



Point of Retreat

Colleen Hoover

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Hardships and heartache brought them together... now it will tear them apart.

Layken and Will have proved their love can get them through anything; until someone from Will's past re-emerges, leaving Layken questioning the very foundation on which their relationship was built. Will is forced to face the ultimate challenge...how to prove his love for a girl who refuses to stop 'carving pumpkins.'

Point of Retreat Details

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From Reader Review Point of Retreat for online ebook

Pearl Angeli says

3 Stars

CHEESE... CHEESE... BUTTERFLYING CHEESE!

Maybe my experience with this book and this series would have been a lot better if I've read them as soon as they came out. I found CoHo's writing non-satisfying compared to her other books which came out later, like Ugly Love and Confess.

While **Point of Retreat** offered life lessons and so much more, I found the story lacking substance. The plotline was less intense and there wasn't even a big, remarkable twist. Don't blame me. All CoHo's books have that trademark twists so it was kind of hard for me to believe there wasn't any here.

The over-the-top cheesy lines and dialogues were the main thing that ruined the book for me. And man, don't even get me started on Lake and Will's PDA scenes. Sheesh!

The good things:

I loved Will's character development. How he became more responsible and tough despite the hardships that came to him and Lake.

I also loved how the secondary characters became a huge part of Will and Lake's lives. The concept of friendship was definitely apparent here.

The bad:

Lake was annoying here. Most of the time.

What happened in Part 2 was too much and totally unnecessary.

I was looking for something that would make this book different and unforgettable but :(Nevertheless, I'm still glad I've read and tried my luck with this book/series because I really don't want to miss a single book written by CoHo. Too bad this came late on my list. Lol.

“Love is the most beautiful thing in the world. Unfortunately, it’s also one of the hardest things in the world to hold on to, and one of the easiest things to throw away.”

Georgia Cruz says

"Sometimes two people need to fall apart to realize how much they need to fall back together."

I EVEN MUCH MORE LOVED IT BECAUSE IT'S WILL'S POINT OF VIEW.

10++++ infinite stars

A butterflying bemazing story ever! I cant believe I cried, laughed, giggled, squirmed, and swooned so many times in every possible way! It's definitely an emotional rollercoaster ride. This is my sweet. I love you Colleen Hoover and I butterflying swear to please have a third book cause I'm dying for more Will and Layken romance! I love every poems they slammed and every advise Julia gives from the stars. Damn you woman! I'm begging you to please write the third book! ;) Did I say it already? I butterflying love you Colleen Hoover! Haha

This story also influenced me to listen to all the songs from Avett Brothers and I have come to realized that every piece of their music is somehow related to this book. And until now I can't imagine how this book will replace all the romance books combine in the whole world ever. This will never get old. No kidding. I loved every word and page of this book. Thank you for writing such a life changing book. It really inspired us readers.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

*It's worth all the **aches**,*

*All the **tears**,*

*the **mistakes** . . .*

The heart of a man and a woman in love?

*It's worth **all** the pain in the **world**.*

Heather K (dentist in my spare time) says

Ohhhh boy I'm steamed, I'm really steamed here... I'm all worked up about how much I hated this book. Somebody talk me down from this rant I'm about to deliver... RANT ENSUING.

I am going to start by saying that I know Colleen Hoover is capable of writing very wonderful books. I loved Hopeless and Slammed so I had no reason to suspect that this book would be taking the fast train to suck-ville. However, I'm in suck-ville and I am hating it here.

Also, everyone else seems to LOVE this book. I mean over 45,000 ratings and a 4.40 average GR rating?? I must be losing my mind? Maybe that is it? But let me break it down for you all why this book is on my craptastic book list:

1) *The immaturity of the MCs.* Holy hell Will and Lake act like children in this book! It is like they regressed mentally in the past year since "Slammed" and now function only as pissy children. Lake throws tantrums constantly (Will's words, not just mine), and Will somehow thinks it is acceptable to use his 10 year old brother and neighbor to do his dirty work for him. There is no communication between them. Just childish misunderstandings and petty fighting. They are freaking 19 and 23 years old!!! They whine and complain and oh GOD it was annoying.

2) *The stupid stuff that Will does.* Does anyone remember the Will from "Slammed"? Anyone? The Will that was a responsible teacher? The one that was level-headed and took responsibility for his actions? The one that weighed the pros and cons of every decision? Well, apparently he is gone now and this new Will has taken his place. This new Will thinks it is acceptable to disable someone's car battery in order to get them to ride in a car with you (WTF!!!!), hold a present from one's deceased mom hostage (yea, he did that), and threaten a 12 year old kid with ass kicking and call him a pathetic human being. Who is this guy? This Will is so stupid I could barely read about him.

3) *Bad parenting 101.* Let me remind you all that Will was a teacher and wants to go to grad school to keep teaching. So when his brother writes a note in school threatening to KILL someone, you would think that Will would realize how serious that is. Wouldn't he? Instead, Will thought that it was FUNNY that his younger brother death threatened another student and didn't want to punish him AT ALL. I'm not saying he has to be a perfect parent, I know I'm not, but those types of things are no joking matter, regardless of the reason. If his brother had gotten into a fight over a girl's honor, I would get that. However, it is never okay to threaten another student with DEATH, regardless of the reason. I would have thought that Will, as a former teacher, would have a greater understanding of that.

4) *The catch phrases.* Am I smoking crack here? Why was no one else IRRITATED by the constant catch phrases? In the first book, they were kind of cute and meaningful but here, they were just irritating as all hell. If I hear "butterflying", "carving pumpkins", or "point of retreat" one more time I am going to blow a gasket.

5) *The totally unrealistic POV of Will.* I hated the POV change from Lake to Will in this book. Will did not act like a 23 year old man. In fact, he acted just like a 12 year old girl. The way he acted about sex was totally unrealistic. It was just so far removed from what an early 20s guy would do. I can understand waiting the year to have sex as per Lake's mom (which that alone was so silly, but I'll let that go) but it is like he freaked out whenever they got close to hooking up. Like removing her shirt gave him the willies. What guy would act like that?!?! None, I tell you. Is the author religious and I didn't know it? Is this book geared for a tween audience? Freaking "Twilight" was more sexual than this. I can see them being tasteful in the writing but how it played out just didn't ring true.

6) *The silly drama.* I honestly think that this book had no point other than to create and deal with silly drama. There was no new story to tell. The book was just a series of events that would probably not happen in real life piled together.

Now folks, I know my point of view will most likely differ from yours. I know that this review was pretty ranty but I just can't BELIEVE how different this was from the first book. I don't think I'm going to move on to the next book in the series because I don't want to be a party pooper anymore. Sorry everyone.

Copy provided by the publisher in exchange for an honest review

Jonnie says

DNF at 34% and spoilers awl over the damn show.

GIF:

I am pissed.

I always turn to CoHo when I'm looking for a little extra cheese on my pizza; some of her books are good like that. Maybe Someday is one of my favorite NA reads, and Finding Cinderella has Six, but man, I hated this book. Slammed was tolerable. This was not.

This book was beyond pissing highlighting. I was so bored, it had way too much of an angsty YA feel and holy shit I am tired of immature heroines. What attracted me to Slammed (the forbidden student/teacher romance) wasn't in here, so basically I was reading about an overly sensitive twenty-something who wanted to have sex but didn't because of some sort of stupid ass reason. I dunno, I was too busy trying to find my eyeballs, which had rolled off somewhere.

Will did nothing for my lady feels. The MCs showed no signs of character development, despite the time frame between books 1 and 2. I would think that because of the circumstances, they would be a lot more mature. I think they became less mature, like for real, they went backwards or some shit. Some serious Benjamin Buttoning was taking place.

There are so many unnecessary "fillers" that I skipped about 5 or 10 pages at one point and they were still eating dinner. How many pages can you write about bread sticks?

There are also little "quirks" in here that I think are supposed to be cute. Like, using butterflying instead of *whispers* *the f word*. "I butterflying hate cheeseburgers" Will says. I can do this as well: I butterflying do not like this book.

And thus ends my bitchy review.

Regan says

ehhh

Bakshree Mishra says

I loved it I *loved* it

I **butterflying** loved it

Not just because I *hoped* to

Not just because I *wanted* to

BUT because it was *life*

And in the *end* it is all there is.

I loved it because it had *will*
I loved it *because* it had **Will**
And **Lake**
And Gavin and Eddie
Because sometimes friends make up *family*
Because friends make up *life*
And in the *end* it is all there is.

I loved it because it had *will*
I loved it *because* it had **Will**
And his **POV**
I got to know him *even* more
I got to *love* him ever more.
You know when you meet someone like him
You know it's **forever**

Not *twenty five* and parents of *two*
Tell me if you **won't** break down
Tell me if **YOUR** life wouldn't intrude
Their's did, yet didn't
They *faced* life
They accepted it
They got accepted.

You ask what was the *point* of this book.
Well *I* loved it more than **Slammed**
And I don't give a flying **Butterfly** if you think I'm **mad**
Sometimes a *Butterflying* kiss in the end isn't enough
Ask **Sherry** about it
Ask **Julia** about it.
Go ask them and see if they give you
A flying **butterfly**.

I loved it *I loved* it
I **butterflying** loved it
Look, Colleen Hoover
You had *me* **slamming**
Yeah this is me **slamming**
For the *very first* time
For the first **butterflying** time
I haven't cursed so much in my whole *life*
But now I know when life goes wrong
I'll be able to look it *straight* in it's eye
And say **BUTTERFLY you**

Thank you, Colleen Hoover
For giving us *Slammed*
And *Point of Retreat*
For giving us *Lake*

And Will
And Eddie
And Gavin
And Kel
And Caulder
And Julia
And Sherry
And Kiersten

For giving us a *wonderful* story to root for
A few more beautiful hours in my **life**
Because in the *end* it is all there is.

Glass says

What Glass thought about it...

I am going to be most wanted on the hate list of all fangirls out there because of what I'm about to write.

Point of Retreat was completely unnecessary book.

I believe that it would be better if Colleen Hoover left Will's and Lake's story as it was in *Slammed*. This was just using success she had with her first novel. Of course that everyone who read *Slammed* will want to see what's going to happen in *Point of Retreat*. (If I read once more "This was butterflying amazing!", I will burn something down.)

Will's POV would be a big no - it was unrealistic. That is not male's brain. Dear authors, do not, I repeat, do not write from opposed sex point of view if you are not absolutely sure that you can get in their heads. Don't do this if you first haven't done your research - read the books, talk with people until you bore them to death, find pshychologists, social workers, teachers, parents, grandparents and the most important thing: men.

Point of Retreat is, to put it simple, story about sex (not having sex, actually), car accidents and teen-wannbe-adults. As I wrote for the first book, this is see life through big pink glasses type of story with every drama you can imagine mixed with it. Their lives are falling apart but all is peachy in the peachyland. Plot has too many loose ends and somethimes I thought that author forgot how she "made" her characters in the first book. This is not Will from *Slammed*! Or Edddie! One moment they all are acting like immature idiots and in the other they are all serious And the ending?! Just to make something clear - they are nineteen!!!

But to be honest with you, I found *Point of Retreat* really cute and mindless read. It's perfect when you need something to escape real life: its cruelty, grayness, unfairness, disapoointments, when you need something that'll give you that fake sense of hope. My review would be all rainbows and flowers and ohs and ahs if I had read this book just a year ago, but I guess that I crushed my big pink glasses a long time ago.

What Tanja thought about it...

Me and Glass have closer views of this book than we had on the first one. *Slammed* was something that I didn't expect. Not the story itself but my reaction on the story. *Point of Retreat* wasn't that much. I mean the

story was still good and it still had emotions, but it was not it. I must admit one thing Colleen really knows how to write a story with feelings and that's an amazing thing, cause that's what I mostly miss in the books. The problem here is that I expected much more, because of the *Slammed*.

I won't repeat this about Will's POV and story been focused on sex cause I totally agree! I have one more thing that I couldn't help noticing - *Slammed* was so easy and quick to read, something always happened, but here I was waiting almost half of the book to get there. I got the feeling like the first story was created in the author's mind for years and *Point of Retreat* in months. I missed slams and lyrics of The Avett Brothers at the beginning of every chapter.

This will maybe sound cruel but without Kiersten and Sherry this book would be total disappointment! They bough so much joy in this book! Not only because of butterfly thing, but also they was something new and funny.

I'll say that I still have my pink glasses and wear them from time to time. In this case I'll put them on, cause if I compared this book with the first one I'd give it three stars but then again if I compared it with another books on my four stars list it will for sure go there.

Until the next time,
Glass & Tanja

*NOTE: Copy of this book ia kindly provided by publisher, Simon & Schuster, via NetGalley. We're not paid for writing this review - we do it as lovers of written word. All opinions in this book are personal.

Simone says

Butterflying Fantastic!
Loved reading the story through Will's eyes
I've not cried in a long time but I could't help it ...
And I could not help laughing from the gut, which is very embarrassing when out in public
So creative and stupidly smart
Girls of Goodreads, don't leave this on the 'to be read' pile for long ... you'll slap yourself if you do.

Rove use to ask the qn: who would you turn gay for?
Thats easy: You, Colleen. You!

Melissa says

Life

Life.

*Life is the one thing is this world that you can never **fully** prepare for. Never truly know what can happen from today until **tomorrow**.*

*One day everything seems to be as it should be, the next? Everything is **falling apart**.*

*How are we supposed to **cope** with the shit that is thrown our **way**? How are we supposed to smile and act*

when the worst seems to **have happened?**

The loss of a family member, the relationship lost between friends, the loss of your **income?** Daily struggles that we face, daily struggles that we are not sure will **turn around?**

You want to scream and shout **what and why** are these things happening to me? Did I deserve to be the one betrayed? Did I deserve to be the one who was left out? **Did I deserve** to lose that special someone?

Life.

Life is the one thing in this world that you can never **fully** prepare for. Never truly know what can happen from today until **tomorrow.**

And even with all of the bad shit thrown at you? What do you say? Do you let it defeat you? **No. You don't.**

You hold your head up high and **know** that what you are facing today? The **loss** of a family member? The lost **relationship** between a friend? The **betrayal** you endure from someone you love? The **shock** of your world being turned upside down? Is only a **temporary** situation, a **temporary** setback.

That today, **life** may have won the battle, but that **you?** **You** will win the **war.** ~MLD

...And what a war they had to face yet again! This was an amazing sequel to Will and Lake's story and I "butterflying" loved it; just as much as *Slammed* I believe. And, well, the fact that it was in Will's POV? Just made it that much more exciting for me...

Will and Lake have fallen into a very comfortable routine that flows well with their school schedules and with the boys' (Kel and Caulder) school schedules also. They are adjusting to Julia being gone and are taking it one day at a time to be the best parents they know how to be to their younger siblings. We get to enjoy Eddie and Gavin again with some fun surprises in their relationship; we get introduced to past people in Will's lives, and also to new characters, Kiersten and Sherry, who are Will and Lake's neighbors...

Kiersten is the eleven year old with a very impressive vocabulary, quick wit and loveable characteristics. Her mother Sherry, is a great addition in all her quirky ways as well. I really enjoyed that they all sort of formed this bond of family, and that Sherry was the untitled "mother hen" for them. Even in the most unexpected ways, they all had someone to look up to for advice...

...One of my favorite parts of the book was a session they had at dinner nightly called "suck and sweet time". Basically, it was just naming your highs as well as lows for the day, and I thought that was a great addition to the story and to the special bond they all shared...

Throughout the book, Will and Lake have to come to a head with more issues that arise. Questioning things they thought they knew about each other, their relationship, and the connection they thought was undeniable; unbreakable...

Love is the most beautiful thing in the world. Unfortunately, it's also one of the hardest things in the world to hold on to, and one of the easiest things to throw away.

More challenges to face, more gripping and heart wrenching situations to bound through, a few more amazing slams to add to the mix, and more tears to be shed from this read. I loved every single second of it, and like the first in the series, it touched me. In a way I can't remember ever feeling. The story of Will and Layken is so beautiful, so enriching, so inspiring, so loving. Based on the raw emotion of just *knowing* that someone who was meant for you, has finally come into your life. They compliment each other in the best way. They understand the needs of each other... Again, if I could, I would give this book more than 5 stars! If you are looking for a read to help put things into perspective, then read this series. It was not just a "read" for me, but a definite emotional and inspirational experience...

Stories like these only come along every so often...

*"It's like you came along and woke up my soul."
That's exactly what Lake did to me. She woke up my soul.*

...And that's *exactly* how I felt this series spoke to me, it woke up *my* soul.

Kate ? says

Point of Retreat by Colleen Hoover

Actual Rating: 4.85/5 Stars

What a crazy, crazy ride this book was!

Colleen Hoover really knows how to mess with our emotions, and have us wanting to cry and laugh at the same time.

This woman really is a literary genius.

I loved this book! Especially when part 2 hit, oh my gosh, that was insane, and so scary!!!

I couldn't have asked for a more satisfying and beautiful ending for all of these amazing characters in this particular book, because the characters are one of the main incredible aspects of this book!

If I haven't made it clear enough already *I butterflying LOVE these characters, every single one of them*

The slam poetry was absolutely exquisite in this novel in particular, way better than in the first book, mainly because it was a lot more personal!

The analogies that Hoover writes and brings to life within this story and these characters, I will never ever butterflying forget.

Please pick up this series if you haven't already!

xrysa says

[mum's death (hide spoiler)]

Annie Brewer says

AMAZEBALLS!!!!!!!!!!!!

Seriously, I want to beat myself to a bloody pulp, poke my eyes out, jump out a window...whatever. I can't believe I waited so long to read these. What the hell???

Colleen Hoover, where you been all my life???

Seriously people.....seriously. I am just speechless. I LOVED THIS BOOK SOOOOO MUCH! Now I know a lot of people loved Slammed more and honestly, I think I loved this one more. I'm in the minority and it's okay. I'm just different so it's all good. But really, being in Will's head was never better!!! I'm a huge fan of reading from a guy's POV, whether it's dual pov or just the guy's pov. I love it more than the female.

In this book, we get more of Lake, Will and the awesome gang that we met in Slammed, but we get to meet a few other characters too. A couple I wanted to deck in the face for being fuck faces and then a couple I just wanted to hug the whole time because they were too awesome!

In Slammed, both Will and Lake faced several obstacles in their lives that brought them together. In this book, they faced obstacles that tested their love for one another. There was once again heartbreak, laughter, humor, love, passion, swoon swoon swoon, frustration, more swooning, slamming, more swooning, some slamming some more, more love and omg's and holy hell and "bitch get the fuck out of there" and much, much more. I just fell in love with these characters all over again. I love Kel, Caulder, Kiersten, Sherry, Eddie and Gavin....they really made the story so amazing. I loved the tight knit family they all became and they were always there for each other. I really think Lake and Will are very lucky to have all these people in their lives. Especially to help keep things sane. They've gone through so much shit and luckily they stuck together. But once shit hit the fan....and an ex walked back into Will's life, things are not as they seemed. I was cursing the whole time....I hate that bitch! And Reese is a jack ass too!

One thing I loved was experiencing everything through Will's eyes. I love how he describes Lake and how he is so in love with her. I loved seeing her the way he sees her. We already know how she feels about Will so changing it up and writing from his POV was absolutely necessary because we got to see his perspective from the beginning. He talks about when they first met, and how he felt seeing her in the driveway acting all casual about being in proximity to this sexy guy and she was all like "whatever there's a guy here, I'm not looking..I don't care" and it was awwwwwww to see how that hurt him because he couldn't take his eyes off of her. I got so much emotion throughout the story from him and I felt so bad and cried for him in so many moments. And of course, of course.....good gracious he had me swooning and sobbing so much. And his Slams were never less than perfect and I just fell in love with him so much more. Ahhhhh, okay...I need to take a breather.

My Will Cooper:

Will...you are the epitome of perfect men. Good god!!!!!! Oh wait, Holder...you are too! You both are tied...so quit being so jealous. Shit, there's too many to keep up with!

Anyway, this was definitely a perfect sequel to the most amazing, awe-inspiring story I've had the pleasure to experience! Go read it if you've read Slammed. It's a MUST!

Colleen...

you've done it again! I can't wait for more with these characters! I need the next book NOW!!!!!! NOW

NOW NOW NOW NOW NOW!

Kristin (KC) - Traveling Sister says

Happy to finally be in the *Butterflying* club!

Point of Retreat, aptly named such for various reasons, is a good follow-up to *Slammed*. Where the first book moved me with its remarkable inspiration, *Point of Retreat* touched me with its tender love story. The characters are again faced with difficult trials and obstacles to overcome...and I will say that the *slams* continue, in every sense of the word.

This sequel makes a smooth transition into Will's perspective, and I truly enjoyed getting the chance to experience the story through his eyes. His gentle voice and thoughtful character made me fall even further in love with him. Will and Lake have chosen to take on parental roles; accepting responsibilities which force them to grow up sooner than they should...proving that sometimes life really *doesn't* happen in chronological order. I admired their strength and their ability to maintain such selflessness when faced with dire circumstances.

Layken's Mom, Julia, continues to be a major part of this story. Her wisdom and unconditional love follow Lake and Will on their bumpy, but loving journey. I found Julia's strong spirit to be the most inspirational element of all.

Once again, I am floored by this author's unique ability to make me feel, not only a fan, but an actual part of this story. Although the last page has been swiped, these distinctive characters live on...

If I were a carpenter, I would build you a window to my soul. But I would leave that window shut and locked, so that every time you tried to look through it...all you would see is your own reflection. You would see that my soul is a reflection of you...

(P.S. Kiersten, can I be your parallel neighbor, too??)

Book Stats:

- ? **Genre/Category:** Romance/NA
- ? **Steam Caliber:** Moderate steam
- ? **Romance:** Inspiring and sweet. Mild angst.
- ? **Characters:** Brilliant, witty, and lovable.
- ? **Plot:** Beautifully continues on from *Slammed*.
- ? **Writing:** Eloquent, poetic, inspiring.
- ? **POV:** 1st Person: Will
- ? **Cliffhanger:** None
- ? **HEA?** (view spoiler)

Natalie says

“So I'm not about to apologize for loving all these things about you, no matter the reasons or the circumstances behind them.

And no, I don't need *days* , or *weeks* , or *months* to think about *why* I love you.

It's an easy answer for me.

I love you because of *you*.

Because of

every

single

thing

about *you*"

Point of Retreat was so butterflying beautiful and amazing.
It made me so butterflying happy!!

It's not like me to give a high rating* to these kinds of books, since i love angst. I mean I really, really love it. But this book was just the cutest so what the hell,right!? And you know what? When I started this the first time (yes, the first time) I read one chapter, thought "this isn't for me, and then put it on hold. Thank God, I decided to try it again (peer pressure) I absolutely fell in love with it right away.

This book was exactly what I needed right now.

I think that one of the reasons I loved it so much as I did was because I was in the right kind of mood after a few dark and heavy reads.

This book was just so butterflying cute. I think I was grinning like a fool though most of the book. It had some angst, and I found myself with teary eyes a few times. But mostly it was darn cute. And I loved its uniqueness, it blew me away! I didn't realize just how much I could appreciate poetry this much in a book.

I liked this better than the first book *Slammed*, don't get me wrong, it was darn cute too, and had the same uniqueness. It was just some minor factors in it that bothered me. Mainly the fact that it was told in Layken's POV, and I found her annoying. But this was told from Will's POV, and I loved being in his head. It was a thousand times better than Layken's.

Will is just the perfect guy _sigh_ The little things he did for Layken melted my heart. Like when he wrote her the slam above, or when he saw her for the first time after the accident but couldn't walk away from her

without turning back to kiss her, or when he bathed her and kissed everyone of her bruises, or when he couldn't stop kissing her long enough for the priest to marry them... They were all so Will...

Colleen Hoover, you have made me see the light!

...and now I cannot wait for *This Girl!* and that is in Will's POV too _fist pump in the air_

**original rating; 4 STARS ?*

Clarifina ~Books Are My Drugs~ says

Ok, where do I start? Hmm, I NEED ANOTHER COLLEEN HOOVER BOOK NOW! There, that seems like an appropriate way to describe my feelings. After finishing *Point of Retreat*, I immediately came online to goodreads.com to check if there were any other books written by Colleen Hoover which I could read. Turns out, her next book is only coming out in 2013. What. The. Hell? I can't wait that long! I didn't want to believe it.

Me after realising I could not read any other Colleen Hoover books very soon.

Anyway, what I am really surprised about is just how much I'm in love with just her **FiRST** two books. Her writing style is amazing and I can't get enough of it. This is probably the first romance novel written from a male's POV which I actually love. I loved seeing things from Will's POV this time. I felt it was more appropriate being in his head this time because the things that occur in the book can probably only be fully understood if you know how he feels and what he thinks. In this book, we get to learn a little more about Will and how he feels about Lake. I think that what Colleen Hoover did was great as readers will actually be able to love Will more when we get to actually "feel" his emotions. I know I fell in love with him a little more in *Point of Retreat*.

I loved almost all new characters introduced in this book. Note: I said **ALMOST**. Those of you who have already read it will know where I'm coming from. One of them in particular I really liked-Kiersten. She was very witty and somehow, she didn't talk like an eleven-year-old. I liked that Colleen Hoover did not just focus on the romance and just the two of them like most romance novels. I enjoyed reading about the others' lives and what they were going through. She made the novel seem so realistic because all the characters seemed just like normal human beings. Well, as normal as two people can be under their circumstances anyway.

Now, unlike *Slammed*, there were no quotes at the beginning of each chapter. There was still great advice which is pretty helpful though. Anyway, in place for these quotes are entries from Will's journal. I have to say, I enjoyed the entries just as much as the quotes. Like the quotes in *Slammed*, these entries also give us readers a hint as to what the new chapter has in store for us. Will's journal entries are usually very beautifully phrased and I loved reading them.

Those of you who have not read this series probably should get it like, right now. It's emotional and it is romantic and it is definitely funny at times. *Point of Retreat* is definitely a good book for people who love romance novels which are not too sad but are so touching that it will bring you to tears. Of course, however, I am not saying that there are no sad moments in this novel which will make you cry, I'm just saying that those

of us readers who have are very sensitive can still read this book without being emotionally scarred. But, of course, you will fall in love with almost all of the characters because they are just so...loveable. They all have their own unique personalities and the way they act and talk are so different that they seem very real. I don't say that they are absolutely flawless, but I think that it is those imperfections which make me love them more cuz it makes them human.

Alright then, it is now time for all of you who have not read this book to stop reading because spoilers are coming up. If you don't mind them, feel free to continue reading what I have to say. The only thought I can leave you with right now is that this book is written beautifully and that all the characters are very easy to relate to and I'm sure that almost all of you will love it just as I do.

(view spoiler)

Arlene says

Rating Clarification: More than 10 stars...

BUTTERFLYINGLY BEMAZING!

And all around my memories, you dance.

Colleen Hoover has done it again. She's managed to steal my concentration captive and render me worthless until I read her story of Layken and Will in **Point of Retreat** from eCover to eCover. This book was the perfect sequel to *Slammed* that left me in that contemplative zone just thinking about the story and the characters and finding myself unwilling to let go. Doesn't happen often, but it surely happened here. Loved this book!

These next chapters in Will and Layken's life are told from the perspective of Will, and I just have to say, what a treat! It was like book candy that sent me on a sugar high. I've experienced this a select few times in stories like *Where She Went* and *The Piper's Son*, where the guy takes the stage and gives us his POV about the girl he loves. I really enjoyed getting into his mind and journeying with Will as he struggles to prove that

their love goes beyond the common bond of tragedy that brought them together.

Point of Retreat continues to carry the concept of Slamming and never have I ever thought I would love poetry as much as I did - actually probably even more than I did in the first book. In fact, I have a few of them highlighted in my eReader for future reference because it's truly a thing of beauty. Just like lyrics to music those phrases that represent your soul are sometimes best expressed in few words. Powerful!

There was a perfect character addition in this book that really stole the show, and I enjoyed every single one of her appearances. Kirsten was such a breath of fresh air to this cast with her surprisingly insightful wit and intuition. I loved her! Even more so, I came to adore how Caulder and Kel protect this little spit fire from some of the hurt she experienced as the new kid in school. Hoover carefully appended the concept of bullying with such a subtle sleight of hand to create an additional layer of depth to this story. About Kiersten's slam at the end... well done sweetheart!

As with the first book, Will is just too good to be true. I like coming across male characters similar to him every now and again because of their ability to express their emotions so honestly and deeply. How far he was willing to go to prove to Layken that their relationship was deeper than the hardships they've had to overcome at such a young age tossed my emotional compass all over the map. Kisses on the forehead will never be the same... thank you very much.

Overall, this book is filled to the brim with humor and heart. A sure fire combination to win me over. I can't wait to see what Hoover shares with us next. I'm a fan... that I am...

Points are not the point; the point is poetry.

Twist in My Story Secondhand Serenade

Kara says

So much hatred for this book.

Perhaps I will write a more comprehensive explanation of my rage at a later date, but for now I will say this:

When Will and Lake's relationship is tested (in a totally contrived way I might add), Lake - after giving him the silent treatment for a few days - tells him that she just needs time to think about their relationship. Now i get that if you're on the receiving end of that statement, that can sound pretty scary. But Will goes so over the line to stalkerific that I just couldn't deal. He gets their 11 year old neighbor to knock on her door so that he can **FORCE HIS WAY INTO HER HOUSE, Y'ALL!**, he keeps something very personal at his house to force her to continue to come back to his house, and at the point at which I jumped ship with this book, he **motherfucking cut her car battery so that she had to ride to Detroit with him!**

No. No!!!! Christian/Travis/Edward let this girl fucking breathe! I get it. You're worried that if she thinks about this for 5minutes she will realize that she needs to run away from you like Usain Bolt. But in this case, what Will did wasn't actually all that bad, it was more of a "why didnt you tell me" thing. But that's beside the point. I understand the impulse to make your case and make your s.o. talk to you when they're mad. But if you love someone - anyone, bf, friend, whatever - you have to respect their feelings, even if what they are

feeling is hate for your dumb ass. There is a way to make your presence known, to remind someone of why they love you, without turning into Kathy Bates from misery and removing all their freedom from you.

The last line I read, perhaps the last line I will ever read by this author said this:

"you would think that after a year I would have found a way to get through to her **or to manipulate her in some way.**"

Goddamn it how many times do I have to say this shit: MANIPULATION IS NOT LOVE! It just fucking isn't. Am I talking to myself here? Because I keep having to say this shit. To women. Over and over again. Am I not being clear? Because I really truly don't know how to say it better than that.

Dear YA authors: have you ever been manipulated or tricked into doing something you didn't want to do? Did it leave you feeling grateful that somebody forced you to do something so you didn't have to worry your pretty little head with figuring out what YOU wanted?

Yeah, that's what I thought.

So maybe it gets better. Maybe Will mans up, maybe Lake calms down, maybe some shit starts happening other than Will's incessant whining. But I don't have enough faith in this story to take that chance.

S.C. Stephens says

Will Cooper. I'm pretty sure I'm head over heels in love with this man. Sigh, if only everyone could be loved as much as Will loves Layken. He truly is something else, and I love that this story was told through his eyes. I found Lake incredibly frustrating in this one, as did Will on occasion, and wanted to shake some sense into her more than once, but how it all wrapped up and tied together in the end was beautiful and breathtaking. This is such an excellent story, with so many wonderful characters sprinkled throughout it. I seriously want to move into their neighborhood and be a part of their lives. Each and every one of them is amazing. I'm so sad to part with them for now, and eagerly look forward to many more stories from Colleen Hoover!

Kristen says

4 1/2 to 5 Stars!

Loved it!

Why on earth did it take me so long to read this series. I love all three books, but this one is my favorite.

Aestas Book Blog says

WOW this was the perfect sequel to Slammed! 6 stars!! I LOVED IT!! An absolute MUST read! A butterflying amazing book!!!

This series is definitely going on my favorites pile. I finished reading it with my cheeks wet with happy tears. But boy is this book *intense* !! It had me laughing and crying, it made my heart race and I swear it stopped beating all together for several chapters. Just like with the first book, I love how absolutely none of the characters make stupid decisions or did stupid things. I love the love that Will and Lake share both for each other and for their brothers. I love how each and every one of the side characters and main characters were characters I'd want to read whole books about. I have come to love slam poetry (well, at least the ones from this book, I don't really have any other experience with it). I loved that this book was from Will's perspective. I love how the author integrated lyrics, and poetry throughout the story bringing deeper meaning to an already intensely emotional read. And I loved the HEA :)

This story is about realizing and holding on to love and about how love (both romantic love, friendship love, and family love) can be found in the most unlikely of places. It's also centers on a lot of themes of responsibility and maturity. I love the unusual family unit that is built in this story. I'd love to read more about all the characters in this book... Honestly, I think I'll read anything Colleen Hoover writes next. I love her writing style. Its simple, beautiful, powerful and keeps you riveted to the page.

“My heart pounds against my chest. Not because I'm nervous. Not even because I want her worse than I've ever wanted her before. It's pounding against my chest because I realize I've never been so sure about the rest of my life than I am in this moment. This girl is the rest of my life.”

Definitely be sure to read book 1 Slammed first. I'd recommend these books to pretty much anyone and everyone who loves to read. Truly wonderful books <3

How I see Will:

For more of my reviews, visit [Aestas Book Blog](#)

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