



Deeper

Robin York

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In the New Adult debut from beloved contemporary romance author Ruthie Knox, writing under the pseudonym Robin York, a college student is attacked online and must restore her name—and stay clear of a guy who’s wrong for her, but feels so right.

When Caroline Piasecki’s ex-boyfriend posts their sex pictures on the Internet, it destroys her reputation as a nice college girl. Suddenly her once-promising future doesn’t look so bright. Caroline tries to make the pictures disappear, hoping time will bury her shame. Then a guy she barely knows rises to her defense and punches her ex to the ground.

West Leavitt is the last person Caroline needs in her life. Everyone knows he’s shady. Still, Caroline is drawn to his confidence and swagger—even after promising her dad she’ll keep her distance. On late, sleepless nights, Caroline starts wandering into the bakery where West works.

They hang out, they talk, they listen. Though Caroline and West tell each other they’re “just friends,” their feelings intensify until it becomes impossible to pretend. The more complicated her relationship with West gets, the harder Caroline has to struggle to discover what she wants for herself—and the easier it becomes to find the courage she needs to fight back against the people who would judge her.

When all seems lost, sometimes the only place to go is deeper.

Deeper Details

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From Reader Review Deeper for online ebook

Duchess Nicole says

Revenge porn - sexually explicit media that is publicly shared online without the consent of the pictured individual.

Imagine being in a three year relationship with your boyfriend...the ups and downs that come with a long term love, deciding to go to the same college after high school, even. This is the guy who says he loves you, whom you spend every day with, a guy you think you trust. You let him take sexy pictures of you because not only do you want to make him happy, but because you'd never in a million years think that anyone else will ever see those pictures.

Now imagine the breakup...it's fairly amiable. Hell, he even says that you can remain friends and seems to act cordial enough. You just grew up and grew apart a bit. Until you get a text from your best friend one day with a link for you to open up your worst case scenario, a nightmare that will haunt you forever. Your naked pictures, your private parts scattered across the internet, links sent to your friends and all across your college campus, your Facebook and Twitter accounts inundated with "dirty cum slut" and similar posts... your full name, your college campus, your hometown posted for all to see so that every single person you come into contact with has seen you naked and you live with the daily fear that your father and grandmother will see you shamed in this way. Not only that, but the comments section, which you read against your better judgement, is filled with nothing but vulgar and lewd suggestions and threats.

This is what happened to nineteen year old law school hopeful Caroline. Since her ex exacted his revenge in this way, she's become such a different person. Her dreams of law school and holding public office one day have been shattered. She's become fearful of things that she used to never worry about. She hears the men's voices in her head every time she chooses an outfit to wear that day, every time she puts her lips around a bottle, every time she looks up into lust and hate-filled eyes. She's no longer innocent. She's scared and hurt and disillusioned.

When she interrupts West Leavitt pounding her ex's face one day in the hallway, she is in turns horrified and satisfied. West and Caroline have only spoken once in their acquaintance. Caroline always felt an attraction to both his looks and his carefree demeanor, but nothing could ever come from it.

I love this quote, and it fits perfectly with Caroline and West:

West felt the same, but his home life and circumstances are such that he simply can't start anything that will make him stray from his course. Caroline must remain a beautiful, untouchable girl that he watches from a distance.

But eventually West can't just sit back and watch Caroline be destroyed over and over again. The lewd and suggestive and downright cruel comments aren't easily overlooked, but especially when he sees what they have done to her. The two strike up an awkward "non-friendship" and slowly begin to relax around each other...each unknowingly giving the other a soft place to land, a shoulder to lean on, a sympathetic and beautiful ear. Nights of bread and conversation turn to a soul-deep friendship that neither can give into.

And when their attraction that is more than friendship turns to sexual tension and awareness, they find it impossible to stay away from each other any more.

MY THOUGHTS

My thoughts are...wow!

First of all, I have to say that this DOES have a cliffhanger, but it's not one of those that you can't see coming from a mile away. You know the inevitable is going to happen, and to be honest, I couldn't see any other way for this book to end. It's going to take another full story to wrap this up. And I honestly think some down time for me might be a good thing. I was hurting for West and Caroline so badly by the end.

All of the feelings that Caroline is having are just simply terrible. This poor girl. Of course, she made a mistake. But it's only Caroline who gets punished for something that someone else did, and this is a punishment that literally ruins her entire life, takes over her psyche and rules her every day choices and thoughts. She does have a small circle of friends, some that she makes over the course of this book, and I'm so glad for that small gift.

I loved how the relevant people to this story are all very human. One friend is a major player, one a bisexual woman rugby player (I loved her!!!) and Caroline and West are equally jacked up.

West is trying to raise his station in life, go to medical school, and support his baby sister and protect her from their mother's terrible choices and their father's abuse. But he knows that any day, he may have to leave college and the dreams he has. He's always had to grow up too quickly, but now he's on the verge of bettering himself and the unfairness and his bitterness just tore at my heart.

This isn't a case of contrived circumstances and over dramatized junk. Caroline and West are going to have to make some major decisions, some major life changes, and each of them is going to have to do the one thing that will be the hardest for each of them:

They have to trust each other.

Not easy to do for either of them.

I loved this book SO VERY MUCH. This is a stay up late clutching at your reader type of book. I couldn't see the light at the end of the tunnel no matter how badly I wanted it to be there. But this journey not only one of utter betrayal and heartbreak, but one of healing and trusting and moving beyond what others think of you. It's a journey of self discovery, and this author made magic for me.

FULL REVIEW TO COME (with quotes) AFTER PUBLICATION

ARC provided by Random House Publishing via Net Galley

Vishous says

ARC courtesy of NetGalley in exchange for an honest review

WOW WOW WOW I SERIOUSLY BOW TO THIS DEBUT NOVEL ! THIS IS HOW YOU WRITE A

NEW ADULT BOOK !

This book was perfect, well at least to me. In this NA you won't find some whiny heroine that mops around for some bad boy and where nothing happens except falling in love at first chapter and then how will they finally hook up together or WHO will tear them apart.

This is a NA that actually tries to show you how world became too much concentrated on sharing everything online. How there is no privacy left, how anybody can put your pic online and there is nothing you can do about it once it's there. How some pics can ruin your future if you allow it, how it can mark you and online comments actually mentally abuse you. This are real and serious problems that happen everyday. Kids now send their naked pics all the time, allow taking pics during sex and if you stumble on some dickhead... well there's nothing you can do once it goes live. it's true that whatever you put on web, once it's there, it can't be taken back.

Both characters were simply amazing. The girl doesn't fall in love with some bad boy, she actually falls in love with a good guy. I know what you think, how can he be a good guy... but you'll see.. She doesn't whine, she tries to get it sorted out as best as she can. He tries to make a future to take care of his problems as best as he can and whatever it takes to take him there.

I recognized slight elements of other popular books but honestly it was so good written that I actually loved it more. The writing style also slightly reminded me a bit of one long ass book I read but honestly I think it was also better. You kinda have a feeling like story is going really fast because like the writing is going really fast (I know I don't make any sense here).

I highlighted more than half of the book. Both POV's were amazing, but his.... OMG too good to read. I was swooning, melting, fangirling, falling in love, begging him not to be like that, loving him because he can't endure to be like that.

The relationship between characters, even though the chemistry is great, goes pretty slowly. He is helping her to get her mind of shit that happened, even though he has his own shit to take care of, and they actually become friends first, even though they secretly check each other out since they met. The way their "relationship" progressed slowly... I loved every part of it. I loved all the build up, and wondering will he kiss her now, will he fuck up now, will she push him away, will he push her away. ...

And let me tell you something... when they give in...

OMG it is amazing! ? Hot as hell! ? sometimes funny, sometimes cute, but always too hot to handle! And reading all that from his POV.... I became mesmerised with West ?

yes, he acts like prick couple of times, but they all do. yes, they think they don't need each other as distractions in their plans, but those types are the most delicious ones to read.

Because in the end it's really *DEEPER OR NOTHING*...

p.s. I am dying to read the sequel.... dying...

Lana ✨Dirty Girl Romance✨ says

5 Deep Stars

I want you, and I don't know how to stop wanting you. I want to get deep inside you, and then deeper, until I'm so deep I don't even know what's me anymore and what's you.

I have been on a long and well deserved hiatus from the NA genre. While there's been a handful of NA books that I had absolutely loved, recently most NA books I've read had been filled with overdone drama, unnecessary angst, and a giant headache at the end of it for me. But when I saw that Ruthie Knox plans on releasing a NA novel under the pen name of Robin York, I didn't even bother reading the synopsis. I jumped on the chance to read this. And you know what?

Caroline Piasecki is a good girl. She has her life organized, planned...ordinary. Until the day that everything changes, when her plain and ordinary life gets shattered all with one click on the internet. She knew she shouldn't have let her boyfriend take those intimate pictures, but she loved him, she trusted him. The last thing she expects when she breaks up with him is for those very pictures to appear on the internet.

How does a young woman in college with her entire life ahead of her deal with this incredible breach of trust and intimacy? She becomes a shell of herself. How can you even sleep when all you hear when you close your eyes are the vulgar words of all the strange men that have seen you at your most vulnerable?

West Leavitt is a bad boy. He's not afraid to throw a punch, he deals weed, and his past and family are not exactly picture card perfect. But yet something draws these two broken people together. Although they each have every reason to stay away from each other, they find that they're the only ones that bring comfort to one another. But what happens when something you want is not something you need or can have?

This book is slow paced, and it might be off putting to some. I for one devoured every word. I absolutely adored the writing style and the fact that it was written in dual POVs

You know when you pick up a book and start reading, and all of a sudden the words blur on the page and simply become a film that is continuously streaming through your mind? Well Deeper was that book for me. I was sitting in pervy anticipation waiting, just waiting until that moment when West and Caroline will finally give into the sexual tension current that ran between them.

Robin York wrote a poignant, emotional, and incredible story about 2 broken characters. In 400 pages she took them through an emotional, yet entirely relatable journey. I loved watching Caroline grow stronger and stronger and finally come into her own at the very end. You can't help but cheer for her. She's just one of those characters that is perfectly imperfect.

West. Now what can I tell you about West? I fell head over heels in love with him in a manner of one chapter. my heart broke for him with every new details of his past being revealed. He was this perfect combination of vulnerable and strong.

As for the ending...

I'm not a fan of unnecessarily drawn out series. As a matter of fact I hate them. And at first I thought to myself 400 pages and no HEA? Yea

But then the more I read, the more I could tell that I simply couldn't envision it ending any other way for now. It's not a cliffy cliffy, per say. Let's say that even for a cliffy avoider like me, I am not going crazy after reading it. What I am, is anticipating the next book like crazy. I can't wait to see the conclusion for West and Caroline's story (And dare I hope for Krishna and Bridget next?)

****ARC received in exchange for an honest review****

For more reviews visit

Giselle says

A slow budding romance, loads of chemistry, and highly character driven; Deeper has a lot to offer. Revenge porn is something that happens all too often, and unfortunately continues to be legal in most States. Finding those sex pictures of herself after a break-up was only the beginning of a very long, very dark chapter in Caroline's life. Not only is she plagued with the knowledge of everyone having seen her during such an intimate act, she's ashamed, haunted by the voices of the men who call her vile names, describe the repulsive things they'd do to her in comments, making her wary of anyone that looks her way. This is not something that ever goes away.

Deeper is not a fast paced read. It's a slow character-oriented story that begins with Caroline living through an incredibly difficult time, building up to her realizing who's truly to blame despite all the fingers pointing at her. I truly admire her for learning to be above it all. Even though there is a guy involved in her getting her strength back, it's done in a way that had me happy she found someone to see her for who she was, not who she thought she had become. Sometimes, you just need to be nudged by the right person.

West and Caroline aren't instant lovers, though. Quite the opposite actually. West being so driven to give his sister a nice life made him reluctant to let someone into his own. He could not allow anyone to disrupt the road he was on. This doesn't mean there was no immediate chemistry. From the start, their attraction is like a character in itself. Their ignoring it just makes it all the more infuriating, albeit in a good way. I loved their banter and fun-loving relationship; they're so different from each other, yet fit so right together. The time spent at the bakery just keeping each other company might be "boring" to some, but I loved the whole atmosphere and it's where we see them connect beyond attraction. The cast of mutual friends become a group that makes this story even more character driven. They all help get Caroline through this. Each one adds to the depth to this novel.

I already mentioned it's not a fast paced read. Some parts in the middle did drag a bit where I wished it would have moved along faster, but overall I'm satisfied with the lack of urgency this plot has. The ending is one that leaves a lot of open roads, especially from West's perspective. If this was a stand-alone, I would say the story was left incomplete, but seeing as it's the first in its series this is clearly not the end. All in all, we've got a fantastic mix of humor, romance, friendship, and conflict with an important message touching on the often misplaced blame of online attacks. It's an eye opener, and I hope it opens yours, too!

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An advance copy was provided by the publisher for review.

For more of my reviews, visit my blog at [Xpresso Reads](#)

Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

****2.5 stars****

Did you ever read a book that you wished you liked more because it is way better than others in the same genre? That is how I felt after reading "Deeper".

I mean, if I'm rating this up against books like the comically bad *Real*, which is one of the worst books that I have ever attempted to read, then this gets 1 billion stars. However, that's not all there is to it. To rate this more than 2 stars I have to think a book is more than okay and this just wasn't for me.

To start, I found it extremely difficult to get into the story. It was slow and a bit boring and it took days for me to progress past 40%. I had to force myself to read on when I wanted to jump to other books. However, what I read I mildly enjoyed, though it wasn't enough to keep me engaged in the story.

There are many positives to this book. Caroline isn't as vapid as other New Adult MCs and she seems less wishy-washy to me. The story isn't as rife with cliches as some other NA books that I have read. However, West was a different story. Though I liked him more than I expected, I'm so *done* with these "bad boy", pugnacious MCs. I feel like I've seen different incarnations of the same college-age male in all of these contemporary NA books. They are "misunderstood", they have to take care of their families, they do "bad things for good reasons", they are amazing in bed, and (of course) they like to punch their foes. When I first got a Kindle about three years ago, I went on a trashy reading streak of guilty pleasure Abbi Glines books. I feel like I got my fix of these types of books then and have since moved on to greener pastures. Though I keep trying NA books and am sometimes pleasantly surprised, more often than not I have this creeping sense of *deja vu*.

What I'm trying to say is, YES this book is better than much of the other stuff out there in this genre, but NO it was not enough to convert me into a fan. It *did* make me want to lecture my 4 and 2 year old daughters on the dangers of taking naked pictures with your boyfriend. Too young to start the cautionary tales?

Copy provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review

It's just me Shelly B says

Ever did something you KNEW you shouldn't have....but ya did it anyway?

We all have!!

Ever did something you KNEW you shouldn't have...but you did it to please or make someone else happy?

We all have!!!

However did that ONE moment change your life FOREVER?

Probably not!!!! Or maybe it did!!!!

Did it make everyone you know look at you differently?

Probably not!!!! But if it did I hope it was in a good way because Caroline's life was turned upside down.....and I don't mean in a happy way!

This book portrays a great and a true message about our society now that the Internet is involved. Basically that message is **NOTHING** you do these days, if technology is involved, is a secret. The entire world could view anything if you piss the **WRONG** person off!

Caroline.....

Is a good girl, great student, loyal friend, aspiring law student but she broke up with her boyfriend. Now that's not a big deal so to speak, you break up with a guy.....it's over done with. Not so much in this case because once its on **VIDEO.....it can GO VIRAL!!!!!!** Well I'm sure your asking "what is on video?" **USE YOUR IMAGINATION....**I'm sure you'll figure it out;))

West.....

He is just a boy from the wrong side of the tracks. He's very secretive about his past but he's very loyal and supportive of Caroline....he meet her freshman year and he tried to keep his distance but after what her douche ex did to her he can't!!! But he wants too because he doesn't want to be close to anyone he has demons of his own to fight! All I can tell you is West is, in a word, **FABULOUS!!! LOVE, LOVE LOVE him!!!**

This book is a perfect example of how 2 people learn to trust again. Does everything go as planned for them?

NO!!!! That's why I love it so much because its not **PERFECT** it's real!!! It has real human qualities of love, commitment, desire, want, need, perception, disappointment, acceptance.....it's a perfect NA book.....that's all I can say!

The other thing I loved about this book is you get to see through Caroline's eyes how she deals with the disappointment of her parent....I say "parent" if you read the book you'll understand. As a parent myself, even though I see her side of the story I feel the same as her Dad.....I mean you've preached and preached what **NOT** to do and you know they aren't going to listen to everything you say however she's **DONE** it and now you gotta deal with it! It's a consensual act that got exploited, which is bad but as parent you have to step up!

Final thoughts....

The reason I loved this book was because I could look at it from both sides....as the girl and as the parent....it made me realize even though my girls are young I have a lot more to teach my kids than my parents did!!

One simple pic or comment in our time, because the Internet is forever can ruin you!!!!

You can fight back.....but in the REAL world would you win? Or would all be lost already?

Jill says

Since I read only the sample, I won't rate this. But I'm not inclined to read any more. As much as I enjoy Ruthie Knox's adult romances, even she isn't able to entice me to read this new adult romance of hers.

I'm not sure which genius decided that new adult books have to be written in first person *all.the.time.* and in that irritating *writing style* particular to new adult reads, but I'd really like to eviscerate them. It makes every single new adult read sound the same.

I'm not fond of being inside a heroine's head. At any time. But when she gets hit painfully in the nose so that it's bleeding, and she's got the time to rhapsodise about West's eyes....and hair....and tan. And oh, his off-kilter face, eyebrows, nose, smile....I think it's time to call it quits.

This may very well have ended up being a great read, but I'm not staying around to find out.

P.S.

Please don't tell me the heroine somehow was a virgin....:/

Jennifer Kyle says

3.5 Not So Deep Stars

This is a very **SLOW** paced story and even though I did like both characters some skimming did occur.

This book appears to be a 5 Star read or a 3ish star read amongst my friends, so give it a go because the circumstances were relevant to our cyber world and it was a nice slow-building love story.

The main character Caroline finds herself and her dreams in jeopardy all due to her ex-boyfriend's need for

revenge.

Both characters attend college and while Caroline holds a lot of appeal for West, he does **RUN** and **FIGHT** his attraction and made this story too drawn out at least for my tastes. Waiting for him to go further with Caroline took forever and I was bored a lot during the story.

West is a well done character with a lot going on and the story does lead for the next book in the series.

As you can tell, I'm still on the fence about this book. I didn't hate it but I sure didn't love it. I did however like their physical connection and felt the author did a fine job with the story overall.

Sadly, I'm not interested in carrying on with this series. I'm guessing it's going to take a while for them to get it together and I didn't care for West's family at all.

P.S. Girl on cover is a blonde and Caroline isn't...it's a small thing but it irked me.

ARC provided by Random House Publishing via Net Galley

Patrycja says

[Not yet (hide spoiler)]

Geri Reads says

5 deeper stars!!

Deeper or nothing.

It doesn't seem fair to label this book as NA because to me, it felt way more than that. At first glance, it looks like any other NA book out there. Good girl heroine falling for the guy that's all wrong for her. But when you get to the center of it, the story just pulls in and it's all kinds of amazing.

Caroline Piasecki has her life planned out. She'll go to law school, get an internship, practice law and become a judge. Everything is right on schedule until her ex-boyfriend posted explicit photos of her on the web. Suddenly, Caroline became that girl.

West Leavitt also has a plan. Finish college, enter med school, become a doctor. He's doing all of it to save his family out of poverty. West and Caroline were never close, although they live across the hall from each other, until that day when West stood for Caroline and beat up her ex-boyfriend.

Live.Breathe.Fight.Be who you are.Be better.Be fierce.

This book hit all the right notes for me. It's tender, angsty and thought-provoking. It went beyond the usual cliché that plague the NA genre. This book actually made me think.

My heart bled for Caroline and what she went through. And it wasn't just because of the humiliation that she suffered, it was the fact that the whole thing changed everything for her. She was suddenly questioning every decision she's ever made.

West was a wonderful character. He works three jobs, sells pot and uses sex in exchange for favors but he's doing all of it because of his family. Everything he's done wasn't for him.

I cried when I read about what he's done for his little sister was born. Knowing that his little sister was sleeping too much because she was starving. OMG! I cried during one of his inner monologue when he talked about not being able to get food for them, asking for secondhand onesies, looking out for places who's giving out free formulas. Shit! That made me sob my eyes out. Although, some of his activities were morally objectionable, you can't help but still root for him because you know why he's doing it.

I loved how Caroline and West's relationship developed throughout the book. While they were clearly attracted to each other from the very beginning, they didn't act on those attraction. It took them quite a long time to kiss but when it finally did...

I appreciated the slow burn in their relationship. The fact that the author took the time to actually build the characters instead of just throwing one plot device after another was refreshing. You get to know both Caroline and West and journey with them. The slow burn suited me just fine.

There, in the bakery, while the rest of the world was sleeping, time buckled and we found something outside of it. We became us in that kitchen. Long before he kissed me, I passed a whole lifetime of West, bathed in yellow light, baptized in lukewarm tap water, consecrated at sunrise when we broke a loaf open and looked.

The writing is just phenomenal. Robin York can make you feel all kinds of emotions by just a word. It's very nuanced in a way that's rarely seen in this genre. I appreciated that this book didn't rely so much on plot device as it did on solid characterization. It was the perfect book for me.

Now, I have to warn you that this book ends on a cliffhanger. As much as I hate cliffhangers, this one isn't really that bad and it's actually necessary. It's necessary in a sense that there are things that both have to deal with. I, for one, am looking forward to July.

**An ARC was provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review.*

Jess-i-ca ~Sometimes a Gif Witch~ says

4.5 "Deep" stars

I loved this book! It was an easy read for me and kept me engaged...plus the chemistry between West and Caroline was

Caroline is a good girl on the outside but likes to get her freak on....Unfortunately for her, ex-boyfriend asshole Nate decides to post her "intimate" pictures all over the internet.

That leads to her being talked about by people around the whole university as well as feeling insecure about herself.

West, drug dealer, baker, and waiter, has had a thing for Caroline since the first day he met her....She has felt some sort of pull to him but has kept herself at a distance...He needs to stay away from her and keep his focus on school but he wants to help her quit worrying about the pictures...

Then one day they decide to "not be friends" This leads to.....

And let me tell you the sex scenes were hot!!!

And at the end there are still unanswered questions that we will hopefully get soon in the next book....

ARC provided by publisher via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review

J *deep in the heart of Texas* says

5--**DEEPLY** depressing, **DEEPLY** emotional, **DEEPLY** amazing--Stars!!!

How can a book that is so heavy and yes, depressing be SO-DAMN-GOOD??? IDK--but let me tell you, this was. I devoured this book. I couldn't stop reading. I had to know what was going to happen between West and Caroline. How was their story going to end? How could they both overcome the things life threw their way and be together?

Well done Robin York! Well done!!!

Deeper is the story of Caroline and West. And it was almost like two separate stories. Two separate tragedies. Two lives brought together.

Caroline.

A victim of revenge porn--a form of abuse that uses sexual imagery without the consent of the women (or men) pictured as a way of shaming, hurting, and denigrating its victims. Betrayed in the worst way possible by her ex-boyfriend, Nate.

"I don't want to be like this the rest for the rest of my life. If I had an undo button, I'd hit it so hard. But if there's some way to go back to how I was before, I haven't found it."

How will this affect her future? Law school? Jobs? Scholarships? Boyfriends? Imagine walking around campus and wondering if each and every person has seen the pictures? When approached by a guy, questioning why they are talking to you....is it because they saw the pictures?

The scariest part....this is real. This could have been me, you, your best friend. How many of us have been in the same situation Caroline was in? Wanting to please your boyfriend? Wanting to send him something special to look at? Not ever imagining that someone would violate your trust, your privacy in that way.

West:

Grew up in a trailer park in Oregon with a dead-beat dad. Forced to become the man of the house and care for his family and would do ANYTHING--and I mean ANYTHING--to do so. Fiercely protective and loyal. West works hard, has multiple jobs. He's determined to be someone. To make something of himself so he can provide for his sister.

"I think that's what makes a real man. Not whose ass you can kick or how good you can fuck, but what you do. How hard you work for the people who depend on you. What you can give them."

West has a plan. And Caroline is NOT in it.

"Because if I need her, she'll hurt me, distract me, maybe even break me into pieces and grind them under her heel."

Caroline and West:

An unlikely pairing. Two people who are so far from what they each believe they need. But connected in a way that brings them together.

"West isn't what I need. He's only what I want. I want him because he punches when he's mad. I want him because he drove a wheezing car two thousand miles by himself, eating stew out of cans as if that's something you can just do. Because he looks at a soda bottle and sees a chicken rocket. Because, I feel like, if I was with him, he might fix me. He might save me."

Non-friends. Barely acquaintances. West fights and fights to keep Caroline at a distance. From the first time they meet--the first day of college--West knows Caroline is different. She's special. She's fierce. She's determined. She's everything West doesn't think he can have. There's no room for love in his plan.

West pushes and pushes. Building and building walls. Pretending to be the type of man Caroline could want and denying that he's the boy from the trailer park. How could Caroline love the real him?

"I want you right now, and you can barely stand me. I can barely stand me, so I don't know why you put up with my shit, but even right now, when I hate myself and you're pissed at me, I still want to push you down on the bed and take off your shirt and get inside you. Get deep inside you, and then deeper, until I'm so deep I don't even know what's me anymore and what's you."

Gah, so many times I wanted to smack West. In denying his feelings for Caroline, there were times he was so unbelievably cruel. My heart broke for West. The lengths he went to be better than the life he came from. Denying. Denying. Denying.

"I shouldn't keep trying to scale these walls he puts up. I'm a terrible climber."

But Caroline doesn't give up. Caroline forces West to pick a side. To choose Caroline....to love her....or to walk away.

"What if you go after the love of your life and it ruins you? What if you don't, and you figure out you're already ruined?"

I can't even begin to explain how much I loved this story. It was emotional, it was moving, it was heart-breaking, it was touching, it was depressing, it was sad....but it was also full of hope, second chances, and great love.

Will West and Caroline get the happily ever after they deserve? Can West save his family and keep Caroline? Will Caroline ever be just Caroline and not the Caroline with her pictures all over the internet?

Good question....and we'll have to wait for *Harder* to find out. Deeper does end on a bit of a cliffhanger ending. But honestly, despite how much the ending broke my heart, I can't imagine it happening any other way.

ARC kindly provided by author, via NetGalley, in exchange for an honest review.

Brandi says

Caroline Piasecki is a good girl. She's an intelligent college student, living an ordinary life. Until she's not. After breaking up with her boyfriend of 3 years, intimate pictures of her are discovered on the internet. She is humiliated, afraid and her only hope is to disappear into the background. The last thing she needs is to get involved with West Leavitt, notorious bad boy. She attracted to him, but he's dangerous and doesn't fit into her plans.

West has other priorities too. He has a complicated family situation and multiple jobs. He does not want any distractions. And he has seen love destroy lives, so is determined not to go down that path.

I need something from her, and that's what I have to guard against. The most dangerous thing about her. Because if I need her, she'll hurt me, distract me, maybe even break me into pieces and grind them under her heel.

This was a slow-paced read, but I stayed pretty interested. The sexual tension between these two was off the charts HOT. While at times both characters annoyed me, overall they are both likeable. Two broken characters struggling to deal with difficult situations, and finding out what is truly important. Looking forward to the next book.

Live.Breathe.Fight.Be who you are.Be better.Be fierce.

Wendy's Thoughts says

5 Stunning, Important, Real, Thought-Provoking Stars

*** * * * ***

This book took me by surprise. I am still sitting here with my eyes teary and heart full. You should be aware of the excellent writing Robin York has done with multiple subjects.

She has addressed betrayal by those you trust as women come of age; she has addressed the insecurity we as women feel wanting to be loved and approved of; and she has taken us on a journey of true love for the first time between characters that feels so real, my heart aches.

So since I was so touched by this author, I decided to write to her and the outcome really turned into my review:

Hello,

I just wanted to reach out and let you know how much your book impacted me. I had not read anything by you before and most of the time NA can sometimes be too whiny, angsty or non communicative for me. I discovered your book on NetGalley and was very pleased to be approved to read it. The blurb sounded interesting and I thought it would be a decent read.

From the minute I started reading, you had me. I was familiar with all of the news of young girls who have been victims ex-boyfriends doing those type of cyber actions. I remembered seeing on the morning talk shows raw young girls sitting next to their mothers or attorneys talking about this type of abuse. I also remember thanking God, I never had to deal with anything like that because when I was their age, we did not have the

internet or camera phones, etc.

But we did have the warnings I had used raising my sons of... don't do anything you don't want on the front page of the New York Times.

Well, we as people and especially as young women trust and believe. We believe the boys/men we first share with will be good; they will be men who will understand when things may change and we grow and wish to move on... but as your book so masterfully showed... these things do not always happen and it is always the girl/woman who gets blame and shame...

So with all of the understanding I had about the subject- you just took me there and then gave me the most complex beautiful love story to go with it. The depth of characters of West and Caroline were breathtaking. You made them so real and understandable. You made all of the secondary characters part of the equation and not just scenery. You made me be in the bakery and smell the scent of fresh bread coming out of the oven. And most importantly, I felt the thrill, angst and passion of first love and all that it means to someone... risking their heart... risking their embarrassment... risking everything they think they should hold on to... to fly and feel that rush of connecting and loving.

So by writing you this fan letter... I guess I just wrote my upcoming review for your book.

Thank you for being who you are; what you believe in and for sharing it with us readers through your work, Wendy

Ms. York was kind enough to respond and another book is coming... I will watch for it with hope in my heart.

A gifted copy was provided by author/publisher for an honest review.

For more Reviews, Free E-books and Giveaways

Lady Vigilante (Feifei) says

DNF at 19%

I'm sorry to say this just wasn't for me. The pace was way too slow, on top of which I found the sudden past/present POVs to be confusing when I couldn't even discern when there'd be a switch. Also I spent 3 hours trying to read 75 pages, some I had to re-read because I would space out in between. Sorry. I have too many books to get to and can't afford to read at a snail's pace.
