



Summer of Seventeen

Jane Harvey-Berrick

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It was supposed to be the endless summer of sand, sea, and surf.

Supposed to be.

But Nick Andrews' life is crashing out of control. His girlfriend and his best friend have declared war, his sister's constant interference in his life is driving him insane, and there are money problems that won't go away.

Being seventeen isn't supposed to be this hard.

When cool surfer Marcus arrives in town, Nick sees that there are easier ways to live. But with his life falling to pieces around him, it's hard to know who to trust.

As the scorching heat of summer grows, events begin to unravel, reaching a shattering conclusion—and a summer he'll never forget.

Summer of Seventeen Details

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From Reader Review Summer of Seventeen for online ebook

Sarah says

I was gifted a copy of this book for an honest review. I love the books I have read so far by Jane and this one is no different. It is a different story to what I have read from Jane so far, but different in a very good way! It is a coming of age story, Nick is only 17, has lost his mum to cancer and now lives with his sister, who in her own way is trying to look out for him, bring him up but their relationship is quite 'rocky' as brother/sister relationships can be.

Nick loves to surf, he dabbles in drink and drugs a bit too and is basically a 'normal' 17 year old that doesn't really know what he wants to do, as well as suffering the loss of his mum and not knowing who his dad is. Him and his best friend Sean surf and 'hang out' as much as possible. Although you can feel the unhappiness in Sean from a lot of what he says and how he acts.

Nick has a girlfriend Yansi too, but because her parents, especially her Dad, are very tough and protective of her their relationship is not always easy either.

This story shows Nick coming of age, all the things he has to face, no matter how difficult, he copes with it all.

Towards the end it is very sad, I kind of saw it coming but it still had me welling up, again Jane has made me cry! Which to me shows how totally into the story I am and how great the writing is!

One quote towards the end after everything that Nick went through, I really felt and just loved it...

'Give me a lifetime of feeling this. Give me now and then and soon and when, and give me a future, give me life, give me hope.'

I love Jane's writing, loved this book and highly recommend it!!

Sammy ?? says

3.5 stars

This is another book I've been putting off. I'm not normally one for teen romance and if I'm completely honest the cover really didn't do it for me. That being said I actually enjoyed how this turned out.

Nick has just lost his mum to cancer, having to learn quickly how to be a grown up is tough, with little money and an older sister who isn't dealing so well with her new responsibilities, life is slowing taking a turn for the worse. But the icing on the cake comes in the form of a new lodger that will be renting Nick's mum's old room. It's too soon and it feels wrong, but Marcus being there helps pay the bills.

Nick has been seeing Yansi for the last 4 months. A relationship that's hard work but worth fighting for. Yansi comes from a very strict Spanish family. No dating till she's 17, no parties and certainly no alone time with boys.

Summer is finally here and chilling on the beach and surfing sounds like the perfect way to spend the weeks ahead. But for Nick those days are gone, it's time to be the man of the house and take on some of the financial burden. Even though Yansi's father scares the hell out of him, he can't turn down the job that's offered to him helping out with the families gardening business.

Life is starting to feel like a battle for Nick and it isn't long before one bad decision changes everything. The summer he imagined is nothing like the reality, and the journey ahead is one of heartache, strength and loss.

I really did enjoy the story and the emotion I felt along the way. The only reason I've marked this down is because the Romantic in me was screaming for more. Nick and Yansi's relationship takes a bit of a back seat to make way for the drama unfolding around Nick and his best friend Sean. I'd say this is more of a tale about life and how choices you make in the heat of the moment can change the path you intended to walk along.

Jane Harvey-Berrick is a fantastic author and this is just one of many of her book I've enjoyed along my reading journey.

Gitte TotallyBookedBlog says

★★★★ 1/2 Stars

'Don't wait for life.'

Beautiful, sweet, hopeful, vivid, tragic and emotional. Those are my immediate thoughts on Summer of Seventeen by Jane Harvey-Berrick upon finishing.

"I'm with you because I see your soul. You've got a beautiful soul, you just don't know it."

I devoured this story and loved the fact that it was told from Nick's POV; our male character. His journey through the summer was told in an almost melancholy way as he had to overcome tragedy and grow up whilst falling in almost impossible love. The obstacles in this story felt real and the imagery and setting of scenes were so brilliantly written that they became incredibly vivid and mood inducing. I LOVED that!

'Life is too short to wait for the perfect moment: take what you can get and get what you can take, and then work your ass off to make a perfect moment, because sometimes one chance is all there is.'

You know a story's gripped you when you can relate and it makes you reminisce on your own late-teenage summers. Whether they included sand, surfing and bonfires on the beach or not; this right here was quite the powerful story in many respects. It did begin rather slow and took some time developing. I suppose in a way it lulled you into sombreness then hit you hard emotionally.

"You gotta take what you want from life, because no one is going to give it to you. The world doesn't owe you shit. Remember that."

Nick does NOT have it easy; being seventeen can be hard enough but what he has to deal with and the treatment which others bestow on him; well he stole my heart and at times I felt so bloody sad reading my

heart hurt. Having to grow up in certain respects in such a short time is not easy but he dealt with it maturely and at times I wish I could magic myself into the story to take his back.

Summer of Seventeen is not only inspirational and an all-consuming journey of self-discovery and hope. It's a coming of age story written with such realism it touched my heart and I felt so deeply that it brought me to tears. I highly recommend this story!

Reviewed off an ARC copy kindly provided by the author

★ ? ★ ? ★

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Funzee Shu says

***** 4 Summer of Seventeen-stars *****

It was supposed to be the endless summer of sand, sea, and surf.

But then *things* happen...

Sean gone...

Yansi gone...

Mom gone forever.

And I realized something else: I wasn't technically an adult, but I'd stopped being a child the day Mom told me she had cancer.

Yeah, not a day I'd ever forget.

It was supposed to be the endless summer of sand, sea, and surf, right ?

Yeah, *supposed* to be...

But sometimes shit happen, babe...

And life can be suck...

People make wrong choice then they realized and try to make it up and live better.

Love was too big, too risky, and people you loved died...

oOo

I didn't plan to read this book, well...I just want to sneak peak few first page...but then another page turn to another pages, pages turn to chapter, then another chapter...and another...then tadaaaa...!!!
I'm on the last page !!!

Being seventeen isn't supposed to be this hard, right?

It supposed to be a good summer day for 17 y.o - Nick.
But sometimes, things happened not like as we had planned.

Maybe what happened to Nick it just "a simple things" to others...
As for lil Nicky...

Lost his mom on his 17 birthday, have financial problem, must deal with his bossy sister, love problems, life problems, future problems and...another lost...

Maybe it looks simple, but when we're at that age ?

Hell yeah !

It's helluva BIG problem !

And some teenager couldn't make it, and chose "a short simple way" to end the problems....

I never expected that this book will bring my old memory with my mom...

I lost my mom last year, on Saturday morning, just three days after Christmas.

She finally gave up after 3.5 years struggling with Cancer.

I saw her transform from a very healthy-active-woman to a very weak woman, she always smile, but I can see life slowly leave her each day.

She's my best friend, my soulmate, my guardian angel and... ***my heaven*** ...

So, I know what Nick went through, I can feel ya, babe...

I know what it feels like....

My mom last words to me was...

I wanna go home...

And my last words to her was...

See you at home, mom...

Love ya...

And a week later, she really "come home" and then gone...forever....

Saturday and Christmas will never be the same again since that day...

I think It just simple ordinary teenager story in hot summer day, yeah yeah....of course with very simply teenager problems in it...and what teenager big problems is ?

Love....puppy love...what else ?

But, Jane had bring this simple story to another level ~ a great writing as always.

I admit, it lil bit boring at the beginning, but is okay, I didn't expect that the story will drowning me deeper until it was too late...

Jane succeed make me can not stop crying from 80% reading until the last page !!!

Well again....

It's supposed to be an endless summer day...

But sometimes things happen on the summer day that change your life....***forever***....

Maybe I lil bit biased this time...I don't care...

Cuz I found a piece of memories with my mom through Nick's story....

Sometimes good memories can be so cruel, indeed !

Jacqueline says

First off, YA is not usually my thing. I'm 41 and just too bloody ancient to empathise with a 17-year-old. And my son is 14 so I really don't want to be reading anything that even hints at a mere pup of 17 getting all sorts of jiggly. That's just all wrong. *closes eyes and shudders* But, that said, I love the way Jane Harvey-Berrick writes so I put my prejudices aside, pulled on my big (old) girl panties and dived right in.

Happily my fears proved unfounded. Although this is billed as a YA story and the central character, Nick is 17, it's not frivolous or silly. The narrative really works in this - it takes you right inside Nick's head and makes you feel the confusion and frustration he's feeling as he tries to come to terms with the recent death of his mum. His age didn't matter, his observations on grief really resonated with me. It's beautifully understated:

"I never used to notice stuff before. Now I noticed everything, even when it made no sense. I've been like that since Mom died. I don't know how to describe it - it was kinda like I was looking for the clue, the sign that would tell me, *this person is going to die on Tuesday*. Like Mom. Shouldn't I have known? Shouldn't there have been some sign the day before, something that told us to say everything we needed to say? To say goodbye?
But it doesn't work like that.

Nick's sensitive and bright, but he's still a typical teen boy- so he surfs as much and as often as he can then comes home when he feels like it and ditched his wet towels on the floor; he parties hard but loves making out with his girl Yansi at every chance he gets. He's at that awkward age where he's too old to be told what to do but not yet of age so he clashes regularly with his older sister, Julia, over pretty much everything, taking out his frustration at losing his mum on her.

Money worries force his sister to take in a lodger, Marcus. Marcus is the ultimate surfer dude, he loves women and women love him. Feckless and carefree, Marcus follows the waves around the world, refusing to form ties to anyone or anywhere:

"Marriage is a great institution. If you like institutions."

Marcus' character showed Nick a different lifestyle, but it was written with a real light touch; through Nick's narrative we get to see his character grow and develop through that summer, finding his own way through the extremes of Marcus' laid back bullshit and his overbearing sister to discover what he really wants from life and the sort of person he wants to be.

I loved this story, it's mainly a 'coming of age' story, but there's also romance, some intense smut, tears and real angst in this. Really recommended.

Milot says

ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review

"It was supposed to be the endless summer of sand, sea and surf."

Jane Harvey Berrick give us another sensational book. Yes.!! This book just exceeds my expectation upon reading the blurb because it tells so much more.

I fell in love with this author because of her unique stories and amazing talent in touching life with her books. She's one of the author who explores everything about life.

Summer of Seventeen is a story About a 17 year old boy and how he spend his summer that changes his life. This books is told from Nick POV the main character and I really love how ms Jane words make us connect with his character.

I read this book like I'm reading someone's journal or it feels like reading a true to life story. Every scene is realistic, the build up of the story is slow but perfect and every emotion I feel consumes me. It's totally CAPTIVATING.

Summer of seventeen is one inspiring story that show us that life sucks sometimes, that some circumstances in life will bring you down BUT we ALWAYS have a choice in life and not to give up.

From the book itself it says "Life is black and white but there's a whole load of colors on between."

Just remember that there will always be light in our life even in times of darkness.

? Aimetz says

5 AMAZING STARS!!!

WOW, that was intense and amazing.

Recibí este libro directamente de la autora y me siento muy honrada de haber sido una de las primeras personas en haberlo leído.

Cuando vi que el libro trataba de un Young Adult y una historia teeneger pensé: Wow, aquí vamos con otra historia más del montón.

Dios, que equivocada estaba, Jane simplemente ha escrito otra maravillosa historia.

Una historia nunca antes vista, una historia que no es cliché, una historia que la sientes real y vives cada sentimiento, una historia que fue para mi todo un rollercoaster de emociones y aún ha pesar de que han pasado un par de días siento cada momento del libro como si lo acabara de terminar.

Este es uno de esos libros que el titulo + la portada + la sinopsis + la portada (si dos veces porque el modelo está bien hot) te atrapan de una manera en la que dices tengo que leerlo. Y cuando lo haces simplemente no puedes olvidarlo.

Todas las situaciones que se le presentan a Nick ese verano son tan reales que te hacen ir en retrospectiva a tu vida cuando tenias 17 años. Tu primer amor. La escuela. Los amigos. Las fiestas. La ira de ser un casi adulto y ser tratado como un niño.

Este libro toco dos venas sensibles para mi (mi madre y mis amigos). No hablaré mucho de ellas porque no quiero caer en los spoilers pero se sintió tan real, tan intenso, tan vivido que sé es una de esas historias que jamás olvidaré y vivirá por siempre en mi corazón.

Es una historia que me enseñó que debemos vivir cada minuto y que no importa equivocarnos cuando tomamos decisiones ya que algo siempre aprenderemos de esas decisiones tomadas. Sean cosas buenas o malas todo cambia.

Está en ti como tomar el cambio, como aceptarlo, como vivirlo.

Gracias Jane, por poner en el mapa a Panamá y así sean pequeños detalles me siento hornada por ser parte de este hermoso libro.

Mil veces recomendado, si tienes la oportunidad de leerlo hazlo.

ESTE ES UN LIBRO QUE NO PODRÁS OLVIDAR NUNCA.

Jane I've to say this (again):

That was so intense and beautiful.

I don't have words in this moment to express all the feelings I've in my heart.

You've touched a part of me, I'm still crying because it was really beautiful.

You're wonderful and amazing writer and you make me feel with your words a lot.

Thank you for this book

Cath says

4.5stars. Apart from the shocking book cover this was a great read..... Really loved it

Beverly says

Every Time Jane announces a book, I know I have to buy it. Own it. Again, she surprised me with an ARC. You can imagine now my reaction when I woke up, check my inbox and there was waiting for me Nick!

#Surprised

Jane has done it. She wrote another great story.

Not repetitive. Not predictive. Summer of Seventeen is a Simple, Life-Like, Emotional ride. From the bottom of my heart I will tell you this: Get your tissues ready and breathe. This is a Page Turner and is prepared for a battle. Summer of Seventeen will take hostages from page one to the very end. True story! There's lot to say about this story, but I will stick to the basics. I don't want to give you any spoiler.

The Title, Cover and blurb says it all. This is the story of, 17 year old, Nick and how he spent this particular summer. Summer! Yay! Beaches. Hang out with friends. Girls, Girls and more girls. Doing nothing. Typical summer for a typical boy next door. I was very far from the truth. This book is different. Captivating different. And that's why you will fall in love with the story.

*I'm pretty sure you have heard this quote before "What happened was supposed to happen in that way and order for a reason." Right? I agree 100%. The book is written from Nick's (Main character) POV. I enjoyed being inside Nick's mind. How he processed everything around him. Nothing about his emotions. His decisions. The way he talked. Nothing felt fake. All of the characters were likable and as usual some (Marcus *coughs* Mine! *coughs*) became my favorite or I love them more than others. Remember the quote? "What happened was supposed to happen . . ." All the situations affecting Nick. Direct or indirect. None of them felt rushed or unreal. It feel like reading a book with a label : Based on a true story.*

You will travel back in time. You will remember when you turn 17. Your friends. High school. First loves. Everything.

Summer of Seventeen goes deep. Showing the reader that it's not really the situations, karma throws at us, that change us. It's the decisions we make at that moment. Those really are the factor that change the entire quotation.

#Intense

<< "Complimentary copy provided by author/publisher for an honest review." >>

Pratr- Authors says

5 fangs

Reviewed for paranormal romance and authors that rock.

This book should be aimed at the teen market, and is a standalone book.

It is well written and will keep you hooked from the start to the finish.

It will make you laugh and cry. It is hard hitting but overall a brilliant read. The characters are well thought out and you will feel a lot of emotions with the way it's written.

Nicky is looking forward to summer holidays but when his mother dies from cancer, his life is changed forever. He is living with his sister Julie and life is hard at best. Things get so bad they need to rent out his mother's old room, the get Marcus as a lodger.

Nicky's girlfriend, Yansi's parents don't like him. So he can only see her at certain times. He absolutely adores her. His best friend Sean, likes to party hard with drugs and alcohol. Nicky manages to get a part time job with Yansi's dad doing yard work all day.

After going to a party with Sean, Nicky's life is changed yet again as he is caught with another girl and Yansi finds out and dumps him. Sean takes something that lands him in the hospital. Nickey gets fired for taking his friend to the hospital.

Will Julie believe him or will he get kicked out for not contributing to the rent. Will his life ever get better again.

Shamika says

4.5 Stars

Loved it!!

This story has so many good things going for it that made it such an enjoyable read. The setting of Summer of Seventeen actually happens to be my hometown. Being able to identify with the scenes and places mentioned in the story was an absolute plus.

It's summertime in a small beach town. Summer is joyous time for kids to kick back, relax and enjoy their time off from school. For Nick Andrews, this mean surf, sand and spending time with his girlfriend Yansi and best friend Ben. Right away the summer appears to be shaping up nothing at all how Nick imaged. Nick is in a constant battle with his older sister Julie. They have just lost their mother to cancer and basic living just got harder. Nick is forced to get a job. His time is limited with his girlfriend Yansi because of her strict parents. The little time they do have together is often supervised. And now with his added job, he doesn't have extra time to hang out or enjoy his first love which is surfing. Surfing and the ocean are Nick's happy

place. It's freeing and allows him to truly unwind.

As the summer progresses in the story, I found myself totally wrapped up in these characters. They are young and make stupid mistakes. But it reminds you of those uninhibited times of your adolescence. Although there is a romance between Nick and Yansi, the story is really about a young man learning some important life lessons. Growing up, maturing, learning about love, and unfortunately loss. But ultimately finding your true self.

This story is enlightening, emotional and at times sad. I must say that I loved all of the characters in this story. They each brought a special element to the story. The writing is great and it's such a different type of story. It's YA which I feel can be very refreshing at times. The innocence and intensity is present all throughout.

Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

Now live on Amazon!

4-4.5 stars!!

FYI, this is not a M/M romance.

This book...really impressed me. I don't read much YA because often times, I find the characters shallow and story uninteresting, but this book was the complete opposite. Narrated by a strong male POV voice, Summer of Seventeen is refreshingly candid and every reader's literary trip down memory lane. It's a thought-provoking story with endearing main characters, an alluring setting, and the beautiful message that no matter what happens or how far one goes, hearts will always find their way home.

Seventeen is such a grand age: a year younger than full adult standards yet older and more mature than most adolescents. For **Nick Andrews**, being seventeen was supposed to be laidback and carefree. He was supposed to have the summer of a lifetime – hanging out with his girlfriend **Anayansi Alfaro** and his best friend Sean and enjoying his home life. Instead, he's restricted from seeing Yansi and Sean, gets yelled at all the time by his older sister Julia, forced to find work and on top of that, his mother passes away from cancer. Life couldn't get much worse for the seventeen year old kid. Through it all, his one constant and what grounds him is surfing. The beach and the ocean is his escape from reality and his passion.

Marcus is the new guy in town and ends up renting the extra room at Nick's house. He's a top-notch surfer and the person all guys want to be buddies with and all girls want to sleep with. His arrival ignites a restlessness in Nick and pitted against his sister's role model guidance, Nick isn't so sure *who* he is or what he wants in life.

To start with, I wasn't really sure what the objective of this book was just from reading the blurb. I mean, was it romance, M/M, plain YA? I have to say, this book has a romance element but more than that, this is a life story. A story of how Nick, an unsettled young man who shoulders responsibilities most teenagers are lucky to not have, finds himself, finds closure, and finds a young but enduring love. Though a secondary element, the romance wasn't overshadowed. I loved both Nick and Yansi's characters and while both made some unwise choices that caused drama (they're 17, they're allowed to mess up), it never felt like contrived drama. Nick is outwardly prickly but has a heart of gold and despite her strict upbringing, Yansi was a staunch supporter of Nick's through both the good and bad times. Together, they were a good match and complemented each other perfectly.

The only reason this book isn't a 5 star winner for me is because of a certain event at the 36% mark. Instead of smoothing out this particular conflict quickly, I wished the author placed more focus on what happened to Nick (view spoiler) This part really bothered me so no matter how much I enjoyed the book overall, I have to dock stars for this portion.

Aside from that, this book was a YA gem. The writing was outstanding and I especially loved the setting of the story. I loved reading about Nick's passion for surfing and those scenes were breathtaking. The emotional intensity slowly builds up and by the end of the book tears were falling down my face. This is one story that evoked a plethora of emotions. If you're like me and don't read much YA, don't pass up this book because of that fact alone – this one's really different.

ARC provided by the author in exchange for an honest review.

Hanne says

Nick is 17 years old and it's summer vacation. His mother recently died and he's still struggling with that loss. He lives with his sister, but he's not close to her. The only things Nick wants to do all summer, are to be with his girlfriend Yansi and surf with his friends. Yansi has a strict family, so Yansi and Nick can't see each other whenever they want it. Nick isn't too happy about that, but Yansi is the only girl Nick wants. Nick will get a summer job and he has less free time to spend with his girlfriend. That whole summer will change Nick's life forever in several ways.

I didn't get to read how Yansi and Nick fell in love. They were already dating for a few months when the book started. Nick has loved Yansi for a many years and he's happy to finally be her boyfriend. He would do anything for her. There is some romance in Summer of Seventeen, but I would have loved it if there was more. This novel really focused on the changes in Nick's life. Nick is stubborn, wild, a little immature and passionate.

Unfortunately, I did not like Summer of Seventeen. The lack of romance wasn't the reason. It was just too difficult to like Nick most of the time. Yansi, on the other hand, was a sweet and loving girl, but I don't feel like I know her like I know Nick. Even though Summer of Seventeen wasn't a success for me, this book won't be my last by this author, because I really loved The Traveling Man and The Traveling Woman. I'll just check more reviews and what the book is about before starting one.

I would say this book is more NA than YA, because of some subjects and the descriptions.

Meagan says

This book is totally different from anything Jane Harvey-Berrick has ever written. It's not a romance. There's a romance in the story, but the story isn't a romance. It's a stunning coming-of-age story that will rip you apart.

Nick's life is one long series of miserable moments. His mother has recently died, his sister can't stand him, his best friend is changing for the worse, and his girlfriend's parents hate him.

sometimes I really thought God hated me. It was mutual.

At seventeen Nick's world is changing in unimaginable ways. But even though he should be torn apart, he's standing, struggling to survive. This isn't a sob story. Nick is strong in ways I couldn't fathom. He isn't overly opportunistic, but he isn't lamenting over what his life could have been either. He's just a seventeen-year-old kid who's been dealt a shitty hand and is dealing with it the best he can.

Nick's no longer a child, but he's not an adult either. The amount of emotions he has to deal with in one summer would be overwhelming to anyone, let alone a seventeen-year-old. Guilt, wonder, heartbreak, anger, frustration, despair, first love; each emotion shapes him, changes him until at the end of the summer he's something different.

Jane Harvey-Berrick overwhelmed me with emotions. She manipulates words in a way that completely captures the characters feelings. The prose and emotion connect in a way that is astounding. It's like she gave me words to express what I was feeling even before I understood what I was trying to say.

Give me a lifetime of feeling this. Give me now and then and soon and when, and give me a future, give me life, give me hope.

Every scene of this story had purpose. Death, life, anguish, and redemption, it all collided into one summer that shaped Nick at his core. Good or bad, each event made him into something stronger, even if he had to fight and crawl to get there. I can't say enough about this book. There were times it hurt so much to continue reading I thought I would break, but then there were moments where the story was so beautiful you wanted to grab hold and never let it go. If you want to hope and cry and feel and fall on your knees because you're so happy to be alive, then read this book. It's beautiful in ways you can't imagine.

So I stare down and the memories rush back. Good, good times. Bad times. Worse times. And I remember.

Review posted at Love Between the Sheets
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Jennifer Kyle says

3.75 Stars

"It's your life Nick, I can't tell you how to live it."

This story is told completely in seventeen year old Nick's pov. He is living with his big sister and they have recently lost their mother to cancer. They live in Florida and Nick and his friends love the beach and the surf. Things at home are financially tight and stressed so his sister takes on a border for their mother's room for extra cash.

Nick has a girl friend whose family is extremely strict. They are never allowed alone and she is never able to hang out but still she is everything Nick fantasizes about and she has his heart. The new border is an older surfer who goes where the girls and the waves are. Nick finds a job with Yansi's father and also part time working with the Marcus his border.

Nick's friends live to surf and party while his best friend Sean seems rich and restless the author gifts him a good share of the story later on which for me didn't seem needed. I was enjoying working and being with Yansi then bam I'm in Sean's crap and for some reason I just didn't care. Perhaps if their friendship seemed deeper or more memorable but I would have preferred the story stay the course with Nick and Yansi still it was a decent read.

Overall, this was a pretty young story for me but I enjoyed Nick's pov and the author's writing style.
