



# Rockoholic

*C.J. Skuse*

Download now

Read Online [➔](#)

# Rockoholic

*C.J. Skuse*

## **Rockoholic** C.J. Skuse

She's got it bad, and he ain't good -- he's in her garage?

"I'm your biggest fan, I'll follow you until you love me..."

Gonna have to face it: Jody's addicted to Jackson Gatlin, frontman of The Regulators, and after her best bud Mac scores tickets, she's front and center at his sold-out concert. But when she gets mashed in the moshpit and bodysurfs backstage, she's got more than a mild concussion to deal with. By the next morning, the strung-out rock star is coming down in her garage. Jody -- oops -- kind of kidnapped him. By accident. With a Curly Wurly candy bar. And now he doesn't want to leave.

It's a rock-star abduction worthy of an MTV reality series...but who got punk'd?!

## **Rockoholic** Details

Date : Published November 1st 2012 by Scholastic (first published March 1st 2011)

ISBN : 9780545429603

Author : C.J. Skuse

Format : Hardcover 358 pages

Genre : Young Adult, Contemporary, Romance, Music, Fiction

 [Download Rockoholic ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Rockoholic ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Rockoholic C.J. Skuse**

---

## From Reader Review Rockoholic for online ebook

### Kaede says

First off, my lovelies, I must give props to Ms. Skuse for nailing the obsessiveness and slightly scary factors of being a female fan of a rising idol. Especially a hot male idol. Jody, our main character, as much as I may try (but I won't) to deny it, is a lot like quite a few people I know.

Quite a few One Direction obsessed friends I know, to be exact. And if I said that Jody's lack of sense and brain cells annoyed the hell out of me, and I couldn't stand her as a character - I'd also be saying that to 99% of the female population.

99% of the female population of obsessive girls in love with One Direction currently, or any other band.

And I have to say, in all honesty, I don't belong in that 99%. Sure, I like One Direction's songs and I may on occasion play one of their songs and maybe even sing along, but I'm not obsessed like Jody is. And I certainly would. NOT. Kidnap. A. Boy.

Not even a popular boy.

Nope.

And I also have no problem handing that insult of lack of sense and brain cells to every One Direction fan I know. So HA. Cause I DON'T CARE IF YOU SAY THE BOY IS GONNA BE YOUR FUTURE HUSBAND BECAUSE I DON'T GIVE A DAMN AND IT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN. But yeah...

So you can only imagine all the thoughts and little talks I could think up for Jody on the spot the moment she ~~said~~ **DECLARED** screamed to the world, "**I MUST GET JACKSON TO DATE AND MARRY ME.**"

Or something along those lines...

I didn't like it. I didn't understand it. I didn't care for it. But oh, was she realistic. And I give credit where credit is due. And Jody's character deserves some sort of messed up credit. Because while I didn't understand where she was coming from (Me being from the 1% of the female population that does not appreciate One Direction and their ~~noisy~~ **annoying** fans), I'm sure many of my friends - and even fellow bloggers - could and would relate to Jody's obsession with Jackson. Obsession is becoming a very common word in this review, isn't it? \*sighs\* But it is what it is. And what Jody's connection with Jackson is as simple as it can be:

### **OBSESSION.**

No, it is not love. And yes, I do think the only character who had some sense (Not including the parents) was Mac, who was my favorite character. And no, I do not approve of Jody's conclusion that her best friend was gay because he likes to sing and dance. And yes, I admit this book did make me laugh often and appreciate it's honesty.

Rockoholic, which may seem light and silly, and depending on your reading tastes, may seem like a book to

dismiss - it is actually so much more than that.

This book explores what fame can do to people, and the stress it can have on regular people. How it can easily alter a boy who used to love to sing and perform to a boy who needs to take drugs to perform and then calm himself down afterwards. Jackson's feelings and the reasons behind his refusal to return to his band was understandable, and after the initial experience and idea I had of him (which was nothing more than JERK, JERK, JERK), I began to grow accustomed to him and wanted to learn more.

But Jody has a story of her too, one that doesn't just include Jackson and her infamous boy kidnapping, that's worth telling. One that isn't so obvious to the eye, one that may be overshadowed by the general plot but is still a tale of loss, search, and realization. One that includes a grandpa who Jody loved dearly that just couldn't stay with her. And just because of one little gift that was left to her from him, a moonstone, Jody is able overcome many difficulties and trials. ?

?

Funny as it was senseless and without story at times, I still think that this is a story you won't want to miss. Do I recommend throwing this to the top of an already way too big TBR pile? Probably not. Do I recommend reading it eventually?

Without a doubt.

*An advance copy was provided from the publisher for review via NetGalley. However, all opinions remain honest and my own.*

---

## **Karen says**

When I first came across *Rockoholic* I thought nah, it's not for me. A book about a girl obsessed with a rock star? Not my cup of tea. I'm not really into music in a big way and can honestly say I've never obsessed over anyone in a band. But I kept coming across it on the book review blogs and the more I read, the more intrigued I was, so when I got the opportunity to review it I jumped at it.

Oh. My. Word! What a painfully hilarious book this was. How can I explain what I mean? It was like watching someone walk into a closed door and fall on their backside ... and trying not to laugh out loud! Totally funny, but in a horrified kind of way.

Jody, the protagonist was not the kind of person I'd have liked in real life, but I totally loved her character. She made me laugh. She made me think. She couldn't give a damn what anyone thought of her yet she was kind hearted and loving. Jackson is the rock star that Jody kidnaps and although I thought he was an arrogant, self-centred moron, I enjoyed reading about this guy so much. I definitely had a love/hate relationship with him and he ended up being my favourite character. Add Mackenzie and his little sister Cree, who were definitely the 'nicest' personas in the book and all these characters just fit together perfectly, like a brand new jigsaw.

*Rockoholic* was well written, witty and full of teenage angst. The plot was original and very well thought out. I loved how some objects that had been mentioned quite innocuously throughout the book suddenly had meaning. C.J. Skuse kept and held my attention from beginning to end. And what a lovely ending it was too!

I definitely recommend this book to older teens through to adults, whether you're a music lover or not (like me). I have to warn you though that inside these covers you will find F-bombs, drugs and misconstrued Curlywurlys!

---

### **Mitch says**

*Rockoholic* isn't the book I thought it would be, but kudos to C. J. Skuse for trying something different. Still, I really thought this was one of those premises where the main character does this crazy rock star kidnapping thing and hilarity ensues - except, it's really not all that funny. I guess I liked the serious turn, teaching a life lesson to one obsessed fangirl, it just wasn't the story I expected.

The summary's entirely accurate though, Jody's obsessed with this dude Jackson Gatlin and his music, until she finally gets him to herself - then her entire world view comes crashing down because he's not at all like what she expected. I just thought the whole thing would be, I don't know, funnier? - and it's really not. Between the way she treats her best friend Mac to that entire chapter about waiting in line for the concert, it's ... kind of sad, actually. Although I am amazed Skuse's managed to write enough material to fill an entire chapter about waiting in line, but there's obsessed fangirl for you. In the meantime, even Jody knows what a terrible friend she is (actual admission: I don't like it when Mac talks to other girls. It just reminds me there are girls out there who'd be a better best friend for him.) and, well ... poor Mac. At least until he calls her a stupid cow, and, even if she deserves it, not cool dude.

So after the concert (random WTF line: The stage goes dark and some midgets run on with sparklers.), she does her thing, and even though I really didn't find her new found stuck with a rock star predicament all that funny, at least it's poetic justice. Cause Jackson suffers from all the stereotypical problems of an eighties rock star, temperamental, drug habit, and yes, he's not even a real vegetarian. I can just see the lights going out in Jody's eyes. So even if I'm neither amused nor sympathetic, I keep reading because I am curious if and when her self-styled miserable, empty, dried-up husk of a life would hit rock bottom. (Also, I have to admit it is a little gratifying to read about the fallout from Jody's collapsing delusions.)

And that's when *Rockoholic* loses me, somewhere between the rehab for Jackson and Jody's realization that her life doesn't suck so much (thanks to a convenient assist from her dead granddad). I'm sure the goal was to have Jody stop living in her fantasy, but I got the feeling Skuse was trying to tackle too many problems, and between Jody's mom, her sister, Mac's parents, and Jackson's band problems, all of it seems to be resolved way too easily, all thanks to Jody's one crazy split second decision and a candy bar. There just seems to be too many problems, too many solutions, too many tense moments, and not enough light hearted, actual laugh out loud scenes.

For me, the funniest scene was the food fight at Jody's grandpa's funeral and it was all downhill from there. The rest of *Rockoholic* is actually fairly serious. Nothing wrong with that, I just wasn't expecting it.

---

### **Zoe and the Edge says**

3.5 Stars

The characters are pretty good, the delivery a bit sloppy and the plot even worse but it made me *laugh*. As in really *LOL*.

I'm starting a theory. I think British writers have a knack for writing beautifully flowing natural dialogue. It might just be that I'm Australian and British speak is more familiar than American to me, but this is a budding theory. So there.

Jody has this attitude that I really like when she's not being completely stupid over Jackson. When she's being gaga over him, she's like an 8 year old. But when her silliness turns sensible, it's all the more satisfying. It's just like, "Yes! Now you're catching on how to deal."

The thing about Jody is that she constantly surprises me. She is completely unpredictable and I'll be reading a sentence and she'll take a totally different turn that makes me burst out laughing. I mean, it's just so *ridiculously* hilarious.

How can you *not* love Mac. He is the most sensitive, shopaholic straight hero you will ever meet. He just takes Jody in his stride. A real picture of true love. Seriously, love is the only earthly explanation as to why he puts up with Jody. She is a NUTCASE.

Towards the end, I kind of lost interest. I just wanted Mac and Jode to get it on.

---

## The Final Sentence says

I've read stories with a very similar plot before.

But as a whole, the novel was really lovely. I liked it.

---

## Jennifer says

Review can be seen [here](#) on **Books and Swoons** .

**\*\*I received a copy of this book as an eGalley from Scholastic through NetGalley but it did not influence this review in any way.\*\***

Now, I'm a fangirl at heart so I was very excited about starting this book. Accidentally kidnapping your celebrity crush + the funnies it bound to ensue = excitement in starting this book! However right from the beginning, Jody, the main character, was a bit too much for me to handle. I understood her devotion to Jackson Gatlin and The Regulators but what she continues to do with and for Jackson, and how she treats Mac (the best friend) really bothered me.

I will admit that Jody starts off as a really immature, irritating and weak girl but she grows into this strong, mature person. She gets her act together by the end of the book but by then it was just too late for me. I just couldn't muster up any sympathy for her. She made Mac believe she was leaving with Jackson until she knew how Mac really felt. She continued acting really petty and was lying until the last possible moment and it became the last straw for me with Jody. I had hoped she would have redeemed herself earlier in the story but it just didn't happen.

Jackson Gatlin, what can I say about Jackson Gatlin? Well, he certainly left a lot to be desired. He was just

one big hot mess of a human being and who need a lot more help. I think even some therapy would do him some good.

My favorite character of the whole book is Mac's little sister, Cree. She is super cute and adorable. I totally loved it when Jody would call Mac "*Mackenzie*" and Cree would be like "No, *my* Kenzie." So territorial over her big brother, she was so endearing.

I found the book to be a little unrealistic with Jackson's detox, it happened way too fast for me to consider it realistic. And the problem with the reporter, Sally Dinkley, and her causing trouble for Jody and Jackson feels like extra conflict just for the sake of word count.

I thought the book was enjoyable, a little far-fetched at times, but the concept was really fun but since I couldn't click Jody, I can't give this book a higher rating.

---

## **Bibliojunkies says**

She's got it bad, and he ain't good -- he's in her garage?

"I'm your biggest fan, I'll follow you until you love me..."

Gonna have to face it: Jody's addicted to Jackson Gatlin, frontman of The Regulators, and after her best bud Mac scores tickets, she's front and center at his sold-out concert. But when she gets mashed in the moshpit and bodysurfs backstage, she's got more than a mild concussion to deal with. By the next morning, the strung-out rock star is coming down in her garage. Jody -- oops -- kind of kidnapped him. By accident. With a Curly Wurly candy bar. And now he doesn't want to leave.

defrrrrrr-0xs/pd

It's a rock-star abduction worthy of an MTV reality series...but who got punk'd?! (GoodReads)

Doesn't the above summary make you think this will be a silly light hearted read? I sure thought so. I was expecting some hilariously ridiculous misunderstanding between two people that looks like a kidnapping but really isn't one. Boy was I wrong. Sure, our rock star, Jackson, is so wasted and high that he mistakes the Curly Wurly Jodie is trying to offer him for a knife. But our heroine, Jodie, realizes his mistake right away and instead of correcting him, she recognizes an "opportunity" and ACTUALLY kidnaps him. Which I guess could be silly had she been a fun and silly character (Stephanie Plum comes to mind) but she isn't. She is a teen in a bad place and she does this bad thing that left me completely flummoxed.

We learn a few things early on in this story. One, Jodie's granddad was one of the funniest free spirits ever. Two, Jodie is very insecure and has a penchant for making really bad decisions. She is also unhealthily obsessed with her favorite band The Regulators and their lead singer, Jackson Gatlin. And three, if it wasn't for her best friend Mac (Mackenzie), Jodie would be even more of a mess (if that's even possible).

When Jodie decides to liven up Granddad's wake, her mom rips up her ticket to the Regulators concert. Jodie runs away and moves into the spare room behind the pub owned by Mac's parents. Being the amazing friend he is, Mac gives Jodie his ticket and drives her to the concert. A concert that should have been an epic one time chance to see her hero in the flesh becomes a series of disasters that ultimately land her in a makeshift triage room. When a very high Jackson makes an unexpected appearance and speaks to Jodie personally, a misunderstanding between them gives Jodie the idea to kidnap the love of her life and take her home with

her. What starts out as a thoughtless crime ends up being a lesson in life, reality and love for Jodie and her hero, Jackson.

This book just wasn't what I was expecting. I was in the mood for light hearted and silly. And I was disappointed. So disappointed that I sent a message to my fellow Bibliojunkies bitching about it. I even considered putting it aside to read something else. But I decide to move forward and keep reading.

And in the end...as much as I tried to resist liking this book and as disappointed as I was in the beginning (simply because it wasn't what I was expecting)...I caved. At every turn of the page I became more and more sucked in. It was as if C.J. Skuse was saying, "You WILL read this and you WILL like it!"

I surrender, Ms. Skuse, I surrender. I read it. And not only did I like it, I LOVED it. And when I say I loved it, I mean that Rockoholic has a guaranteed spot on my Top 10 of 2012. So there you go. Thank you giving me a brilliant dramatic novel (with admittedly hilarious moments) that I had no choice but to embrace. That was very sneaky of you, dear author. I applaud your sheer awesomeness.

Nat

---

### **Katy says**

This book is kind of hard to review because my feelings for it are kind of inconsistent. I started reading this book about a month ago, and the first chapter was entertaining enough. The second chapter was just okay, and by the third chapter rolled around, I was really bored. So I decided to set it aside for a bit.

Well, I picked it up again early this morning, and it got better. By the end of chapter five, I was smiling and laughing out loud. Jodie's antics were so crazy, and Mac's dramatic outbursts were hilarious.

But then it got weird, and then irritating, and then serious, and then back to irritating. And the rest of it was entertaining enough, but I was just ready for Jodie to realize what's really important and for the end to come together as I had predicted all along.

The characters in this book were okay - not boring characters, but not memorable either. With the exception of Mac, only because he had some great lines. "I can almost hear the soap dropping in the shower." But I think Skuse tried a little too hard to throw readers off course, but because it was so blatantly obvious, I think most readers will be able to see right through it.

So yes, this book was really cliché and totally predictable, but it was an entertaining, cute read. I think I would have enjoyed it a bit more if it was a little shorter, but it wasn't a bad read either.

---

### **Mary (BookHounds) says**

MY THOUGHTS

ABSOLUTELY LOVED IT



Bristol teen, Jody, has a major crush on US rock star Jackson Gatlin. She has his posters plastered on her wall, eats what he professes to eat and just generally fangirls out at his concerts. Her best friend, Mac, wants to be on Broadway star and genially puts up with her Gatlin rants with a stoic front. They spend most of their time together at his family's pub and taking care of his little sister, Cree while his parents work. Her divorced mother has moved the family in with her father and Jody develops a special relationship with her grandfather. When he passes away, Jody is left bereft and slowly spins out of control. The only bright spot in her life is seeing Gatlin's band preform, so when she angers her mother and her mother in turn rips up Jody's ticket to the show, things get desperate.

Mac graciously gives Jody his ticket and even drives her to the show, even waits for her to finish. When she ends up injured at the concert, Mac tracks her down and finds her with Jackson, in a bizarre and accidental kidnapping. They find that Jackson doesn't want to go back to his band and evil manager and also has a horrible drug addiction to uppers and downers. So what is super fan Jody do? She takes him home to nurse him, hiding him in her grandfather's garage and rehabing him. What ends up happening in the story is truly heartwarming, bittersweet and funny enough to make this one of my favorite reads of the year.

Although the characters are in England, this story should resonate with any young adult just coming of age and trying to deal with what they want to do with their lives. The fact that Jody is so clueless about Mac's feeling for her really was a sweet moment when she realizes that Mac is and has been in love with her forever and it is the right kind of love. Both of them have families with major issues and the fact that these two aren't more messed up is amazing. Parents: there is language, some kissing, alcohol mentions, drug abuse. Please note that this book takes place in England where the drinking age is different. The drug abuse is shown in a bad light.

---

## **A. Bookzilla. says**

[and she is in

---

## **Marielle says**

This and other reviews on Book Thoughts by Marielle!

Just know that this book emotionally depleted me. I mean, I only have so much emotion that I can let out and all of it for the next month was unleashed today, when I finished this book. I PROMISED MYSELF I WOULDN'T CRY ON MY BIRTHDAY. But I did. In a good-ish kind of way.

I went into Rockoholic by C.J. Skuse thinking that it would be a light, fluffy read. I was kind of right.

You know that one celebrity that you would give anything just to meet? To talk to him for one minute, receive one smile? Well, for Jody, that one guy would be Jackson Gatlin, lead singer of The Regulators, the new popular American rock band. When Jody scores a ticket to his concert, she's right in the front row, and after a series of events, he ends up... in her garage? Recovering from withdrawal and the brightness of fame, Jackson is not who Jody thought he was, much to her dismay. It becomes apparent that Jackson doesn't want

to go back to his celebrity, but how can someone as famous as Jackson hide for so long? As Jody and her best friend, Mac, try to cope with this raging rock star, the media is searching for the elusive celeb. Will Jody get Jackson to safety before the media finds him, or will he be thrust back into the spotlight?

There is only one that that I didn't absolutely love about this book, and that was Jody. She was incredibly stupid; she made horrible decisions at every turn, but I have to admit that she did have guts. I mean, I wouldn't be brave enough to actually try to steal a rock star from his own concert. But at the same time, I liked Jody, despite her stupidity. She was quite endearing. Mac was my favorite character because he was such a good friend, plus he was into theater (as am I). He was reliable and really funny and his little sister, Cree, was adorable. Jackson, at first, was horrible, but by the end, I came to love him. He was kind of sweet by the end.

This book was incredibly funny. I actually had to stifle laughs while I was reading it into the wee hours of the morning. I could barely put it down and it captivated me right away. I understood how Jody felt about Jackson (maybe not to that extreme level, but a much more mild one) and that helped me connect to her thought process on why it was okay to abduct a superstar. It was kind of a fluffy read, but I didn't expect to cry at the end. But I did cry. And on my birthday, of all days! Gah. But anyway, it wasn't quite as fluffy as I first thought it would be. It also made me a lot more interested about books that are not about supernatural things; It made me branch out more, and for that, C.J. Skuse, I thank you! I also thank you for entertaining me endlessly with this book of yours!

---

### **Mimi-loves-her-books! says**

Omg, this book was SO GOOD!!!!

Honestly, it was the best realistic-fiction I have ever read. I loved the protagonist and all of the secondary characters too. The relationships in the book felt so real and the plot was really interesting. Plus, it was super funny; I could not stop laughing. Overall it was an awesome read. I wish I could take this adventure all over again :)

---

### **Lynsey says**

I'm going to start this review by saying that Rockoholic by C. J. Skuse is one of the funniest, most entertaining and highly original books I've read in a long time.

To be quite honest, when I first read the synopsis I thought the book sounded good but I honestly didn't know whether I'd like it. I mean, I'm a bit past my boy band loving days although I do remember what it was like to have a crush on Ronan Keating \*cringing as we speak\* and I won't tell you about the time I had front row tickets to a Boyzone concert and went deaf for three days. Oh wait, I just did. Anyway, I took Rockoholic with me to my super intensive residential training course and I'm so glad I did as it provided me with some much needed light relief, just when I needed it! Rockoholic was laugh out loud funny and I totally "got" Jodie. She is a walking disaster and always manages to get caught up in the most ridiculous and outlandish situations. But she's also funny, witty and fiercely loyal to her friends.

Standing by her side is her best friend Mac who has a streak through his hair and is heavily involved with the

Dramatic Arts. He knows Jodie like the back of his hand and together, they're an unstoppable force. I LOVED the interaction between Mac and Jodie which provided a lot of the humour but also some of the most touching parts of the book too.

Initially, I thought that rock star God Jackson was a bit of a prat but as the plot unravels, you realise that he is merely a victim of circumstance and In a world where it seems everyone wants to be famous, I think this book is a nice reminder that fame definitely isn't all it's cracked up to be!

Now, I'm not a huge fan of British writers, especially in the YA genre but I think after this I'm going to have to change my stance. I thought Rockoholic was a brilliant read, both hysterically funny and incredibly moving at times which is a sign of a skilled writer and I will definitely be reading more of C.J.'s books in the future.

I can't recommend Rockoholic highly enough and now that I've given the ARC away to a stranger on the train (book love should definitely be shared) I'm definitely going to invest in my own copy. I strongly suggest you do too. Go get it!

---

## **Christina says**

My original review for this title can be found **HERE** at The Book Hookup.

When the blurb says that Jody's addicted to Jackson Gatlin, frontman of The Regulators, that was putting it mildly. She's quite obsessed, believing that if they were to meet, he'd fall hopelessly in love with her because he's the only person in the world that could ever possibly begin to understand her as a person. Jody's almost positive that she'll get her chance at the concert, she just has to get him to notice her in the crowd. They'll make eye contact, stars will align, and he'll be hers forever because they're soul mates.

Well, that's not exactly how things worked out. As we all know, real life has a way of taking your dreams and tossing it to the wind sometimes. Jody makes it to the concert, but it's only after waiting in a queue all day, getting thrown up on by a drunk guy, racing to the front of the mosh pit and getting squeezed to death by the rambunctious crowd, and pummeled by security that she finally gets her moment with Jackson and it doesn't last long at all.

In a crazy tangle of events, Jody ends up kidnapping Jackson, but he's nothing like the guy that she had built him up to be in her head. In actuality, he's a desperate junkie and an incredibly rude asshole who ends up clinging to Jody because he wants away from the spotlight, his suffocating manager, and his life as a rockstar. However, with the whole world missing their favorite frontman, how long can she keep him hidden in her grandpa's old garage while he detoxes?

♥ **My Opinion:** Man, when I read the blurb for this book on Goodreads and saw the cover, I was desperate to get my hands on it. Luckily for me, **Jen from Jenuine Cupcakes: The "Pusher" of Books & Cupcakes**, allowed me to borrow the ARC she received from Scholastic and I was over-the-moon excited about it. Sadly, though it was a relatively good novel, this book turned out to be nothing that I thought it was going to be. I suppose I had imagined it to be this tale of a struggling rockstar battling with his inner demons and the outlandish string of events that lead to this girl kidnapping him and when they fell in love, she'd help him see the good in the world again. Well, in a way, that was almost the story I got, but the love was more of a brotherly-sisterly bond and the journey to his recovery was one hell of an uphill battle. Even if I was able to

suspend belief and realize this was a work of fiction, some aspects of the story were so out there that I found it rather challenging to connect with the story and the characters, particularly Jody and Jackson.

I did appreciate the focus of how we generally place people, especially celebrities, on pedestals and how we forget that at the end of the day, they're human just like the rest of us. Furthermore, the idea that we can become so infatuated with someone that we fail to see that we have the best potential love right in front of us. Luckily, Jody wised up to Mac before it was too late and their declaration at the end gave me all the warm and fuzzy feelings. Mackenzie and Cree were the best things about this story!

♥ **A very special thanks to Jen for allowing me to borrow her ARC. You should check out her blog, it has fantastic reviews and she teases me mercilessly with her cupcake recipes!**

---

## **Joy (joyous reads) says**

This is one of those books that would require the reader's patience to fully appreciate all its quirky nuisances. It was touch and go there for a while. You need to practice self-control and curb your judgments until you've read the entire book. Needless to say, I made a fool of myself on Goodreads again.

### **Here's the Story, Morning Glory:**

Jody's obsession with Jackson Gatlin, frontman of The Regulators reached new heights as she found herself inadvertently kidnapping her dream man, the love of her life, her hero. What would've been a simple error easily corrected by handing over the rock god back to his manager turned into an epic game of hide-a-rock-star-from-the-world. This is just what she's been praying for, right? To spend all her precious time with her idol and serve him hand and foot. But it doesn't take long until Jackson shows his true colors: diva extraordinaire, abusive and a celebrity on the brink of a drug withdrawal. Jody gets the butt of his temper tantrums. She gets puked on, gets food thrown at her face, and worse, peed on. When she had had enough, Jody threw him out but to her chagrin, Jackson refused to leave the sanctuary of her garage. She soon realized that the Jackson she's known all her life doesn't come close to the real Jackson in her garage. Stuck with a temperamental jerk whose personal vocabulary did not include the words, **thank you** and **sorry**, Jody will learn a few home truths about herself, about Mac and which Jackson was worthy of her devotion.

Like I said, you need to be patient with this book. Jody was a hard person to like in the beginning. She was an insipid, sniveling girl who took all of Jackson's abuse. She was blinded to everything about Jackson that she didn't appreciate the extent of her best friend's devotion to make her happy until it was almost too late. Truthfully, I would've given up by say, third chapter. But I didn't. I don't know. I think it's the Pearl Jam's Black quote at the beginning of the book that held me back. That alone gave the book so much promise and it's what saw me through.

If you persevere to read this book until the end, you will appreciate the growth Jody went through. You will see that moment when she realized that Jackson is just a man, not a god, not an idol. He's a scared boy - a terrified, tired, burnt-out rock star who wanted none of the life his celeb status afforded him. He wanted to get clean - free of an addiction that his manager got him hooked on. When at first you will be annoyed with him, you will find yourself sympathizing for the mess of a man he turned out to be and rooting for the person he wanted to be.

This book boasts some pretty lovable secondary characters: there's grandpa, whose own funeral involved a

rock anthem and a food fight of epic proportion. He's been Jody's rock god even before Jackson came into the picture. His death tore her apart but his life lessons are the edict that Jody follows like the law. There's Cree - adorable, lovable, sweet Cree. She's a two point five year-old girl toddler who provides all the honey with her innocence and unconditional love - for her brother, for Jody and for Jackson. Jackson found a certain closeness to this little girl because according to him, Cree didn't know any better. And then there's Mac - black nail polish, skinny jeans, guy-liner. Jody has always perceived her best friend gay but Jackson opened her eyes and showed her a Mackenzie she was all too blind to see. All of a sudden, she realized that if all else fails in her life, Mac will be the one constant she can't live without. Le sigh.

The author used humor and sweetness to tell a story that's otherwise deceptively heavy. It dealt with grief, a teen's feeling of alienation, drug abuse, love, family and friendships where you least expect it.

---