



Indigo Donut

Patrice Lawrence

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A story of longing, belonging and trust. Two very different young people discover who loves them, and who they can love back.

Bailey is 17, mixed race, lives with his mum and dad in Hackney and spends all his time playing guitar or tending to his luscious ginger afro. Indigo is 17 and new to London, having grown up in the care system after being found by her mum's dead body as a toddler. All Indigo wants is to know who she really is. When Bailey and Indigo meet at sixth form, sparks fly. But when Bailey becomes the target of a homeless man who seems to know more about Indigo than is normal, Bailey is forced to make a choice he should never have to make.

A story about falling in love and everyone's need to belong.

Indigo Donut Details

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Author : Patrice Lawrence

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From Reader Review Indigo Donut for online ebook

Peter says

I'm a massive fan of Orangeboy - it was probably my favourite YA book of last year. I loved the relationship between Marlon and Tish in that book, and I feel like Bailey and Indigo have something similar. They're really believable living, breathing characters - Bailey is sweet and sometimes goofy, Indigo is a little more spikey and that creates an interesting dynamic between them. Just like Orangeboy, Indigo Donut also has a lot music-nerdery and a love of London that shines through in the details and setting, local humour and banter that feels distinctly teenage-London. And as Bailey and Indigo's friendship blossoms into something more a mysterious outsider from Indigo's past brings a secret that threatens to mess up the developing romance. The strongest things about the book for me though was the sweet and sincere and loving relationship that Bailey and Indigo develop. Despite the delicate nature of it, its one that you hope with all your heart will last well beyond the last page.

Ella says

Eventually finished it, better towards the end.

Steph says

A proper gorgeous story. I love Bailey and Indigo so much. Keeley gives me hope in life. I just think this was lush. A proper heart warmer. Ups and downs, but just lush.

Cora Tea Party Princess says

Review to come.

I HAVE FEELS.

Kat Ellis says

I really enjoyed this great second novel from Patrice Lawrence. Bailey and Indigo are so easy to like and root for, and their lives and backgrounds so skilfully drawn that they feel totally real.

Ben Bailey Smith reads the audiobook, and was just brilliant; if audio is your preferred format, I can definitely recommend. Indigo is a great follow-up to Orangeboy (also narrated by BBS), and has made Patrice Lawrence an insta-buy author for me.

Martina Urbanová says

Začiatok vynikajúci. Koniec obstojný. Medzi tým bolo 300 strán úplne zbytočného textu. Len to?ko k tejto knihe stačí vedieť?.

skippity_doo says

Patrice Lawrence has done it again! Another thrilling, pacy and emotionally truthful novel about pain and identity and growing up. Go buy it!

Maia Moore says

Original review posted here

* I received a copy of this book in exchange for an honest review *

I really enjoyed Patrice Lawrence's Orangeboy earlier this year and was excited to see what she had in store for us next. Indigo Donut did not disappoint.

Indigo has a tragic past that she's unable to hide from: Bailey has a perfect looking middle-class life but there are secrets hiding beneath the surface. Although there's attraction between the two, their differences make it hard for them to come together: Indigo can't relate to Bailey's happy family, and he can't help trying to fix her broken one, with the help of a mysterious stranger who won't leave him alone.

Indigo's past was truly tragic and I felt so bad for her. After the violent actions of her dad, she's convinced herself she's inherited something evil from him that makes her a danger to those around her. Even in a stable foster placement with a loving foster parent and brother, she finds herself pushing them away and isolating herself.

Bailey has a much more stable home life, with his parents still together, although there are clearly problems there. I thought he was a really sweet character, and even though I knew it was wrong, I understood why he started meddling with Indigo's family. It was well intentioned, even if it was misguided.

There's a really great resolution to this story and I was so pleased to see something work out for Indigo, after everything she's been through. Her and Bailey's developing relationship was great: it wasn't too love-at-first-sight, there was friendship and care in there and it felt refreshing to read.

This is an intriguing YA mystery with a sweet, tender relationship and wonderful messages on family and identity.

Suzanne Bhargava says

A lovely boy meets girl story, with many complex layers. There's music, grief, anger mismanagement,

London (lots of it), bullying, music, identity politics, drug and alcohol addiction, flawed but well-meaning parents, music, the foster system, dementia, and friends that make mistakes, and more music. Mainly Blondie, Grace Jones and Muse. Excellent.

Robin Stevens says

Another brilliant book from Patrice, this is the story of Indigo, a kid in care who's falling in love with a boy called Bailey and struggling to understand who she is and where she comes from. London is a proper character here - I loved her descriptions of it, and I was totally caught up in the plot. 14+

Please note: this review is meant as a recommendation only. Please do not use it in any marketing material, online or in print, without asking permission from me first. Thank you!

RegalBalance says

“Indigo Donut” makes you think. Not about maths problems, but what people go through during their life time. Secrets that are kept, sleepless nights that are spent, that monster under the bed that you don't even know is there but you're too scared to look under your bed just in case it comes out. It also helps to know that other people also suffer or to know that other people are always there for you.

“It was still with her now. Even when she held the wooden crocodile in the dark last night. Even when she lifted the corner of the letter and ended up reading it through again. All that was part of her, but when she was with him, she'd felt the emptiness shrinking back. That's how other people felt. Normal.”

Indigo thinks she's like her parents, that she's like her dad, bad. But later understands that you aren't always like your parents. She also understands that letting other people in can let the darkness leak out.

“Indigo, just a big hole of emptiness with the rest of her body stretched round it. She was like one of those donuts from the cheap shelves in supermarkets. Everything seemed alright until you bit into the middle and then there was nothing.”

But when she meets Bailey a boy with a crazy ginger afro and he stands up for her on a bus ride home from school the two become inseparable.

“Though when she was with Bailey last night, it was like there'd been something else inside her, something sweet and good. Not filling the space all the way up, but enough. You think there's nothing there and then the first splodge of jam hits your tongue. You just want to smile.”

Bailey makes Indigo so happy but when a homeless man going by the name of “JJ” comes up to Bailey giving him a picture of Indigo as a baby, Bailey becomes transfixed on helping Indigo with her family but when he digs a little too deep things start getting out of hand.

Patrice Lawrence's book makes you understand. As well as her being a brilliant writer she also weaves intricate story lines making a beautiful tapestry of words. A brilliant book to read.

Jessikah Stenson says

I wanted to give this a higher rating and the start of the book was a solid 4/5. The characterisation is so intense and it's hard not to fall for it. With that said, I couldn't figure out the attraction between Indigo and Bailey at all. They have nothing in common and I can't see how they could even sustain a friendship. 440 pages later and I'm still unsure as to what they would talk about when all the drama died down. I'm still intending on reading Orangeboy though because Patrice Lawrence's writing style is wonderful and I did enjoy Indigo Donut.

Bookwormandtheatreouse says

Indigo Donut is an amazing read. A brilliant collection of characters who all have so much to teach each other about life. It will make you laugh, it will make you cry and it will make you think about all the characters that you meet in your life and the invisible battles that they may be fighting!

Megan (YABookers) says

I received this free from the publisher via NetGalley

Indigo is new to London, having lived in the foster system her whole life, she's moved from school to school and has a tendency to lose her cool, especially when people bring up her mother. Bailey is a 17 year old boy in the same sixth form as Indigo. When the two meet, they instantly hit it off. All Indigo wants to know is who she is, as she doesn't remember her parents and lost contact with most of her siblings. When Bailey gets contacted by a homeless man that seems to know more about Indigo than she does herself, he has to make a decision that may ruin his new-found relationship with Indigo.

I read Indigo Donut a month ago but I've been in such a blogging slump it has taken me forever to actually sit down and write this review, so I apologise for our lack of posts.

I hadn't heard about Indigo Donut until it popped up on NetGalley, but I had heard of Patrice Lawrence and her award-winning debut Orangeboy. So, despite my over-growing list of eARCs I had to read, I requested this. And I'm really glad I did.

I've tried to actively read more UKYA this year than I have done in previous years, mainly because more of it has started to appeal to me – there are more published works by BAME authors. Indigo Donut was an emotive and compelling read that largely focused on the foster system, a rare topic in YA. That, along with the compelling characters with strong personalities and an interesting mystery, made this an enjoyable read. Indigo and Bailey's personalities complemented and contrasted with each other really well. Indigo was angry and distant while Bailey was calm and wants to get close to people.

Overall, Indigo Donut is a compelling read that highlights important topics such as race, class, and other things that teenagers face. It also has a nice music element which I'm sure fans of music will appreciate. Overall, an engrossing read that I would highly recommend, especially for those looking for a diverse

UKYA read.

Karen Barber says

Indigo and Bailey...very different, with totally different backgrounds, but this story focuses on what they have in common.

Indigo is fed up of everyone thinking they know her. Sent from foster carer to foster carer, Indigo knows most people who meet her will immediately google her and discover she was found as a toddler by her mother's dead body and her father was imprisoned for the murder.

When the mean girls at yet another new school pick up on this and start giving her grief, Indigo expects to go it alone. But then we have Bailey. A mixed-race kid known for his ginger Afro and his 'cool' social worker dad, Bailey can't stand by and say nothing. After sticking up for Indigo on the bus one day Bailey starts to draw closer to her, and we're left wondering about the identity of the mysterious homeless man who seems to be following her.

A moving tale that explores family and identity.

Thoroughly recommended, and a huge thank you to the publishers and NetGalley for the ARC.
