



# The Artsy Girl--in Bronze

*Thomas Pack*

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## **The Artsy Girl--in Bronze** Thomas Pack

A burned-out teacher puts Kayla Carmichael, a naturally gifted art student, in charge of a group of class clowns, misfits, and troublemakers who are painting a mural on the back of Sandpiper Public High in Daytona Beach, Florida. Can Kayla help her classmates become artists -- or at least get them to stop playing games on their cell phones?

Kayla also has to deal with possibly insane heavy metal musicians, a gift shop manager who acts as if he's running a Fortune 500 company, a guy with a vivid violet voice, and an already wealthy teen tennis player who's about to go pro.

Meanwhile, Kayla hopes to get wealthy herself by selling T-shirts she designed. She tries to decide if a manipulated photo she took with a stolen camera is worthy of a national award. And she wonders why she wants to hear -- and see -- that violet voice more and more.

You can watch a preview and read three full chapters of this novel at [www.artsygirlbooks.com](http://www.artsygirlbooks.com).

## **The Artsy Girl--in Bronze Details**

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Author : Thomas Pack

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# From Reader Review The Artsy Girl--in Bronze for online ebook

## Beth Cutwright says

It took awhile for me to really enjoy what I was reading in this book. But at about the halfway point, Pack drew the story together and I understood and enjoyed....the rest of the story, (to coin a phrase). I rather enjoyed the chapters individually up to that halfway mark, but I questioned what the point was and if I would get it. And then I did. The story became cohesive, understandable, relatable and enjoyable.

Pack's protagonist, Kayla, was good at art in many different venues. She found her peace in art and in doing it well. She was a teenager finding her way and in this story, she "cheated" in her photography. She was also cheated out of a t-shirt design and sought revenge. She learned from her boyfriend's band that her revenge plan wasn't going to work....everybody cheats or lies. Her character developed beautifully in this story and when she finally yielded to the pressure and walked away from the project she was involved in..her friends came to her assistance and saved the day. Well at least to the point, Kayla could continue on with the finishing touches needed to bring the project to fruition.

It was indeed a charming story and it left me chuckling. I loved the ending and I loved the smile it put on my face. If I had to use one word to describe this story, I would use---hopeful.

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## Cynthia says

I won this book on a Goodreads giveaway.

I am probably older than the target demographic for this book but it was an enjoyable quick read. Even though it was short I don't feel liked i missed anything.

There were enough cute and funny moments in the story that I am now interested in checking out the second book.

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## Taylor says

T.A. Pack tells a great story about a teenage girl who wants to be an artist and has the drive to make it happen. Kayla is a great example for all teenagers who feel the creative juices at a young age and feel the need to jump through impossible hoops to follow their dreams. Without giving anything goes away, I will say that I loved how she was able to use her talents at the end to make the best out of her and her peers situation.

I'm not fond of using flashbacks inconsistently. After the first couple chapters, the flashbacks stop. A teacher in collage once told me that if you need to have a flash back in the first chapter or two, perhaps you need to start earlier, if not, then keep the flashbacks throughout the story. Also there is a certain plot line left completely alone which involves graphics. The beauty of this book is that I can make any future I want for her as far as her college if and career, but for a plot line that just ended so suddenly, without even a hint of

how she could bounce back was a little cold.

Overall, I really loved the story and was glad to have the chance to read it!!

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### **Brittany says**

T A Pack is an excellent storyteller.

This particular one is of a teenage girl who has uncanny artistic abilities. She is soo good that she is constantly rewarded and praised for this ability. She strives to make a career out of it but first she has to make it out of highschool. the school gets a grant for some money but the money comes with conditions. you must get the misfit/ "bad kids" to help paint a mural.

this story has great characters and a quirky way of teaching people a lesson as well. i liked it and would recommend this to someone else.

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### **Lindsey says**

I received a copy of this book through a Goodreads Firstreads Giveaway.

A quick and enjoyable read. There were some things that I felt were a bit irrelevant to the plot, and the flow was bit choppy. That being said, I enjoyed reading this book. I like that the main character Kayla has synesthesia, and I wish it would have been more incorporated into the story. As an artist, I was definitely able to relate to and appreciate Kayla's struggle.

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### **Emilia says**

I received this book through Goodreads First Reads giveaway.

Very fast read, I think it'd be good read for 14-16 year-olds... for me it was a bit too shallow, very interesting ideas and plots but lacking some depths to it. reading the book I had a strange feeling like I am reading quite a bit about the main character, Kayla, but at the same moment I am not getting to know her any better... and as to the other characters - even less then that... something was missing in there, can't quite put the finger on it though.

overall I'd say quite nice, simple book, for a teen-aged person (girl most likely as there was a very nice first boyfriend "problem" :) ), either to read while lying on the beach or when stuck indoors on a rainy day :D

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### **Rebecca says**

I really liked this book. It was a nice easy read. The writing is a different style but it worked. The book shows how if you are good at something and love it you should work hard to get what you want. (received the book for free through Goodreads First Reads)

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### **Starlight says**

I received this book in a goodreads giveaway.

I quite enjoyed reading this. While it's not necessarily my favorite genre of book (contemporary/realistic fiction) I appreciated the relatable characters and the connect to art within it. It took me a few tries to really get into the book, but once I did, I finished it very quickly. I also love that the main character has the condition called "synesthesia" which causes her to see colors in relation to sounds. You typically don't see that in ya fiction, and I love the representation. :) I enjoyed this book, and I would recommend it to friends. I will have a full length review available on my blog soon.

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### **Melissa Stafford says**

I received this book through GOODREADS earlier this week. This is the first book I've read that was written by T.A. Pack. The book had me hooked on the first page. It was written with a lot of detail, allowing the reader to "see" exactly what the author was writing about. The only downfall to the book is that it was too short. The story revolves around high school students that are easy for the reader to identify with. I really enjoyed this book and will look for other books from T.A. Pack. Thanks again GOODREADS!!

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### **Mark says**

The Artsy Girl--in Bronze tells the story of main character Kayla. Even though this was an advanced edition, it didn't take away from my enjoying it. It was interesting, and worth my time reading it. Five stars.

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### **ruby\_mtl says**

GOODREADS GIVEAWAY

Short read over a few weeks in a girl's life... you realize that anything can happen in a short span of time. Needs a little more depth and character development, but overall ok.

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### **Megan says**

I was sent this book through Goodreads giveaways, and it was a lovely, easy read! Kayla is a great main character who loves art, and as someone who always wished I was more creative, I really enjoyed how she depicted herself and her art. Kayla has synesthesia, and the way she described her world view was fascinating.

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## Harold Walters says

### A GOODREADS GIVEAWAY

Sixteen year old Kayla Carmichael, a sophomore at Sandpiper Public High in Daytona Beach, is the artsy girl.

She works part-time at Cap'n Salty's Souvenirs and Surf Shop, earning minimum wages and dreading that she might end up being a "shot girl" like her cousin Stacy.

Because of Kayla's artistic ability, her jaded art teacher assigns Kayla to oversee a hand-picked — weeded out? — class of misfits paint a mural on an exterior wall of their school.

Among the selected muralists is Zach, a surprisingly polite drummer in a death metal band — Maximum Whack. The moment he speaks to Kayla she is captivated by the color of his voice.

Yes, the "color" of his voice.

Not only is Kayla artistic, but also she has a somewhat unusual condition called synesthesia. She sees sounds as colors. How cool is that?

Zach's voice is a vivid violet. Wow.

Despite loud metal music, questionable fun in The Bottomless Pit mud, and a less-than-exciting visit to a museum, Kayla develops an interest in Zach.

That's only what you'd expect, eh b'ys?

Artsy Girl addresses this troublesome moral question: "Is it cheating to slightly doctor a photo before it is entered in a photography contest?"

Truly.

At one point, Kayla surprises Zach at his computer. He quickly closes the website he's viewing, a move that causes Kayla to imagine that he, as boys will, is watching ... well, let's say women wearing not even their foundation garments.

But he isn't. He's been viewing an ASMR website.

Don't know what that is? I didn't either. Bet you'll check it out. I did.

Truly.

This novel for Young Adults is fun. While it is light reading, it is not trivial and the author hasn't completely sanitized language or events.

That's a good thing.

Truly.

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## **Inamariepadilla says**

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## **P says**

I won this book on goodreads. I plan to recommend it to some of my students in the fall, as I think they will enjoy it. Written with an appealing humor, it features realistic teenage characters in all their awkwardness trying to stand out ss individuals in any way they can. Welcome to my life. I did chuckle out loud several times as I read, so there is an adult appeal too, especially if that adult is immersed in a teen world. I dog-eared the page where Kayla tries to figure out what has worn her art teacher down over the last seven or eight years. Most of a page is dedicated to a commentary about public education and common perceptions. I laughed-not necessarily because it was funny "ha ha," but because it was so true.

All in all, a pleasant, uplifting read about the importance of connections leading to success. And isn't that what we educators work toward every day?

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