I also love that the book kept me surprised until the very end. I was like “Oh, I totally have this all figured out.” But then, I didn’t. Always a nice surprise.

Harper is a strong protagonist. I like the way she handles her situation and the way she approaches everything. I wish, however, that she wouldn’t have gotten the procedure. It would seem that she could have dealt with the loss on her own. However, that would have made this an entirely different book. I like Harper’s relationships and the way she interacts with Win, Josh, and Neil in such different ways. She comes across as a very realistic character, which made me care about her.

I hate Josh. I hate the way that he treated Harper, and I hate the way that he came across as flat on the page. Josh could have been a lot more than what he was as a character, and, without giving any spoilers, I think the ball got dropped in his department. Neil, however, really worked for me. I understood Neil’s motivations, and his function within the story. Neil worked really well with Harper both as a way to advance the plot and a way to make Harper a more likable character. Neil is the catalyst that changes Harper from a somewhat spoiled brat into a more relatable person.

The obvious theme in this book is memory. What things do we remember? Or rather, what do we want to remember? It is never easier to just erase what hurts us rather than work to move past the pain. We need to deal with what ails us.

This is a great, fast paced read. Yes, the first quarter is a little slow, but it’s totally worth it to push through. If you’re looking for something that is unique and entertaining, with a strong hand in a realistic future, then Eileen Cook’s Remember is perfect for you. 4 stars from me.

I received Remember as an ARC from Edelweiss/Above the Treeline. I was not paid to write this review. Remember is expected for publication on February 24th, 2015, by Simon Pulse.

Ari says

I find the human mind to be fascinating, in so many ways.

There's a whole universe hidden inside such a tiny little thing, and as much as we like to think that we are starting to conquer the actual Universe (though by that I kind of mean observe it from a distance), we still know close to nothing about our own little brains.

There is one thing that haunts me, one scary thought: how much of us is ourselves and how much is shaped by external factors (people around us, experiences, memories, etc). You might not want to get an answer to that, because you see, we really are "such tiny little things", too easy to change, to break, to become something else entirely. It's so damn easy to make others believe some things or to believe them ourselves... If only someone would mess just a bit with our heads.

REMEMBER is a story that hints to that, to what a person is without some memories. Imagine a world in which all bad memories could be given away, all sadness taken from you. Would you be a better person? Would that be actually better for you? And how much would you be inclined to lose, how bad those memories should be for you to want to erase them? And how much of you would that erase as well? And what if this intervention would have its own risks, would you still do it?

Some books need time for me to like them, to get into them, but there are books like this one that actually intrigue me from the synopsis and they keep me there, with the book in my hand, turning page after page until there's nothing left to turn. And I like that feeling, I like to follow mysterious paths that could lead to anywhere, I like being surprised and realizing how the small details can hide something bigger than life.

Harper is a girl that seems to have pretty much everything, but she carries a hole inside her heart that she cannot seem to fill. So when she loses the thing that means the most to her she decides that she can't live with that pain, she wants it to be taken away at all costs.

You might think that she didn't have quite enough of a reason to go through the "Memtex" procedure, I found myself thinking that too (more than once), but later on it is explained why that moment hit her so hard. Then again there's talk about how 'big' or 'small' things can be for each and all of us, in our minds. How different we see things, how disproportionately they can affect us.

So there's no wonder that the mystery kept me turning page after page. And though I did figure out some things before the main character even got to question them, I still enjoyed the ride.

I also liked the characters a lot. Harper, Neil and Win were all very well developed and I thoroughly enjoyed the dynamics between them. The ending was a tiny bit convenient, but it left us in a good place – it was not all rainbows and sunshine, which I appreciate because that gave it half a dose of realism.

All in one, I deeply enjoyed this story. It kept me on the edge and I loved uncovering all the secrets hidden inside it.

Happy midnight reading!

Find the full review and more at ReadingAfterMidnight.

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Post-reading thoughts:

I've been suffering from reader's block lately, but this beauty here got me out of that state (at least for the moment).

It might be way too early to fully review this story, but it can never be too early for me to say just how much I enjoyed reading it: loved the plot, the characters, the mystery, the friends relationships. I also happen to love Eileen's writing (I've read a couple of books from her before), so this was such a huge win for me. It kept me up late and my last thoughts were: "Aww.. But this is it? I want more!"

4.5-5 stars. Keep an eye on it when it comes out!

Full coherent review to follow :)

PS: It feels really strange to be the first one reviewing, or well.. rating this story. And with it being so beautiful, I really can't wait for other people to read it too!

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Sandra (Waiting For Wentworth) says

It took me a little while to really get into reading Remember. The beginning felt really slow to me and not much was happening to grab my attention. But after Harper had the Memtex procedure the plot started to really pick up.

Harper was an okay character, but I never really connected with her. She waffled between being both weak and strong, so it was hard to get a good feel for her. I didn't like Josh AT ALL. He was portrayed as the perfect boyfriend, but he came off as a self-centered asshole. Neil added a bit of interest to the story. He and Harper didn't meet under the best circumstances, but I thought they could make a relationship work between them. Despite the insta-love, they were really kind of cute and sweet together, but I wish I could have gotten to know Neil better. I don't usually have a problem with love triangles if they are done right. Harper and Josh weren't in a great place in their relationship, so when Neil appeared on the scene, it was only natural that Harper would be drawn to him.

As the story progressed it became more entertaining for me. I really felt for Harper as she grappled with her memories and the fallout from the Memtex procedure. The last part of the book moved along pretty quickly and had a satisfying resolution, even though I felt there were a few issues that weren't dealt with.

I was originally drawn to Remember because I have enjoyed reading The Program series by Suzanne Young. The concept of erasing memories is similar in both books, although the reasons for the procedure and the outcome of the participants differ greatly.

Overall, I enjoyed reading Remember. It had enough intrigue, action, and romance to keep it interesting.

Mlpmom (Book Reviewer) says

3.5 Stars!

It is so hard for me to resist something that sounds unique. Something that hasn't been done before in the world of YA, which is why when I saw Remember, I just knew I had to try it.

Cook did deliver in the originality department. This was everything I was hoping it would be. Unusual, an edge of mystery, an edge of a romance, and most of all, a fun read that let me get lost in the pages for a couple of hours.

Harper was an interesting character and while I liked her, I wasn't always in love with her choices and decisions. But it was okay because the plot was one that kept you turning the pages and that is what I loved most about this one. I loved the non-stop questions that always popped up and the answers that we did (eventually) get. Nothing was left unsaid or undone.

I admit that there were things that happened that I didn't see coming, lies and betrayals that were hard to swallow. All in all, this was a fun and intriguing read that let me escape into another place and have a great time guessing and questioning everything along the way.

Amber (YA Indulgences) says

Remember was definitely a dream to read. It featured all of the things I love in fiction:

? Unique Characters

? Friendship

? Mystery

? Memory Loss Treatments

What caught my eye from the very get go is the memory loss treatment called Memtex. This instantly made me think of Eternal Sunshine of The Spotless Mind. Memtex is a procedure that "softens" memories for people. When Remember begins, the treatment has just been opened up to children and teenagers. This of course doesn't fare well for everyone because there are protesters who are against the treatment.

I have to say, I would love a treatment that helped erase or soften memories. I can see why people would protest it though, especially if they've seen someone suffer from the treatment.

The main character in Remember is Harper, a girl whose father just happens to be the head of a company called Neurotech which has created a memory loss treatment called Memtex.. I thought this aspect was extremely interesting. When her dad comes to talk to the school, he announces the product for teens. I loved that Harper was defensive over her dad, she always immediately defended him, the treatment and the company. Even to her best friend, Win, which is short for Winifred.

"I still stand by what I said: You have to learn to deal with life. Whatever it throws at you, good and bad." "But if you can make it easier, why shouldn't you? I said. "Isn't that the point? Life is hard, but if there's a treatment that can make it less difficult so that you can focus on other stuff, positive stuff, that is dealing with it."

Remember really made me think about my position on memory loss treatment. I know that's weird, having a "position" on something that doesn't even exist, but it made me think. Would having a treatment done to lose memories make things easier? Wouldn't it be sort of running away from it all? I loved that Win wasn't interested in this treatment at all. It reminded me of a character in Free To Fall (by Lauren Miller) who also wasn't interested in something that everyone else was. I really loved the science fiction element of Remember, that part was really interesting to me. I liked seeing how Memtex took effect exactly.

To read the rest, you can view the full review [here](#).

Deniz says

This is surprisingly deep. In fact I am not sure why, but I was kinda taken aback by the fact that this was so deep.

Don't ask me why. I should have expected it. It's a Cook novel after all. And I think I am slowly getting that that's her MO. Deep cute and fluffy.

Except the only kinda cute and fluffy bits are the romance, everything else. Not much cute and fluffy. Entertaining, thought provoking and endearing are more words I would use to describe this.

The writing style is Cook alla extraordinare. I love her writing style, its straight forward and accurate. I enjoy her brand of humour, witty and at times eyebrow raising with a tad of sarcasm. She does write beautiful scenes, like the one set on the view point, and heart-aching one with the same ease as she does action scenes. But her writing style while beautiful is also deceptively lighthearted. One only realised it's depths when you gotta pause to be able to realise all the different things that are happening.

The story line is interesting to say the least. It's fairly fast paced- except that Harper is actually rather a bit melodramatic and self-involved most of the time, which puts rather many bumpers on the story flow. This also has a kinda love-triangle. Well, actually let me say it as it is: it has a love triangle. But funny enough I didn't mind it, well mostly I didn't, which in itself is a minor miracle. Since I loath those like little else. But there was absolutely no cheating, and Harper was actually surprisingly considerate about it. It was a bearable love triangle. Can't even believe I am saying that! LOL. But trust me it was.

Besides the main event here is Harper's journey of discovery. Her treatment- the Memtex she had done- and it's consequences. Not the romance.

Again this is not a cute & fluffy, it's light hearted with a big punch of depth.

Since this is all told from Harper's POV, we get to see everything from her perspective. And herein lies an issue I had with this book. I am not a fan of Harper. At first I just thought she was a spoilt rich kid who thought life will always go her way, under the guise of being this nice girl. But frankly I found her too self-involved and melodramatic. Totally spoilt and attention seeking. Her reasons for the Memtex were- ridiculous at best. I mean I get she was upset, but I felt like she really needed some real sorrow in her life, to even come to grips with what pain means. Sorry i know it sounds absolutely jaded and mean, but hey there a kids in this world who live in war zones, kids who don't have a home and kids who are abused in their homes... so many way worse scenarios than hers.

But I think this was a rather clever move of Cook- in fact it make you wonder when is it worth getting rid of your memories? Is life without the pain a better life? How much pain would grant a Memex treatment?

See deep!

I also didn't like how she handled her mother at the end. Nor was I sure how that solution was gonna work- cause let's face it, she is in school, where does she get money from?

I loved Neil, while searching for a cause, seemingly lost, he is probably less so than any other characters. He is interesting, honest (mostly), clever, loyal, adorable and fun. He is a total dream book BF. I adore him, totally fell for him. And couldn't understand what any of Harpers issues were.

I did have some issues with the adults in this book- they kinda cartoony, cliche and totally one sided in my opinion. It was a stark contrast to the teens, who all had many facets to their personality and evolved as the story went on.

My favourite though by far was Win. Awesome, beautiful, fabulous Win. Harper and Win's relations ship was dynamic and felt real. Even their quarrels were warranted- and I loved how they solved them. I am super pleased that Cook written such an awesome and realistic female friendship. Their love and loyalty was wonderful, but what was so moving was the fact that they were supportive and real with each other! I think only a real friend can tell you how it is in a time of crisis, but also only a real friend can call bull. And Win did both! She also showed a depth and maturity beyond her years. Stuff she said, stuck with me, made me ponder...And I love her, she is my new fave book BFF. Well, also my first- but hey I would want her as my friend in RL and we all got book BFs... so time I get a book BFF as well!

As I said, this was way deeper than expected. But also totally down my alley. The whole science side to it- while the treatment is total fiction and sci-fi-y - was interesting. The issues of side-effects, risks and welfare in procedures has always fascinated me and is a matter that has been close to my heart ever since I started studying chemistry. It's the balance of it all isn't? Finding where the good outbalances the bad... and frankly it's a huge grey matter. So it will always be a matter of interest, a matter of discussion as long as humanity does research and tries to improve.

As I said, way deeper than I expected. So I have warned you, while you will get gushy, happy feelings when it comes to Neil, you also get suspense, mystery and a whole lot of questions to ponder over.

I absolutely can only recommend this to lovers of the genre!

Rosie Overstreet says

what I liked

- I loved the author's skill with wit and sarcasm.
- Harper (the main character) is a dedicated equestrian to a scientist father who developed a life-changing procedure: an operation that 'softens' memories you'd rather forget. Cool concept, but OBVIOUSLY something is fishy.
- I haven't come across many main characters who are passionate about horses - very refreshing. I felt very connected to her through this, because I love horses.
- There were many red flags with the "Memtex" procedure her father is behind, and I enjoyed unraveling what it was. Her father had been hiding something for a veeeerrrryyyy long time.
- The conclusion was pretty epic and makes you question if having memories erased would be worth it.

minor reservations

- Harper's best friend transforms into an unlikeable character after Harper gets the procedure. She wigs out and totally annoys me.

Junnie says

Reading her book for the first time and I have to say this book is pretty unexpected.

Jennifer says

Originally a review for Author Spotlight here.

Remember was such a breathe of fresh air. A lot of people are writing dystopian or post-apocalyptic books and Eileen Cook is over there writing psychological thrillers. Go, Eileen!

The book is about Harper and her fathers brilliant medical breakthrough called Memtex. It is supposed to help dull really tragic memories and make it so you can move on with your life. You will still have the memory but it won't be crippling. I felt like this treatment was so wrong on so many levels. I think it would be GREAT to help people coming home from war who has PTSD and such but the fact that it was being offered to teens was wrong. I feel like if people get this treatment then they are taking the easy way out. Life isn't all rainbows and unicorns and a lot of people need to grow a pair and face life and move on. But if something like this actually did exist I know millions would get it done. Your past and memories are what make you who you are. If I could get back lost memories I would do it in a heartbeat. But I don't think I would even dull them.

I loved Harper! At first she was this really positive, sweet person but once everything starts to go down she becomes this headstrong young woman who wants to right the wrongs her father created. She also stopped living life so cautiously. I felt that she was with Josh only because they had been together for so long. That is definitely not a reason to stay in a relationship.

I didn't like Josh at all. I got the feeling he was only with Harper to get close to her dad. And towards the end Josh has this little hissy fit where he pretty much proved my feelings about him were very valid. He did help Harper a few times but every time he did help her it seemed to only be for validation and acceptance from her father.

Win was a pretty awesome character. She did have a little bit of an issue with wanting her problems to be more important than others. I know in a friendship you are supposed to be able to share stuff and Harper felt that Win wouldn't understand and she kind of didn't. Win had some issues going on in her life but she wanted HER issues to be put first it felt like.

I had trouble predicting what was going to happen and I loved that. I kept thinking either Harper had accidentally push Robyn or her father had done something terrible. I was pretty surprised to find out it was neither of those things. But what did come to light was pretty shocking.

The ending got a little scary. Especially when Harper's father did what he did to her. I was yelling at the book and freaking out because Harper needed to keep her memories and her father was trying to hide so much that he would actually risk his daughters life to make sure nothing got out. And then Josh just STOOD there. He did end up helping but he was still on Harper's fathers side until this happened and that proved how desperate he truly was.

Overall, I gave the book 5/5 stars.

Gisbelle says

My thanks to *Simon Pulse* & Edelweiss

Point of View: Single (Harper Byrne)

Writing: First Person | Past Tense

Setting: Washington

Genre: Young Adult | Thriller + Medical Advancement

All Harper wants is to forget one depressing moment of her life, but she doesn't prepare for what she will remember afterward.

This book blew my mind because it was so well-written that I couldn't find anything I didn't like about it. The science fiction part of the book wasn't so strong because it only focused on the medical advancement, so I think those who don't like reading sci-fi might still enjoy the book.

What I liked most of the book was the storyline. I'm one of those who can't resist a good thriller so suspenseful that makes the hearts pounding fast. With the book, I enjoyed the feelings I only get when I read great mystery thriller books. Each plot was well-planned out that everything fell into place brilliantly in the end. **The smooth and flowing wording made the book even better;** it helped with the pacing and also kept me interested the whole way through.

I couldn't help loving the characters. Harper was probably not one of those butt-kicking fierce heroine, still she managed not to be all girlie and annoying. I liked how she responded to the whole mess she was in. To not spoil the book for anyone who might read this, let's just say the other characters were also well-crafted.

The romance was probably not what I should have liked. (view spoiler) Overall, it wasn't bad or anything. However, it moved a little too fast for in my opinion.

In short, I really loved this book. It was a fast-paced thriller with amazing characters and mind-blowing storyline.

Rebecca (Unbound Pages) says

This review is also on my blog, The Library Canary.

****I received a free copy of this book from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. This has in no way changed my opinion of the book. The review below is my open and honest opinion.****

Remember is a book about a girl who goes through a traumatic loss. Not knowing how to move on, she gets a treatment called Memtex (against her father's wishes) to help "soften" her memories. But after getting the treatment she begins to have strange dreams, has trouble sleeping and is starting to uncover memories of

strange things. Not knowing what's real and what's not, she begins to dig deeper and ask questions which of course, reveals things she never thought could be possible.

Let's start with the good. I really liked the idea of being able to "soften" traumatic memories. I definitely could see the technology being useful for PTSD victims and people who have suffered serious trauma. The ethical questions the treatment raises were quite interesting. Is it really healthy to erase memories? When you soften the memories it softens everything, not just the bad. Is it worth it to lose all the memories just so you don't have to deal with the bad?

Another thing I really liked about this was the horseback riding aspect. I've been riding since I was 7 years old. I owned a beautiful Thoroughbred for several years named Dudley who was just amazing. Horse people are special. When you're a true horse person it's something that's in your blood that never goes away. I could totally feel that passion that Harper had. I loved that the author described the smells of the barn so perfectly. I could practically smell the hay and musky scent of horse. I also loved that Harper sought refuge at the barn. It was her safe place. Even if she wasn't riding. Even if she was just sitting around hanging out with the horses or cleaning tack, she just loved being there. I'm the same way. The barn is just such a relaxing place for me to be. I haven't ridden in a while and this book made me really miss it.

And now for the bad. I feel like there was a lot of telling vs. showing in this book. For example, we were told that Harper was a daddy' girl, but I never saw proof to really back it up. There just seemed to be a lot of inconsistencies or things that just didn't seem quite right based on the information we were given.

Instalove. Yep, it's in here. Harper and Neil have met up like maybe 5 times before the "L" word is uttered. I didn't see any real relationship development between the two. I also didn't really feel like we got to know Neil at all. We just get brief glimpses of him in the few meetings that he and Harper share. And because of that, I never really cared about him or believed in him as a character.

Predictability. This book tried to have twists, but I saw every one of them coming. I figured everything out before it happened (normally doesn't happen because I'm super bad at figuring things out). I don't mind some predictability in a book, but I just love that feeling where your jaw literally drops and you have to stop reading for a second because your mind is completely blown. That never happened here. Not only were things predictable, they were also a bit too easy. Harper found clues throughout the book to help jog her memory, but it was like the clues just always fell into her lap.

And finally, Harper herself I never really cared for. She wasn't bad and there wasn't anything in particular I can pinpoint about her that I didn't like, but I never connected with her and I never really cared all that much about what happened to her. Still, this wasn't a bad book and I definitely think that a lot of people will like it. If you're into memory loss stuff (which I always find interesting), then I think maybe you should give this one a try.

Heather Wood says

This is a clean teen read about a girl trying to unravel the mysteries of her past. Remember adds a slightly sci-fi element with Harper's father having developed a medical procedure that erases sad memories. I liked Remember and I thought Harper was a strong protagonist that I could root for.

Remember took a while to take off for me. The beginning was slow and I found myself a little bored with

Harper and her drama with her boyfriend and best friend. Once Harper undergoes the memory erasing procedure, the book picked up as she starts to have flashes from a life she doesn't remember.

There was a love triangle, but I didn't hate it in Remember. I liked the introduction of Neil and I thought the relationship between him and Harper was sweet. The two had great chemistry even though they met while he was protesting her dad's company and the Memtex procedure.

I was surprised by the outcome, so I thought the author wrote a wonderful conclusion. I don't think Remember will be a novel that stays with me, but I do think younger teens looking for a clean and solid mystery will enjoy the book.

Rating: 3/5 Stars

Thanks to the publisher for a copy of the novel for review!

Daisy says

I was really excited to start Remember, because the brain and memory are fascinating to me. I however did not really appreciate the execution of Remember.

The concept of softening your memories so you retain them but they don't hurt you anymore. It's both scary and something I can imagine in the treatment of PTSS patients. So I was a bit disappointed that while it's a factor in the story, there's not really an explanation for how they found this and how it all works and everything that I was wondering about. So that was a bit of a let down.

I didn't much care for Harper, she was an ok main character, but I was just not connecting with her. I never really got a good feel of her personality and she was both taking action and being a damsel in distress and I just wasn't really feeling it. And I get that she needed a reason to get the treatment, but I didn't like that she would rather not feel anything about the horse who'd her best friend for years than work through the grief. I appreciated that she was this devastated by the loss of an animal who'd been close to her since she'd been a child, but it felt a bit like a lack of character to go ahead with the procedure.

I also wasn't feeling the romance, I mean, I didn't get why they liked each other and there's some telling instead of showing me they developed a relationship, they'd apparently met for coffee multiple times off-page. I mean, I get that they could be attracted to each other, but there was an I love you straight out of nowhere and I was like WTF??? I didn't get why they would risk all of what they did for each other.

I did like the whole intrigue with Harper's parents, that was interesting, but all of it feels a bit unresolved. I mean, Harper finds out what's been going on, but they don't really do anything about it except for that and her dad just seems awful and UGH! I felt that in the end the only thing that was resolved was Harper getting together with the new guy and everything else was still blah.

All in, I thought this was an interesting concept, but the execution failed to impress me.

My rating: 1,5 stars

Michelle Wrona says

This review can also be found on A Thousand Lives Lived, check it out for more!

Yay for local Canadian authors and one huge yay for Eileen Cook's 2015 newest novel! She's honestly one of the authors that I just can't get enough of and I feel the strong need to grab every book from. Sadly, *Remember* is the only book that I feel a more negative turn into by her. Lurking for some nice science-fiction mixed with romance that really reminds me of *Elusion* by Claudia Gabel? This is your match.

When I grabbed an eARC of this from Edelweiss last year, I was super excited. THE COVER OF THIS IS SO GORGEOUS and I love the way Cook has each of her books being created with the same style scheme. They all match and look beautiful on shelves, I tell you! **I guess I had higher expectations than needed.** The last book by Cook I've read definitely deserved a 5 star rating, and I knew that *Remember* would deserve a billion. Agh. For me, this definitely is one of the worser books of the month, and it was truly nothing special. Everything seemed bland like a glass of room temperature water.

This book almost literally bored me to death. And here's a glimpse of its summary from my point-of-view: Harper's dad has discovered and created a method of deleting sad memories from people who make the decision to, and after Harper's *horse* dies, she decides that she would want to take the chance to erase the sorrow that she had to go through. But her dad's against it, so she finds her own way to get Memtex, and it was the worst decision possible. Afterwards, she begins to get hallucinations and feel worse than she did before.

It's either just me, or it's the book. **The science-fiction subject here wasn't for me.** It just wasn't believable. The idea of having something to erase sad memories was strange—it certainly isn't a miracle for humans. Why not having a cure for some illness or something? What about cool robots? I feel that if you're going to play with this subject, then at least you need some proof that there are some futuristic elements, other than some miracle plan that your rich science geek daddy made up. Cook is better off with her wonderful romances that she comes up with. At least the romance in this one was pretty adorable. Neil + Harper equals perfection.

Like I mentioned above, I was bored. Cook's writing took another turn than her usual and it didn't seem like the usual contemporary as I've known from her past novels. **It's like this book tried so hard to compare to the other dystopians, but it just fell hard, splat on its face.** The writing was slow, delirious and lacking something nice slash warming to a reader's heart. I don't even have much to say after reading this and I feel like it's just going to be a short review. Or short for me, at least. *shrugs*

I guess that the characters were a highlight of the novel. Forget about the kind-of-dumb concept with Harper's horse (I thought that someone would pass away instead), let's just take a peek at themselves.

Harper's situation with her horse was kind of awkward. I mean, her parents even saw that her going to

take Memtex was kind of a stupid idea in terms of why. When Harry died, she started panicking, actually. But as us characters move on through the story and actually get to know her, I liked her. Her view on Catholic school was hilarious and I loved her best friend, Win. And then she was also with Josh at the same time (and we all know how that worked out) and I saw him as a nice friend but nothing else. Us readers now all know who's her perfect match!

Neil had that special spark in him. We usually don't find that kind of special something in fictional characters (okay, maybe I do all the time) and he definitely had it. Someone who's there for you and actually gets your experience (his brother's life) is your ultimate soulmate, people. **I shipped them hard from the start**, from where Harper thought that he was a stalker! *laughs* Those awkward relationship-starts always seem to work out in the end.

Eileen actually handed us a pretty messed-up ending, but I actually loved it. Beware of some mind-blowing answers to your endless amount of questions. **There's star-struck lovers (protestor and daughter of creator?) and a concept that's used continuously, but it somehow worked out for some readers and I can see why.** If you're a strict lover of all things science-fiction, then this can definitely turn out fantastic for you. And yet again, you need a ton amount of patience to actually get you going through the pages. This was a downfall for me especially by looking at the author's other works, but all we have to do is **remember the great stuff.**

Brandi Kosiner (Brandi Breathes Books) says

Remember appealed to me since I am drawn to stories about memory loss, and the idea of selecting memories to be less emotional or even the chance to remove them has so many possibilities. At the beginning Harper seems to have things going pretty well, she's smart, especially in sciences, she has a long term boyfriend and a loyal if opposite best friend.

However it was a waiting game, because I know from the synopsis that things will go wrong and she will have memories that she'd rather not have, and pays a price for them to not plague her.

Her procedure prompted frightening side effects and she meets Neil, who seems to have answers to the questions she has, where no one in her life is offering up suggestion.

I liked the friendship in this one. How she was so supportive for Harper and gave an ear. But I think it brings up an important issue where when Harper has a problem she gets so focused on herself and issues that she didn't give her time to talk about her own issues.

It got pretty suspenseful, and I have to admit that I didn't see a lot of the twists coming. I had ideas, but none of them were right.

The love triangle aspect wasn't too annoying, and I can understand how she ended up with the sticky situation.

Everything wrapped up well, and I enjoyed this standalone mystery.

Bottom Line: Good main character and unique twist to the memory theme.

