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Blue



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Synopsis

Surfing is sixteen-year-old Iris's world, and when the ultra-talented Zeke walks into her life, it soon becomes her passion. Over one amazing summer, as she is drawn into his sphere, she experiences love, new friendships, but also loss, with an intensity she never dreamed of. But is Zeke all he seems? What hides beneath his glamorous and mysterious past? When Iris decides to try for her own surfing success, just as her ex-boyfriend comes back into her life, she will test her talent, and her feelings for Zeke, to the limit...

Book Information

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Age Range: 12 - 17 years

Grade Level: 7 and up

Customer Reviews

Lisa Glass has always lived a stone's throw from the beach, moving from Plymouth to Swansea--where she took an MA in Creative Writing--and finally to Newquay in Cornwall, where she now lives with her husband, daughter and dog. Lisa is part of the team behind Vulpes Libris which was selected by the Observer as one of the best literary blogs in the UK.

Well written and riveting!

Blue is such a fun surfer lover's romance. Perfect for the summer and beach time, this book will make you want to lay out on the beach and dive right into the ocean. Blue even made me want to

hop up on a surfboard and try to catch a wave. (but let's be honest, I'm not sure I would even be able to stand up. I would spend all my time wiping out.) The book mostly takes place on what is called one of the best surfing beaches in Europe. Iris is refreshing. She is not the type of girl that would attract your average celebrity. Sure, she is pretty. But she is low key and relaxed. I loved that Zeke was so taken with her. It said so much about the type of guy that he is. Because Iris is a quality girl, and it is impressive that an 18 year old guy that is famous and on top of his game notices quality over all the other girls that are throwing themselves at him. I thought it was adorable to see Zeke around his brothers. It was so cute to see that he had been talking to all of them about Iris. They knew who she was. It was just cute to see them all kind of joke around with him and push his buttons to see him react and admit that he liked her. Iris and Zeke are just the kind of young couple that you will love reading about and rooting for. The secondary characters are also a treat in Blue. All of Zeke's brothers, Iris' best friend, and her ex Daniel all were prominently featured in Blue. I enjoyed getting to know all of them, and seeing their story lines. I can't wait to see them again in the next book. Another pleasant surprise in Blue is how much you will learn about surfing. All of the lingo, and the description and detail about the sport was fantastic! For example, I learned that if I were to try and learn how to surf that the whitewater would be my friend for a very, very long time! Lisa Glass did a wonderful job with Blue. The writing was fresh, fun and conversational. It was so easy to just let yourself get lost in this cute beachy story for a couple of hours. The characters were delightful and had a rich depth to them. People are not always what they seem and people often have more going on in their lives and in their past that shape them into the person they are today. You learn a lot of assumptions and changed perceptions of the characters throughout the story. If you are looking for a fun, and beyond cute summer surf romance, look no further than Blue! *Disclaimer- I got a copy of this book for free in exchange for my honest review. I was not compensated for my thoughts.

Full review also posted on my blog I bought this book simply because the main character is a surfer. I went in with no expectations and came out with a new favourite summer read. This is the perfect beach book; sun, surfing and romance set in Newquay, Cornwall. I found the portrayal of Iris quite refreshing, she acts how a typical sixteen year old would act. She parties, she drinks underage, and she is actually able to have sex without feeling guilty or ashamed, or that she has somehow become less of a person than she was before. I don't know where the trend for perfect, pure teenage girls has come from, but Iris goes completely against that and I love it. She isn't the nicest of people, she can be judgey and a bit bitchy, but she is an

interesting character and I really liked her despite that. She meets pro-surfer Zeke at a yoga class and they begin to bond through their mutual love of surfing. The whirlwind romance does happen quickly, but it feels realistic and it develops and changes over the course of the book, and you can tell that the two characters do care about each other. Zeke is not the typical carefree surfer, he has to deal with a lot of things that a normal eighteen year old wouldn't be expected to handle. He has had to grow up very quickly being a pro-surfer and you get the sense that he is trying so hard to just be a normal teenage boy, and he is able to do that with Iris. There are a lot of subplots running through it and in some aspects this made the book feel a little crowded. However, this didn't distract too much from the central theme because they were so well written and the majority of the subplots were focused on Iris and Zeke, and they fleshed out their characters into real people and made them believable. The different themes running through this book targeted the sometimes difficult aspects of life that many teenagers experience at some point and Lisa Glass handles them incredibly well. Her writing is stunning, she manages to get inside the head of a 16 year old and write very realistic characters. This book made me want to grab a surfboard and head straight into the water the instant I had finished reading it. The descriptions were so vivid, they invoke the whole feeling of Newquay, of a summer spent at the beach, and the enjoyment of the English seaside. I loved all the technical surfing detail, the love for the sport shines through the entire book. Iris and Zeke are truly at home in the ocean and out on their surfboards. Blue is one of the best UKYA books of its genre; a simply stunning summer read.

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